

## **BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION**

**March 7, 2023.**

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

ABSENT: Ms. Hillen

The work session began at 7:00 pm and ended at 8:50 pm.

## **BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING**

**March 8, 2023**

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Mss. Fullwood, Fennell, Messrs. Hoover, Sauter, Royster, Lilac, Sol. Evashavik. Ms. Hillen attended the regular council meeting virtually via Zoom and did not vote on the evening's motions.

ABSENT: None

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

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Royster, to approve the minutes from the last regular meeting. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

Motion by Fennell, seconded by Fullwood, to approve the bank balances as read. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Lilac, to approve payment of the monthly bills after being properly countersigned. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

Motion by Fennell, seconded by Fullwood, to approve the Tax Collection report as read. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

## **MAYOR**

There were 160 routine patrols by the Forest Hills Police Department and 22, 911 calls in January. The majority of the 911 calls were:

4 - Neighbor disputes

3 - Domestic

2 - Suspicious activities

2 - Thefts from vehicles

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Mayor Perry noted that the thefts from vehicles are happening on a cycle again and reminded everyone to keep their cars locked at all times.

**SOLICITOR**

Sol. Evashavik advised that he drafted a vendor contract for Community Day but that Ms. Fennell has decided to go in a different direction with the vendors at the event so he will put the contract on the back burner for future use.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Fullwood advised that the Newsletter went out at the end of February. The next edition should go out around June. Ms. Fullwood noted that overall, feedback has been good; if anyone has any suggestions for future publications, please let her know.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Royster, to transfer \$15,000.00 from the GF MM account to the GF Checking account to cover the cost of the March invoices. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

**PERMITS AND ORDINANCES**

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

Ms. Fullwood advised that there were four new cases in February, one closed case, and 13 continued cases.

**ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS**

Mr. Sauter asked residents and council members to please let him know if there are areas that need to be addressed. He is currently working with the DPW to update street signs in the borough.

**HEALTH AND SANITATION**

Ms. Fennell explained that the borough will need to install a manhole and cover on Wilkins Ave. Ms. Fennell advised that the Community Day Committee has been working on finalizing plans for the 2023 Community Day. So far, three food trucks are booked for the event; Pittsburgh

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Smokehouse, Pgh EatZ, and Sweet Streets, which will serve homemade ice cream. Three bands have been booked, Trip Lotus, Jerry DeMaria, and Across the Tracks. Ms. Fennell noted that she anticipates that everyone will be up dancing, including her. There will also be games for adults this year including horseshoes, cornhole, and Bocce. Like last year, the Committee is planning on having games and activities for children, including a bounce house, and there will be a raffle for gift baskets and a 50/50 drawing at the event as well. Ms. Fullwood added that there will also be a craft and collectible table and the Committee is planning on having a DJ, Steve Mason, fill in between bands and MC the event.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Motion by Royster, seconded by Sauter, to approve the merger between the Chalfant VFC and Wilkins Township VFC #3. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

Mr. Royster noted that the merger is ongoing.

**WHEMS**

Mr. Royster advised there were eight calls to WHEMS in February. He read the date and outcome of each incident.

Mr. Hoover explained that at the recent WHEMS board meeting where the director and assistant director's contracts were being negotiated, Mr. Royster stepped up and made his views known. Mr. Royster believes that Mr. Mastendrea and his assistant director deserved salary increases and urged the board to put them both under new contracts. Mr. Royster said that Mr. Mastendrea saved the program from bankruptcy and deserves to be recognized. Mr. Hoover thanked Mr. Royster for representing Chalfant the way that Chalfant deserves to be represented. Mr. Royster thanked Mr. Hoover for his guidance in the matter.

**PARKS AND RECREATION/BOROUGH PROPERTY**

Mr. Lilac advised that there was an issue with one of the recently installed exterior LED lights at the Community Center. The light is under warranty and Mr. Lilac has requested a replacement. Mr. Lilac is also looking into getting a new defibrillator for the Community Center.

