

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION

June 10, 2025

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

ABSENT: Mr. Lilac.

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

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING

June 11, 2025

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Mss. Fullwood, Hillen, Sivak, Messrs. Hoover, Sauter, Royster, Lilac, Sol. Evashavik, Municipal Engineer Robert Zischkau

ABSENT: None

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

Following roll call, the meeting transitioned to the condemnation hearing for 117 West St. The hearing was advertised and recorded as required. Municipal Engineer Robert Zischkau testified that the structure is not structurally sound and that it is not economically feasible to rehabilitate it. Mr. Zischkau recommended that the building be condemned and razed. Motion by Sauter, seconded by Hillen, to declare the structure located at 117 West St. a nuisance, acknowledge that it is not economically feasible to repair the structure, to abate the nuisance by demolishing the structure, and direct the solicitor's office to initiate an adjudication to that end. The motion was unanimous.

Following the condemnation hearing for 117 West, a public comment hearing for the Verizon Franchise Renewal Agreement was held. There were no citizen comments regarding the renewal.

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

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

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

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

MAYOR

There were 182 routine patrols by the Forest Hills Police Department in May. The majority of the 911 calls were:

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6- Parking complaints

3- Disturbances

3- EMS calls

2- Suspicious incidents

2- Calls to other agencies

Mr. Hoover asked Sol. Evashavik about code-related violations and what else, if anything, the borough can do to address such violations. Mr. Hoover said it is frustrating when the magistrate issues a fine for code violations, the property owner appeals the fine, and the appeals court greatly reduces the fine. Mr. Hoover said there seems to be a disconnect between the judges. Sol. Evashavik explained that it just depends on which judge is assigned to the case; he gave specific examples of his experiences with different judges handling summary appeals, and noted that the judges downtown aren't as in touch with the community in the same way that the magistrate is. Sol. Evashavik also explained that it is the state that is obligated to enforce and collect the fines, not the borough.

SOLICITOR

No report.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Hillen, to ratify a \$20,000 transfer from the GFMM account to the GF Checking account at the end of May. Glenn Engineering requested payment for their work on the 2025 Street Improvements after the agenda for last month was published. The 2025 Street Improvement costs will be reimbursed from a combination of the LSA Road Reconstruction grant and Liquid Fuels funds. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Sauter, to pay the borough's credit card invoice in the amount of \$330.86. This includes \$39.87 in postage for the condemnation hearing notices for 117 West St., and \$290.99 for the purchase of flags approved at the May meeting.

Ms. Fullwood advised that the newsletter was mailed out yesterday to paper subscribers and emailed to electronic subscribers this morning. Ms. Fullwood said she welcomes feedback and content suggestions for the next newsletter. Mr. Hoover noted that he found the newsletter to be entertaining with a lot of good information. He asked residents to please read it.

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PERMITS AND ORDINANCES

Ms. Hillen advised that one case was opened in May, two cases were closed, and 71 cases were continued. There are 45 citations currently at the magistrate.

There were six initial occupancy inspections, and five Certificates of Occupancy were issued.

There were no dumpster, building, or solicitation permits issued in May. There are currently no ongoing solicitation permits. Ms. Hillen wished everyone a happy Father's Day.

ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Sauter advised that milling for the 2025 Street Improvements is done and that paving should begin tomorrow, weather permitting. Mr. Sauter said he reached out to the DPW to remind them of line painting.

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Hillen, to advertise Ordinance 446, an ordinance vacating a portion of Brighton St. between Parkway and North Avenues, an unnamed sixteen-foot alley in the East Pittsburgh addition plan, PBV 20, P 138-9, in the Borough of Chalfant, Pennsylvania. The ordinance is scheduled for adoption at the regular council meeting on August 14th, 2025. The motion was unanimous.

Mayor Perry asked about paint spilled on Rossmore St. Mr. Hoover said that it is suspected to have been from the garbage truck and that it will wash off eventually. Mr. Lilac asked if the borough could put something on it to remove the paint. Mr. Hoover said that using some sort of stripper would damage residents' cars. If anyone saw anything, please reach out and report it. Ms. Fullwood said the paint was fresh on Friday night; her neighbor drove through it but was able to wash it off their car.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND WHEMS

Motion by Royster, seconded by Lilac, to transfer \$1,427.97 from the GFMM account to the WHEMS MM account. This was the amount of WHEMS tax collected in May. The motion was unanimous.

