

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION

February 6, 2023

The February work session was rescheduled for Monday, February 6th, at 7:00 p.m. due to the special election scheduled for Tuesday, February 7th, 2023.

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Mss. Fullwood, Fennell, Messrs. Hoover, Sauter, Royster.

ABSENT: Ms. Hillen, Mr. Lilac

The work session began at 7:00 pm and ended at 8:10 pm.

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING

February 8, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Mss. Fullwood, Fennell, Messrs. Hoover, Sauter, Royster, Lilac, Sol. Evashavik

ABSENT: Ms. Hillen.

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

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Fennell, to approve the minutes from the last regular meeting. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Royster, to approve the bank balances as read. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Fennell, to approve payment of the monthly bills after being properly countersigned. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Lilac, to approve the Tax Collection report as read. The motion was unanimous.

Lisa Caulfield introduced herself and explained that she is running for Magistrate in the 5th District Magisterial Court. She outlined her background and spoke about the platform she is running on, including emphasizing the need to keep county residents with mental health issues out of the criminal justice system. Mr. Hoover wished Ms. Caulfield luck

MAYOR

There were 18.4 routine patrols by the Forest Hills Police Department and 27, 911 calls in January. The majority of the 911 calls were:

- 4- Domestic
- 2- Med unit assists
- 2- Welfare checks
- 2- Neighbor disputes

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2023
PAGE TWO

- 2- Suspicious activities
- 2- Suspicious vehicles

Mayor Perry noted that the 911 calls are down substantially. Mayor Perry encouraged residents 'if they see something, say something.'

SOLICITOR

Sol. Evashavik advised that he spoke with Ms. Fennell about the Community Day celebration and the possibility of selling alcohol. Sol. Evashavik explained that state law states that third-class cities are eligible for temporary special occasion permits but it is unclear if it is an option for boroughs. He has reached out to the general counsel of the Liquor Control Board and is awaiting a response. Sol. Evashavik also explained that with regard to vendors at the event, he recommends charging a flat fee instead of asking for a percentage of sales.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Fullwood advised that she is working on the Newsletter and has a rough draft ready along with a list of people in the borough without access to technology that would appreciate a newsletter. For the time being, Newsletters will be mailed to everyone that has not signed up for an electronic copy.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Lilac, to transfer \$26,000.00 from the GF MM account to the GF Checking account to cover the cost of the February invoices. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Sauter, to pay Liberty Mutual's invoice in the amount of \$100.00 for Ms. Fullwood's 2023 treasurer's bond renewal. The motion was unanimous.

PERMITS AND ORDINANCES

Ms. Fullwood advised that no building permits were issued in January. There were two Certificates of Occupancy issued in January.

Ms. Fullwood read a detailed street-by-street list of active code enforcement cases, including the open citations/private criminal complaints before the magistrate. Ms. Fullwood advised that two new cases were opened in January, 16 cases were closed, and 10 cases were continued.

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2023
PAGE THREE

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Royster, to ratify the approval of the purchase of 1,000 code enforcement courtesy notice door hangers from Artistagraphics to include a \$35 custom artwork and typeset fee for a total cost of \$324.00. The motion was unanimous.

Mr. Hoover noted that JD Lombardi has been very effective in his role as code enforcement officer; he has cleaned up a lot of ongoing issues and Mr. Hoover hopes he will stick around.

ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Sauter advised that the DPW has been doing a nice job of keeping the roads clear.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Ms. Fennell was happy to report that she has gone two Fridays without a resident complaint about missed garbage collection.

Ms. Fennell explained the Community Day Committee is in the planning process. She noted that everyone on the committee has been very nice and helpful but there are a lot of things to finalize. Ms. Fennell is excited to report that there will be additional games for adults this year; the committee is planning to include horseshoes, bocci, and cornhole in addition to the children's games. The celebration will also include food trucks, vendors, and live entertainment.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Royster advised that there was one incident reported by the VFC in January. Mr. Royster read a detailed summary of the call and provided the number of VFC members attending.