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Sauter, to sign the 2023 rental agreement with Mr. John for the Port-a-Potty at Chalfant Servicemen's Memorial Park. The monthly service charge is \$131 and there is a \$15 stake-down fee and a \$50 transportation fee that will be included on the first

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invoice. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

**CRIME WATCH**

Ms. Bouvier was unable to attend the meeting but she submitted a report which was read by Mr. Hoover. There was one new Crime Watch member in February for a total of 126 members. All upcoming meetings and events have been posted to the Nextdoor Crime Watch page. Ms. Bouvier will send Borough Secretary, Stephanie Schwoegl, a write-up by the end of the week for Savvy Citizen for the next Crime Watch meeting, which is planned for March 28th at 7:00 p.m. The agenda will include a brief discussion and planning for a flea market in June, followed by a safety demonstration and class presented by Chontas Tang Soo Do Karate. A time still needs to be set for the Chalfant Redd Up Day on April 22nd. Crime Watch will have a table at the Chalfant Community Day in August and they are trying to think of some fun giveaways and/or contests to have at the table to increase membership.

Mr. Lilac explained that he found gloves and garbage bags left over from previous Redd Up Days. He also found some Redd Up Day signs that can be posted in the borough.

**TAX COLLECTOR**

Ms. Donahue advised that 2023 borough taxes will be mailed on March 1st. She noted that the borough usually had early payers.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

Doris Libell, 127 Lynnwood Ave., thanked Ms. Fullwood for the Newsletter. Ms. Libell said that it contained all of the information she was looking for and it was well done. Ms. Libell asked if the borough is responsible for providing a school crossing guard. She mentioned that she drives around and see kids without adults and wonder who is responsible if there is an incident. Sol. Evashavik advised that if something happens, whoever is responsible is responsible; the borough is not obligated to provide a crossing guard, it is the school district's responsibility if they find it to be necessary. Mr. Hoover explained that no one has expressed any interest in filling the role and noted that years ago when there was interest, the person interested did not pass their background check. Mr. Hoover suggested the borough advertise the position in the next Newsletter. Mr. Royster advised that the former crossing guard, Eileen Wroblewski, didn't really want to resign but that she expected an increase. Mr. Hoover advised that she never approached Council about the issue. Ms. Libell asked if the borough is part of Section 8? Mr.

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Hoover said that yes, there are Section 8 landlords operating in the borough. A discussion regarding Section 8 housing ensued between Council and Ms. Libell. Ms. Libell asked if Council can do anything about the flags at the Armed Services Memorial, noting that they are worse for wear. Mr. Hoover advised that he has replacement flags ready for the memorial but is waiting for better weather to display them. Ms. Fennell asked what will happen to the old flags and said that the Wilkins Elks has a beautiful flag retirement ceremony. Mr. Hoover explained that the VFW also retires flags and that all flags are always retired properly. A discussion regarding flags and the best places to purchase flags ensued between residents and Council. Mr. Hoover noted that the replacement State and American Flags were donated by Senator Costa's office.

Carol Donahue, 110 Greenfield Ave., asked about dumpsters and bagsters and if they are allowed to sit on residents' property indefinitely. Mr. Hoover explained that no, that would amount to a code violation, and explained that the borough is aware of one bagster that has been filled and in the municipality long-term; it is being addressed by Code Enforcement. Ms. Donahue asked if the borough issues bagsters. Mr. Hoover explained that no, they are the same as a privately owned dumpsters and residents need to contract with a company for removal. Garbage collection in the borough does not include bagsters or dumpsters. The borough also requires permits be issued for both bagsters and dumpsters; the permit is free for the first 30 days if the dumpster is on private property. They are \$30 for every 30 days thereafter. If the dumpster is on public property, it is \$30 per month.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The 2022 delinquent taxes have been turned over to Jordan Tax Service. Motion by Sauter, seconded by Lilac, to exonerate Tax Collector, Carol Donahue, of the 2022 taxes. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

Motion by Fennell, seconded by Lilac, to renew the borough's Zoom Pro membership at a cost of \$104.93 for one year. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Royster, to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Fullwood, Fennell, Hoover, Sauter, Royster, and Lilac voted in favor while Hillen abstained from voting.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Borough Secretary Council President

