

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION

February 13, 2018

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Dr. Pustorino, Ms. Baburich, Messrs. Hoover, Drenning, Syska, Miller, Lilac.

ABSENT: None.

The work session began at 7:02 pm and ended at 9:26 pm.

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING

February 14 , 2018

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Dr. Pustorino, Ms. Baburich, Messrs. Hoover, Syska, Lilac, Drenning, Miller, Solicitor Evashavik

ABSENT: None.

Mr. Hoover called the meeting to order and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Syska, seconded by Pustorino, to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting.

Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Baburich, seconded by Drenning to approve the bank balances as read. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Syska, seconded by Pustorino, to approve for payment of the bills for the month after being properly countersigned. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Drenning, seconded by Pustorino, to approve the Tax Collection report as read.

Motion was unanimous.

MAYOR.

Mayor Perry stated he would like to ask for a moment of silence for our Tax Collector, Bob Baburich, who passed in January. Mr. Baburich served as Tax Collector for many years and was truly a pillar of the community. Mr. Baburich was a bit of a local historian, often reminiscing of the days of Chalfant's past; he always had a story to tell. Mayor Perry explained, to the agreement of Council, that Mr. Baburich was a great asset to the community and will be sorely missed.

For the month of January, there were 35, 911 calls and 179 regular patrols by F.H.P.D. The majority of the 911 calls were:

4- Med Unit Assists

4- Ordinance Violations

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- 2- Calls for Information
- 2- Parking Complaints
- 2- Suspicious Persons Complaints

Mayor Perry opened the floor for questions. There were none.

SOLICITOR

No Report.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Borough of Chalfant's new website, chalfantborough-pa.org, officially went live on January 1, 2018. On the day the site launched, there were 98 reads. To date, there have been 502 total visitors to the site from the United States. A tutorial detailing how to use the mobile version of the website was posted to Chalfant's Information Page on Facebook and instructions were included in the January Newsletter. Dr. Pustorino explained that the website will continue to evolve, with content and borough-related documents being added to the site on a weekly and/or daily basis. All tax documents, occupancy documents, and rental permits will be updated, converted to PDF, and uploaded to the new site. Dr. Pustorino explained she would like to receive some language from the various civic groups in the borough to add to the site as well.

The Borough Newsletter went to print in late January and were mailed to residents in early February. Newsletters were mailed to 394 addresses in the borough, with an additional 87 Newsletters sent directly to landlords' home addresses. Dr. Pustorino detailed that she will be working with the mail carrier to determine why some newsletters sent to active borough addresses were returned to the borough, which has also been an issue in the past. Dr. Pustorino will be scheduling a meeting with the Postmaster regarding this issue, as it is both a cost and inconvenience to the borough.

The Annual Report of Occupancy document was updated and should be received by all borough residents in the next few days. The report is also available on the new website to be printed and returned via post, hand delivery, fax, or email.

The process for the 2020 United States Census will be starting soon. At this time, the Government is doing preliminary testing. If residents received documents in the mail, Dr. Pustorino advised to please complete and submit, as they are mandated.

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Upon review of the Woodland Hills School District website, Dr. Pustorino noted that a Student Forum on Community Violence and School Culture was held on February 12, 2018. This meeting was held with very little notice which resulted in nominal attendance. Dr. Pustorino explained this consistent lack of communication is unacceptable and that she plans on contacting the Superintendent, WHSB President Jamie Glasser, and Vice President Mike Belmonte in response. Should the borough continue to receive an inadequate response from the district, Dr. Pustorino will be in contact with Auditor Eugene DePasquale's office to share the continued the failed efforts to engage elected officials in the school district.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Baburich, to approve an ad in the WHHS Musical Program in the amount of \$30.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Syska, to move \$32,000.00 from the general fund money market account to general fund checking. Motion carried.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Baburich, to approve Resolution 549, an application for CITF funding in the amount of \$100,000.00. Motion carried.

