

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION

May 12, 2020

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

ABSENT: Mayor Perry.

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

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING

May 13, 2020

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

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

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

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

MAYOR

For the month of April, there were 13, 911 calls and 177 regular patrols by F.H.P.D. The majority of the 911 calls were:

2- Domestic

2- Suspicious activities

2- Neighbor disputes

There were no questions from Council.

Mr. Hoover noted that the call volume has been down for the past two months during quarantine.

SOLICITOR

Sol. Evashavik advised that he participated in a webinar for municipal solicitors regarding pending legislation. Sol. Evashavik explained that municipal tax revenue will be affected by COVID-19 and strongly recommends that Council revisit their budget in anticipation of a 25 percent loss in expected revenue. Mr. Hoover agreed that Council should take a look at the budget in July.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Pustorino advised that she is keeping the website up to date with the most recent COVID-19 information and recommendations, including the safety precautions in effect at Chalfant Servicemen's Memorial Park.

2020 Swift Reach additions have been provided to Forest Hills Borough.

Dr. Pustorino advised that the Woodland Hills HS had to cancel the 2020 musical due to the pandemic. Council will not request a return of the donation for the musical program; the donation will go to the Performing Arts Department.

PERMITS AND ORDINANCES

Ms. Baburich advised that there was one occupancy inspection in April, it failed.

There were 14 violations on four properties in April:

- 1- Brighton St.
- 1- Lynnwood Ave.
- 2- Parkway Ave.

ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Syska advised that he requested public works remove all the broken concrete and other rubble from the hillside above the walking trail.

Motion by Syska, seconded by Lilac, to submit an application to Duquesne Light's LED Street Light Conversion Program. The application is to replace 14 existing street lights with LED street

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lights on Elizabeth Ave., Wilkins Ave., and Brighton St., at a cost of \$1,526.00. Motion was unanimous.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Royster advised that there were three calls in March, and zero calls in April, to the Chalfant VFC. Mr. Royster explained that the VFC fundraiser planned for the primary election has been cancelled due to COVID-19.

PARKS AND RECREATION/BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Lilac advised that he has nothing major to report. The park rehabilitation is pretty much finished. Mr. Lilac plans to do some painting at the park once the weather improves. The Port-a-John is waiting to be delivered to the park in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines.

Mr. Lilac explained that Hooper Roofing will likely address the Community Center Roof in June or July. Also, the Community Center's brickwork needs to be pointed; Mr. Lilac will provide estimates to Council.

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Syska, to transfer \$63,245.75 from the General Fund Checking Account to the Sewer Line Fund to replace the amount that was temporarily borrowed from the Sewer Line Fund to pay Sport's and Recreation's second invoice. This transfer was made when the first CITF grant disbursement of \$96,040.00 was received at the end of March. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Pustorino, to pay Sports and Recreation's final invoice of \$12,539.25. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Baburich, to transfer \$12,539.25 from the Sewer Line Fund to GF Checking. This transfer is temporary; this amount will be replaced when grant disbursements are received. Motion was unanimous.

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Mr. Hoover advised that the light at the park near Pin Oak Ct. is not working again; it has been off for the past three or four nights. Mr. Lilac advised that the breaker box must have tripped. He will take a look and call an electrician if necessary.

WHEMS

Mr. Royster attended the WHEMS board meeting online via Microsoft Meetings. There were 202 total calls to WHEMS in March and 162 total calls in April. A breakdown of how many of those calls originated in Chalfant was not provided.

CRIME WATCH

No report.

TAX COLLECTOR

Ms. Donahue inquired about whether the face value collection period for borough taxes would be extended due to COVID-19. Mr. Hoover advised that yes, it would be, and Council will address the issue during New Business.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Doris Libell, 127 Lynnwood Ave., said she's so happy to see everyone healthy and safe. Ms. Libell explained that there is confusion at the county regarding the primary election. She advised that she's concerned about a shortage of experienced poll workers willing to work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Libell advised that the voting machine will need to be sterilized after each use and someone will need to be present to enforce social distancing. She urged Council to contact the Allegheny County Elections Office to be sure the primary election goes smoothly. Sol. Evashavik and Mr. Hoover advised that they will address the issue.

Ms. Libell noted that the park's renovation is wonderful and she can't wait until the park is fully open for use.

Mike Donahue, 110 Greenfield Ave., asked what the status is regarding measures to control the deer population in Chalfant. Mr. Hoover advised that Council is going to discuss the matter shortly.

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OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hoover explained there is quite a bit of old business due to the cancellation of the April meeting amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Lilac, to ratify the telephone vote to cancel the April Council Meeting. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Baburich, seconded by Lilac, to ratify the payment of the bills for the month of April. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Syska, to ratify the April 7th preparation of grant proposals by Borough Engineer, Robert Zischkau. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Lilac, to ratify the advertisement of Ordinance 433 banning the feeding of deer. The advertisement appeared in The Valley Mirror on April 30, 2020. Motion was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Syska, to issue a real estate tax refund to Mary Renwick in the amount of \$5.29 for overpayment during the discount period. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Lilac, to transfer \$8,564.15 from the GF Money Market to the designated WHEMS Money Market Account. The amount reflects the WHEMS tax collected in both March (\$2,155.95) and April (\$6,408.20.) Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Lilac, to adopt a resolution to extend the period to pay borough real estate tax at face value without penalty to December 31, 2020. Sol. Evashavik will prepare the resolution for Council's records.

Mayor Perry suggested Council consider waiving the Amusement License Fee on Tugboats for 2020. Mayor Perry explained this is an additional hardship on the business already struggling during the COVID-19 pandemic. Motion by Baburich, seconded by Lilac, to forgo the \$600 Amusement License Fee for 2020. Motion was unanimous.

Mr. Hoover explained that the Churchill Area Environment Council has awarded a \$250.00 scholarship to Kendell Berry of Forest Hills for his work on the storm water drains in his

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community. CAEC has requested a donation from Chalfant toward the scholarship in the amount of \$25.00.

Motion by Baburich, seconded by Pustorino, to contribute to the CAEC Scholarship in the amount of \$25.00. Motion was unanimous.

Mr. Hoover explained that in light of COVID-19, Council has decided to table the vote on Ordinance 433, banning the feeding of deer, until the June meeting. Council believes this will give the community a better opportunity to discuss the ordinance before it is voted on by Council.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Baburich, to table the vote on Ordinance 433 until June 2020. Motion was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Baburich, seconded by Pustorino, to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Motion was unanimous.

ATTEST: _____
Borough Secretary Council President