Mr. Hoover explained that the Chalfant VFC is closing this year. After speaking with an attorney, the VFC decided the best option for the company and its members would be a merger. After appearing before Council last month and speaking to Wilkins VFC #3, they requested a merger between the two companies. The board and membership have both accepted and the merger process has started. This does not change the fact that Chalfant will have to explore fire protection coverage options for the borough and will need to contract with another municipality. Mr. Hoover hopes to have a contract for coverage in place in the next six to eight months. Mr. Lilac asked if the merger will affect the contract. Mr. Hoover explained that no, the merger is separate from the contracting process and is not something that can be used as a negotiating tactic.

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2023
PAGE FOUR

WHEMS

Mr. Royster advised there were 13 calls to WHEMS in January. He read the date, location, and outcome of each incident. Mr. Royster noted that there were a couple of addresses in Wilkins Township included on the report, he will have a discussion with WHEMS director, Frank Mastendrea, to resolve the issue.

Motion by Royster, seconded by Sauter, to transfer \$72.36 from the General Fund MM account to the WHEMS Account. This was the amount of WHEMS tax collected in January. The motion was unanimous.

PARKS AND RECREATION/BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Lilac explained that he spoke with Senator Costa about the two grants the borough is still waiting to hear back regarding. Senator Costa advised that funding is still being determined by the state.

CRIME WATCH

Ms. Bouvier advised that there are 125 members of the Chalfant Crime Watch group on the Nextdoor App. She hopes that more members will join. Ms. Bouvier explained that a crime watch sign still needs to be moved. The next two Crime Watch meetings are scheduled for March 28th and May 23rd. Trent Chontas will present a karate and safety demonstration in March and a safety program presentation is scheduled for May. Ms. Bouvier also explained that the Crime Watch is looking at different fundraising opportunities, including a flea market. The Crime Watch is also planning to host a borough clean-up for Earth Day in April.

TAX COLLECTOR

Ms. Donahue advised that the 2022 real estate tax collection is closed and has been turned over to Jordan Tax Service. 2023 borough taxes will be mailed on March 1, 2023.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

There was a discussion between Council and residents regarding the Chalfant VFC merger with Wilkins #3 with Council explaining that although the Chalfant VFC's assets will go to Wilkins #3, that does not automatically mean they will provide coverage. Mr. Hoover explained that the current Chalfant volunteers will go to Wilkins #3 with Chief Wroblewski and Assistant Chief Bichsel becoming automatic life members. Mr. Sauter explained how fire department run cards work and that no matter who Chalfant ends up contracting with for coverage, the community will always be covered under the mutual aid agreement. Mr. Hoover explained that the borough does not anticipate a tax increase to cover the cost of the contract.

Doris Libell, 127 Lynnwood Avenue, asked if the Chalfant VFC would be selling equipment. Mr. Hoover explains that all assets will go to Wilkins #3 under the merger, and Chief Wroblewski and Assistant Chief Bichsel are both thoroughly involved in this process.

Luann Bouvier, 101 Highland Avenue, asked for an update on the dog situation at 203 Greenfield Avenue. Mr. Hoover advised that the matter is currently in the court system.

Brooke Burchette Williams introduced herself and explained that she is running for Magistrate in the 5th District Magisterial Court. She outlined her background and spoke about the platform she is running on. She believes that the magistrate should be someone that is able to meet with people from all walks of life. She is hoping for the opportunity to protect communities as well as personal rights while providing justice. Mr. Hoover wished Ms. Williams luck

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hoover explained that the February 2023 caucus meeting had to be rescheduled for Monday, February 6, 2023, due to the special election on February 7, 2023.

Motion by Fennell, seconded by Lilac, to advertise the rescheduling of the February 2023 Caucus meeting in The Valley Mirror. The advertisement appeared in the February 2nd edition of The Valley Mirror. A notification also went out on Savvy Citizen and the information was placed on the front page of the borough's website. The motion was unanimous.

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2023
PAGE SIX

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Fennell, to make a civic contribution supporting the WHHS Performing Arts Department's 2023 production of Seussical. The borough will purchase a medium ad in the production's program at a cost of \$55.00. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Fennell, to pay \$220.00 to the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments for Mr. Perry, Mr. Hoover, Mr. Lilac, and Ms. Schwoegl's attendance at the Annual TCVCOG Dinner on 2/10/23. The motion was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Fennell, to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. The motion was unanimous

ATTEST: _____
Borough Secretary Council President

