

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION

July 13, 2021

PRESENT: Dr. Pustorino, Mss Baburich, Fullwood, Messrs. Hoover, Syska, Royster, Lilac

ABSENT: Mayor Perry

The work session began at 7:05 pm and ended at 8:47 pm.

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING

July 14, 2021

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Dr. Pustorino, Mss. Baburich, Fullwood, Messrs. Hoover, Syska, Royster, Lilac, Solicitor Evashavik.

ABSENT: None.

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

Motion by Baburich, seconded by Syska, to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Lilac, to approve the bank balances as read. Motion was unanimous.

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

Motion by Pustorino, seconded Syska, to approve the Tax Collection report as read. Motion was unanimous.

Mr. Hoover asked that all attending follow CDC's face mask guidelines.

MAYOR

Mayor Perry advised that there were 143 routine patrols by the Forest Hills Police Department and 43, 911 calls in May. The majority of the 911 calls were:

- 7- Disturbances
- 6- Residential disputes
- 6- Suspicious activities
- 2- Alarm calls
- 2- Traffic complaints
- 2- Med unit assists.

Mayor Perry explained that there is an ongoing nuisance situation between neighbors in apartments at 243 North Avenue, which was discussed at last month's meeting as well. Council will look at the ordinance to see if we can go after the property owner and assess a fee. The

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childish behavior of the tenants at 243 North is taking time and effort from the police when they could be dealing with more serious calls. Mayor Perry also advised that during an overnight storm in the borough a few nights ago, a tree was damaged in the alley behind Elizabeth Avenue. There are young children that play in the alley and Mayor Perry believes the borough should have the DPW address the hanging limbs. Mr. Hoover advised that the DPW will evaluate the situation.

SOLICITOR

Sol. Evashavik advised that there has been a legislative change that will require municipalities to publish their Council meeting agenda 24 hours prior to the meeting, beginning in September. Mr. Hoover advised that following tonight's meeting, Council will enter an executive session to discuss this legislative change.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Pustorino advised that the Woodland Hills School District has passed their budget for the upcoming year. A tax increase is expected but an exact amount has not been shown. Dr. Pustorino also provided other updates from the WHSD including that the 2021 graduating class has received scholarships in excess of 10 million dollars and that WHSD plans to return to full in-person instruction in the fall. Dr. Pustorino also advised that significant renovations have occurred at the high school, including renovations to classrooms and labs, the kitchen, auditorium, and the track, which is now open for public use. Dr. Pustorino explained that WHSD is set to receive 21 million dollars in federal stimulus money. Dr. Pustorino encouraged residents to visit the WHSD website for a complete update and additional information.

PERMITS AND ORDINANCE

Ms. Baburich advised that there were four dumpster/bagster permits issued in June.

Ms. Baburich read a detailed list of the active code enforcement cases in Chalfant, including a street by street account of new cases opened in June, total cases currently open in the borough, the number of cases where the compliance window has expired, the number of opened cases inside the compliance window, and the total cases closed. Ms. Baburich explained that 11 citations have now been issued.

There were no questions from Council.

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ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Hoover opened a hearing for Ordinance 437, an ordinance updating the weight limits of the streets and alleys in Chalfant; West St., from the Greensburg Pike to North Avenue, will be changed to 20 tons to allow for access into and out of the former Westinghouse site. All other municipal streets and alleys will remain at five tons, excepting local deliveries, refuse vehicles and emergency services.

Motion by Syska, seconded by Lilac, to pass Ordinance 437. Motion was unanimous.

There were no questions from either Council or the public. Mr. Hoover closed the hearing.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Ms. Fullwood advised that the sewer repairs to Highland Ave. have been completed. Ms. Fullwood also explained that quotes are being obtained for the 2021 storm inlet replacements.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Baburich, to pass Resolution 561, which is a Memorandum of Understanding with Forest Hills Borough for the Alcosan Regionalization Trunk Sewer Takeover Repairs POC-T-4. Chalfant's allocated cost is \$25,141.10. Motion was unanimous.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Royster advised that there were five incidents reported by the VFC in June. Mr. Royster read a detailed summary of each call with the number of VFC members attending.