Mr. Royster advised that there were six calls to WHEMS in May. He read the street, date, and outcomes of each call.

There was no report from the Forest Hills VFC for May.

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ALCOSAN

Motion by Royster, seconded by Sauter, to pay the Steel Rivers COG invoice in the amount of \$385.00 for street sweeping. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Royster, seconded by Fullwood, to transfer \$385.00 from the Sewer Line Fund to the GF Checking to cover the expense. The motion was unanimous.

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Ms. Sivak advised that with the paving schedule this week, there may be some issues with garbage collection on the affected streets on Friday. Ms. Sivak said the borough will play it by ear and will keep residents updated as best as they can.

PARKS AND RECREATION/BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Lilac advised the furnace at the Community Center was fixed. Mr. Lilac said some residents complained about the tree trimming around the park but that the park looks good. There's a bollard that needs to be cemented at the Elizabeth Ave. entrance to the park. Mr. Hoover said Mr. Sauter will add it to his list for the DPW.

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Royster, to pay the Classic Landscaping invoice in the amount of \$5,000 for emergency tree removal and trimming following the storm damage and emergency disaster declaration last month. The motion was unanimous.

Mr. Hoover explained that at the work session on Tuesday, Council discussed replacing the "Welcome to Chalfant" signs at the Chalfant St. and West St. entrances to the borough. Motion by Lilac, seconded by Sauter, to approve the 'Option B' quote for two custom routed, sandblasted and painted high-density urethane signs at a total cost of \$2,300.00. The motion was unanimous. Mr. Hoover noted that the urethane signs can be mounted to the existing posts. He believes the existing posts are in good condition but that they'd take a look to confirm.

CRIME WATCH

Ms. Bouvier advised that she submitted her report to Council and asked Mr. Lilac about posting a Crime Watch sign from storage. Mr. Lilac said he would put the sign up and told Ms. Bouvier she does not need to purchase a new one. Ms. Bouvier said people have called her to complain about the basketball courts at the park and suggested they be used as a pickleball court or tennis court. Council and Ms. Bouvier discussed the suggestion but noted that complaints are frequent

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in communities with pickleball courts as well. Mr. Hoover said CW is welcome to put out a survey to residents regarding the issue.

TAX COLLECTOR

Ms. Donahue advised that some residents may have gotten a tax reminder letter from her; the last day for the face amount for Borough RE Taxes is June 30th. Woodland Hills School District taxes will go out on July 1st.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Joanne Bissell, 244 Highland Ave., said that with regards to the park, it's a great park, but doesn't fit the demographics of the borough. Ms. Bissell said she doesn't play basketball and feels the basketball court promotes vandalism and drug deals. Ms. Bissell questioned spending money maintaining the baseball field and suggested renting it to softball teams to make money. Ms. Bissell said the school district ruined this community's chances of being a young community so the park should be geared toward older demographics. Mr. Hoover thanked her for her comments.

Doris Libell, 127 Lynnwood Ave., asked about Ms. Gallagher's house and the high grass. Mr. Hoover explained the Code Enforcement had to declare the property unfit for occupancy and board it for safety. The borough will have to maintain the grass and lien the property. Ms. Libell asked about getting the keys for her upcoming Community Center rental. Mr. Hoover said to call either him or Mr. Lilac if she doesn't get the keys from the rental coordinator, Len Wroblewski.

Cindy Roche, 206 Fairview Ave., said she saw a guest bring a dog to the Community Center over the weekend. Mr. Hoover said no dogs are permitted at the Community Center unless they are service animals. Ms. Roche said there's a falling retaining wall obstructing the sidewalk on Fairview Ave. Mr. Hoover and Ms. Hillen said the borough and code enforcement will take a look.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS.

None..

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COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Lilac, to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. The motion was unanimous.

ATTEST: _____
Borough Manager Council President

