

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION

March 12, 2024

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

ABSENT: None.

The work session began at 7:00 p.m. and ended at 8:20 p.m.

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING

March 13, 2024

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

ABSENT: Mr. Sauter

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

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

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

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

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

MAYOR

There were 151 routine patrols by the Forest Hills Police Department and 25, 911 calls in February. The majority of the 911 calls were:

- 7 - Abandoned vehicles
- 5- Domestic
- 3- Alarm calls
- 2- Animal complaints
- 2- Parking complaints

THE BOROUGH OF CHALFANT REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 13, 2024
PAGE TWO

Mayor Perry stated that in his observance of the calls, it seems the borough is a dumping ground for abandoned and stolen vehicles. Mayor Perry advised to call 911 to report unattended vehicles and to keep vehicle doors locked to prevent theft.

SOLICITOR

No report.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Fennell, to transfer \$38,000 from the GF MM account to the GF checking account to cover the cost of the March invoices. The motion was unanimous. Ms. Fullwood advised that she is starting to compile information for the spring newsletter. She is hoping to publish it in mid-April and advised that content should be submitted to her by the first or second week of April.

PERMITS AND ORDINANCES

Ms. Hillen advised that two dumpster permits were issued in February. There were zero building permits issued. There was one certificate of occupancy issued and two temporary certificates of occupancy issued.

Ms. Hillen read a detailed street-by-street list of active code enforcement cases. Ms. Hillen advised that three new cases were opened in February, no cases were closed, and 32 cases were continued.

Ms. Hillen advised that Council discussed the Distraint Ordinance 442 at length last month and wishes to proceed with advertising. Motion by Hillen, seconded by Fullwood, to advertise Ordinance 442, an ordinance to authorize the tax collector to distraint on rent due from a tenant to a landlord to collect delinquent real estate taxes on the subject property. The ordinance established the authority to pursue enforcement and provides for civil penalties. The motion was unanimous.

Ms. Hillen advised that there is a judgment against 203 Greenfield Avenue and property owner, Donald Kuo, in the amount of \$218,000 for violations at the property and asked Sol. Evaskavik what the borough's options are for collecting that judgment. Sol. Evasavik advised that after the appeal period, the borough can begin sheriff sale proceedings. He advised that if someone doesn't purchase the property, the borough will end up buying it and maintaining it.

THE BOROUGH OF CHALFANT REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 13, 2024
PAGE THREE

A discussion between Council and Sol. Evashavik ensued regarding sheriff sale proceedings and possible outcomes.

ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY

No report.

WHEMS

Mr. Royster advised that there were two calls to WHEMS in February. He read the date, street, and outcome of each incident. Mr. Royster advised that two new members were confirmed at the recent WHEMS board meeting.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

No report.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ms. Fennell advised that Council and the Crime Watch are excited to host the Easter egg hunt at the Community Center on March 24th, starting at 1:30 pm. Ms. Fennell said there will be lots of fun for the kids with an egg hunt, Easter Bunny visit, Ms. Lauren's reptiles, refreshments, and prizes. Ms. Hillen thanked CW for sponsoring the event. Ms. Fennell advised that she hopes to help plan a Memorial Day ceremony and luncheon in May, as well as a Picnic in the Park and Movie After Dark in August. She hopes these events will help keep residents entertained and bring the community together to have some fun.

PARKS AND RECREATION/BOROUGH PROPERTY

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Fullwood, to sign the 2024 rental contract with Mr. John. The monthly service charge is \$125 with a \$10 environmental fee and there is a \$15 stake down fee and a \$60 transportation fee that will be included on the first bill. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Hillen, to accept Air Systems Mechanical Contractors, Inc.'s proposal for the Community Center HVAC replacement for the total bid price of \$33,637.00 as recommended by Municipal Engineer, Robert Zischkau. Funding for the project will be reimbursed from the Commonwealth Financing Authority grant. The motion was unanimous.

THE BOROUGH OF CHALFANT REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 13, 2024
PAGE FOUR

Mr. Lilac advised that with the help of Ms. Hillen, they are looking at getting quotes for camera systems for the park and whether it is feasible for the borough to purchase cameras without the assistance of a grant. Mr. Hoover advised that the current cameras are over 10 years old and technology has changed. Mr. Lilac said Council would be talking more about the cameras next month. Mr. Zischkau also wants to get quotes for windows at the Community Center which will also be reimbursed from the CFA grant.

CRIME WATCH

Ms. Bouvier advised membership has remained steady. Along with the Easter egg hunt on March 24th, the CW is also planning to host a “Redd Up” day in April, likely during the weekend of April 20th. More information will be forthcoming. Ms. Bouvier encouraged residents to come out and clean up their community. Ms. Bouvier is also considering hosting a borough walk for National Night Out on August 6th. Ms. Bouvier explained that her father had a lot of historical Chalfant items that the borough could archive at the Community Center. Ms. Bouvier said she will have articles for the newsletter and that the CW will help with the Memorial Day ceremony. Ms. Bouvier stated that she has some concerns with people being in the park after dark recently and is concerned with placing the proposed bench in her father’s memory at the park. She suggested putting it at the Community Center instead to be used during community events and elections. Ms. Bouvier also noted that her father’s insurance was billed when EMS was utilized and asked if that should have been included in the borough-wide membership. Mr. Hoover advised that no, while residents are shielded from charges under the contract with WHEMS, insurance companies would still be billed for services. Ms. Bouvier explained that the CW is currently still working on block captains and how to disseminate information to members. Mayor Perry advised that there can be issues when a telephone chain is formed to pass along information; the original message is at risk of getting distorted.

TAX COLLECTOR

Ms. Donahue advised that all property owners should have received their 2024 borough tax bills; if anyone did not receive their bill, please get in touch. The discount period for borough real estate tax runs until April 30th. Ms. Donahue advised she will hold office hours at 144 Lynnwood Avenue during the last two weeks of April for those wanting to pay in person.

The third installment payment for the WHSD 2023 school tax is due on March 31st.