Mr. Royster explained that the combined Forest Hills and Chalfant VFC car cruise will be held on Saturday, July 24th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be food trucks, 50/50 raffles and a chinese auction. Mr. Hoover said it will be a fun time and encouraged residents to attend.

PARKS AND RECREATION/BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Lilac advised that he is working to obtain quotes for tree trimming around the park. BJ's Tree Service has advised that the tentative date for the removal of the tree on borough property on Highland Avenue is August 11th. Mr. Lilac advised that a tree is down on some wires on

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Fairview Ave., but that the wires are only Verizon lines and Verizon is giving the run-around on the removal. Mr. Lilac also explained that he purchased a new lock for the gate at the Community Center, and had keys made for members of Council. Also, the DPW has completed mulching the park, it looks good. Mr. Lilac would like to have the infield addressed though; he explained that the ballfield isn't being used much and there are a lot of weeds growing in the infield.

WHEMS

Mr. Royster advised there were two calls to WHEMS in June. He read the date, location and outcome of each incident.

Motion by Royster, seconded by Syska, to transfer \$284.65 from the General Fund MM Account to the WHEMS MM Account. This was the amount of WHEMS tax collected in June. Motion was unanimous

CRIME WATCH

No report.

TAX COLLECTOR

No report.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Elizabeth Hanzel, 100 Elizabeth Avenue, explained that she is uncomfortable with the WHEMS report being read at the Council meeting and wondered if that violated privacy laws? Sol. Evashavik explained that Council is not identifying the person treated by EMS or releasing any personal or sensitive information and is not a breach of privacy. Ms. Hanzel asked about the damaged tree in the alley behind Elizabeth Ave. that the mayor mentioned during his report and explained that a tree near her was damaged in that same storm. Mr. Hoover explained that there isn't much the borough can do about trees that fall on private property; it is the property's owner to address or remove the damaged tree. Mr. Hoover advised that during the storm, it is likely that a straight line wind caused the extensive damage to trees in the borough. A discussion regarding several trees that fell and the damage it caused to property ensued between Council and residents.

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Doris Libell, 127 Lynnwood Avenue, asked how much the borough was involved in the VFC Car Cruise? Mr. Hoover explained that the borough is not involved; the VFC is handling the whole thing. The VFC will not be selling food this year but they will be conducting a 50/50 raffle to raise funds for the department.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Perry asked if there's been any activity with the radar speed sign? Mr. Hoover advised that it is now set up and Borough Secretary, Stephanie Schwoegl, will program it for Council. It will be set at the borough speed limit of 20 miles per hour and will tell speeders to slow down. Mr. Lilac asked if 20 mph is too high? Mr. Hoover advised that the police believe 20 mph is appropriate based on a traffic study of the borough. Mr. Hoover advised that the sign will initially be placed on Elizabeth Avenue. The sign will provide a report that the police can use as a guide to crack down on speeding in Chalfant. The sign is battery operated and has solar panels. The sign does not take photographs, monitor stop signs or issue citations.

Mayor Perry complained about the garbage that has been out since Monday at the corner of Greenfield and Rossmore. Mr. Hoover explained that Code Enforcement is currently addressing the property in question and citations are expected for other violations as well.

Mr. Lilac explained that a memorial service for former Council member, Russ Drenning, will be held at Lanigan's Funeral Home on August 5th at 7 p.m., following a viewing from 4-7 p.m. Burial will be the following day, August 6th, with a luncheon at Tugboats following the service.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Syska, to pass Resolution 563 amending Ordinance 426, sections 206-7, which sets the Tax Collector's fees for certifications. Certification will now be set at \$10/year for Borough and School District Tax certifications and \$10 for duplicates. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Baburich, to pass Resolution 562, adopting the Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan as the official plan for Chalfant Borough. Motion was unanimous.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Lilac, to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Motion was unanimous

ATTEST: _____
Borough Secretary Council President

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The executive session regarding the legislative update requiring municipalities to publish an agenda 24 hours prior to their monthly Council Meeting began at 7:55 p.m. and adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

