

**BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL  
2300 WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15235**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**March 9, 2020**

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough of Churchill was held in the Municipal Building on Monday, March 9, 2020. The regular meeting was called to order by Mr. Dworin at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Dworin led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present included Mses. Law and Greco, and Messrs. Collins, DeFranco, and McDowell. Also present were Mayor Gamrat, Manager Donna Perry, Chief Ronald M. Akerley, and Solicitor David Mongillo. Ms. Yankes was absent.

**WORKSHOP & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** – There was a motion made by Ms. Law and seconded by Ms. Greco that the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of February 3, 2020 and the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 10, 2020 be approved as previously presented. The motions were unanimously approved.

**MAYOR** - Mayor Gamrat read his report for February, 2020 regarding police activities of interest and importance. There was a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Collins that the Mayor's report be accepted and filed as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**MANAGER & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS** – Ms. Perry gave the Manager's Report. The borough will be advertising for Sewer bids on March 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> and will open the bids on April 2, 2020.

Mr. Zatlin read the Fire Department Report. There were 17 calls for the month of February, 2020 with a total of 41 calls for the year. There were no significant calls for the month.

There was a motion made by Mr. Collins and seconded by Mr. McDowell that the Manager and Fire Department Reports be accepted and filed as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR** – No report.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - The following report for the month of February, 2020 was previously presented to Council. It showed the following:

<u>CHECKING ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BEGINNING BANK BALANCE</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>O/S CHECKS AND DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>ENDING CASH BALANCES</u>
REGULAR ACCOUNT	\$599,915.97	\$340,067.78	\$367,391.92	\$572,591.83
CAPITAL RES. ACCT.	\$209,317.82	\$135.63	\$0.00	\$209,453.45
ROAD & HIGHWAY	\$142,827.21	\$92.55	\$0.00	\$142,919.76
SEWAGE AGENCY	\$212,444.62	\$76,400.72	\$55,955.36	\$232,889.98
SPECIAL ACCT.	\$6,728.11	\$0.00	\$1,580.23	\$5,147.88
POLICE PENSION FUND	\$0.00	\$3,154.30	\$3,154.30	\$0.00
EMPL. PENSION FUND	\$0.00	\$800.74	\$800.74	\$0.00
EMPL. SEC. 457 D.C.P.	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00

There was a motion by Mr. DeFranco and seconded by Mr. Collins that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and filed as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**EARNED INCOME TAX**

**DEED TRANSFER**

**DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX** - Ms. Perry reported that the Earned Income Tax Collector had collections of \$66,129.15 for the month of February, 2020.

Deed Transfer Tax collections were \$2,462.70.

Jordan Tax Service collected \$1,513.76 in delinquent real estate taxes.

There was a motion by Mr. Collins and seconded by Ms. Law that the Earned Income Tax, Deed Transfer, and Delinquent Real Estate Tax Reports be filed as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**LISTEN TO VISITORS** – Mr. Jeffrey G. Wilhelm of ReedSmith, LLP represents Churchill Crossings at 1310 Beulah Road is requesting that Council immediately cease and desist from their Churchill Borough Visioning Workshops.

Mr. Gary Frederick representative of Hillwood Development Company is also a representative of the Churchill Crossings Property at 1310 Beulah Road. He addressed Council with the many details of the redevelopment of this property, which would cost millions to renovate, in addition to the many benefits that it would provide to the Borough as well as the School District.

Mr. Kenneth R. Balkey of 2007 Hampstead Drive and Chair of the Tree Committee addressed Council pertaining to the Spotted Lanternfly that has been observed in our area and they can be very damaging to trees.

Mr. Balkey also explained the Borough Tree Canopy Importance Elevated article that has been added to the Borough's website and will be in the newsletter to alert borough residents of Churchill's tree canopy, which has been reduced by 48 acres in just a short time. The Tree Committee is working together with other organizations to initiate tree planting efforts. As a suggestion by Paul G. Gamrat, Mr. Balkey said they will be working with the Woodland Hills School District to plant a tree for graduating students each year to assist in the loss of trees in our area.

Mr. Paul Smith of 3442 Ridgewood Drive questioned Council about the increase in the Borough taxes and when will the next town hall be scheduled? Also, he questioned the process of appointing a new Council member when a vacancy occurs?

Mr. Vaughn Newberry of 3436 Ridgewood Drive asked Council about the increase in the Borough taxes and he expressed the need for council to communicate better with borough residents of these increases.

Mrs. Kimberly Newberry of 3436 Ridgewood Drive stated that they have lived in Churchill Borough for the past seven (7) years and Ridgewood Drive has never been paved. Ms. Newberry asked Council to reassess the upcoming schedule for Ridgewood Drive to be reconsidered for paving.

**MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4492** – A motion was made by Ms. Law and seconded by Mr. Collins to award the 2020 Road Paving Project to Sciarretti Site Development for a Base Bid of \$420,791.97, plus alternate Bid #1 for Kings Dale Road in the amount of \$70,203.91 and Alternate Bid #2 for Lewin Lane in the amount of \$57,637.91 for a grand total of \$548,633.79. The motion was unanimously approved.

**MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 4493 FOR CLIMATE ACTION CHANGE** – Motion was tabled.

**BILL APPROVAL** - Ms. Perry read the bills for the month and they totaled \$366,158.05. There was a motion made by Mr. Collins and seconded by Mr. DeFranco to adopt Resolution No. 4494 to pay the bills. Bills in excess of \$15,000 were read by Mr. Dworin and they are as follows: Alcosan - \$133,586.64 (Sewage Service), Gateway Engineers, Inc. - \$36,787.85 (Professional Services), and Vigliotti Landscape & Construction - \$19,776.92 (February Road Maintenance Service). The motion was unanimously approved.

**AROUND THE TABLE** – All members of Council wanted to thank Mr. Balkey for his commitment of the Tree Committee and making them aware of the Spotted Lanternfly.

Mr. Collins explained the reasons for the increase in Borough Real Estate Taxes are due to the problems with the Borough's Roads & Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure Systems.

Mr. DeFranco stated that the best information pertaining to the Coronavirus or COVID-19 is on the [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) website.

Mr. Dworin explained to the audience the procedure in appointing a new member of Council when there is a vacancy. He also explained the detailed measures that Council follows for the Budget and the tax millage increase.

**ADJOURN** – There was a motion by Mr. DeFranco and seconded by Ms. Greco and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 P.M.

Donna J. Perry  
Borough Manager