PERMITS AND ORDINANCES

In January there was one dumpster report issued.

There were six code violations for five properties, Ms. Baburich read the property addresses and number of violations.

ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS

There was no report for January but Mr. Syska noted that he will ask Forest Hills DPW how much salt was used in Chalfant so far this season.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

There was no report but Mr. Lilac noted he went to examine the work being done to the gas lines on Greenfield Avenue. He will ask the engineer to walk the area with him to make sure the roads and sewer lines have not been damaged.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A list of nine alarms and practices was read, as well as the members attending each.

BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Miller explained that he will need to discuss the growing deer population in the borough with the PA Game and Wildlife Commission. Hopefully the commission will have some advice regarding possible deterrents that may be used to encourage the deer from the park and other borough property.

Some residents have shown interest in planting flowers in the borough. Mr. Miller will be coordinating planting with residents at the entrance signs to the borough, around the memorial locations, as well as in the park.

Ventrice Auto has approximately 200-300 tires sitting uncovered in their lot. Mr. Miller stressed that this needs to be addressed urgently and said he will notify the code enforcement officer, Nick Ginter, of this violation so it can be formally addressed with the property owner.

Carpet cleaning at the Community Center will be done at the end of February. Mr. Miller would like to explore the possibility of doing some cleaning in the basement of the Community Center as well; he would like to go through the items being stored there to see if anything can be discarded.

Mr. Miller is considering bringing Porta Johns back to the park for the summer months, he will discuss the associated costs with the Chalfant Athletic Association.

WHEMS

WHEMS subscriptions have been sent to residents. Mr. Hoover encouraged residents to complete and submit as they affect funding for WHEMS.

CRIME WATCH (Mrs. Donahue)

A Crime Watch meeting was held on February 5, 2018. Attendance at the meeting was strong. Mrs. Donahue detailed plans for the upcoming Emergency Services Day to be held on May 26, 2018, from 11a.m. to 3p.m. Mr. Drenning noted that the Chalfant VFD is interested in participating. Forest Hills Borough still needs to be contacted regarding their participation; Mr.

Hoover offered to reach out to them. It was noted that EMS didn't attend last year. Mr. Hoover advised to send them a letter inviting them to participate. ADT, the security company, is interested in participating in Emergency Services Day and will have a booth with information available as well.

Crime Watch decals are still available; a strip of three decals is available for \$2.00.

There were some concerns from Mark Swinney of the Crime Watch about the swift reach public notification system. The biggest problem, according to Mr. Swinney, is that some residents aren't receiving calls from the system. Dr. Pustorino explained that if a resident's voicemail is full, there is no way to leave them a message and therefore they will not have a record of the call. Dr. Pustorino also noted that some residents get new phone numbers and fail to update the swift reach system. A discussion ensued regarding the different avenues, including social media, that can be utilized to communicate with residents. It was advised that Crime Watch should obtain a list of residents currently enrolled in the swift reach system to ensure that residents that want to be included in the system are included. Dr. Pustorino will help to facilitate an email between Crime Watch and swift reach coordinator, Chuck Williams, to obtain the list.

Carol Donahue spoke about the Child Identification Care Program conducted by the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office and raised the possibility of Chalfant participating this year. Mrs. Donahue advised that it is a great way to get to know the kids in the borough.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Doris Libell, 127 Lynnwood Avenue, asked who handles the communication with residents in the event of an emergency in the borough, specifically with water service interruptions. Mr. Hoover advised that Wilkesburg-Penn Joint Water Authority is responsible for reporting service interruptions to residents and explained that water main breaks are not considered a police emergency. Notifications for other emergencies go out to residents via the swift reach public notification system.

Joanne Baburich, 213 Wilkins Avenue, wanted to make residents aware of a scam being conducted via telephone. Ms. Baburich explained she received a call from a representative claiming to work with Dell Computers who attempted to obtain Ms. Baburich's credit card information. Dr. Pustorino advised that she will post a notification on the website or to social media warning residents of this scam.

