

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION

May 13, 2025

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

ABSENT: None.

The work session began at 7:00 p.m. and ended at 8:32 p.m.

BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING

May 14, 2025

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

ABSENT: Sol. Evashavik

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

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

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

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

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

MAYOR

There were 174 routine patrols by the Forest Hills Police Department and 40 911 calls in April. The majority of the 911 calls were:

8- Parking complaints

5 Reports of wires down

3- Abandoned vehicles

3- EMS calls

3 - Domestic

There were no questions from Council.

SOLICITOR

Sol. Evashavik was unable to attend tonight's meeting, no report.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Hillen, to transfer \$52,000 from the GFMM account to the GF Checking to cover the cost of the May invoices. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Sauter, to pay the borough's credit card invoice in the amount of \$366.30 for Mr. Hoover's hotel accommodations at the 2025 ALOM Conference. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Royster, to purchase two American flags and one POW-MIA flag at a total cost of \$290.99. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Hillen, to reimburse Ms. Sivak in the amount of \$92.43 for cleaning supplies. Payment will be issued at the end of the month. The motion was unanimous.

Ms. Fullwood advised that she hopes to have the newsletter out the second week of June. If residents have any information they would like to contribute, please reach out.

PERMITS AND ORDINANCES

Ms. Hillen advised that 7 cases were opened in April, 22 cases were closed, and 72 cases were continued. There are 41 citations currently at the magistrate.

There was one initial occupancy inspection, and one Certificate of Occupancy was issued.

There was one dumpster permit and one building permit issued in April. There are currently no active solicitation permits. Ms. Fullwood asked what to do if a solicitor comes to residents' doors and they do not have a permit. Ms. Hillen advised calling 911, and the police will remove them from the borough. Ms. Hillen explained that people may leave pamphlets in doors without applying for a permit. Signs stating that 'solicitation permits are required' have been ordered for the main entrances to the borough, but have not been posted yet. In addition to calling 911, residents may also report solicitors without permits to Ms. Hillen. Ms. Hillen asked residents to please be mindful of their grass this time of year and when cutting, please do not blow the clippings in the street.

ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Sauter advised that the DPW will work to patch potholes and paint lines and curbs in the borough soon, weather permitting. Mr. Sauter said that the DPW did a great job with storm cleanup considering the magnitude of the storm damage to both Chalfant and Forest Hills.

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Fullwood, to sign the 2025 Steel Rivers COG Street Sweeping Agreement for street sweeping between April 1, 2025, and October 31, 2025, at a rate of \$110.00/hour plus a minimum of ½ hour travel time one way to and from the location. The motion was unanimous.

Mr. Hoover explained that Steel Rivers COG recently got a new, fully electric street sweeper; the borough will see it in action in September.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND WHEMS

Motion by Royster, seconded by Sauter, to transfer \$3,992.36 from the GFMM account to the WHEMS MM account. This was the amount of WHEMS tax collected in April. The motion was unanimous.

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

A report from the Forest Hills VFC is not currently available; they are still trying to catch up following the storm.

ALCOSAN

Motion by Royster, seconded by Lilac, to schedule TCVCOG's Vactor Service for two days at a cost of \$1,420.00 per day, which is the member rate for municipalities. The motion was unanimous. The vactor will be in the borough on May 15th and 16th.

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Ms. Sivak thanks residents for coming out to the Egg Hunt; she also thanked everyone who helped with the event. Mr. Lilac thanked Ms. Sivak for organizing the event. Mr. Hoover stated that Ms. Sivak did an exceptional job and it was a very nice time. Ms. Sivak said she would begin looking into organizing another movie night this summer and will keep everyone updated.

PARKS AND RECREATION/BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Lilac thanked Mr. Hoover and Mr. Sauter for all of their help on the night of the storm. A tree came down on Elizabeth, pulling down power lines, creating a dangerous situation. Mr. Lilac said it is important to look after your neighbors in emergencies. While most of the borough's power was restored within 24 hours of the storm, a small section was without power until Saturday night. When the tree fell, Mr. Lilac called 911 but couldn't get through. He called Mr. Hoover, and he and Mr. Sauter came up right away and shut the road down. Mr. Lilac also thanked Ray and Eileen Wroblewski for opening up the Community Center for residents.

Motion by Lilac, seconded by Sivak, to sign Resolution 584 requesting a Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program grant in the amount of \$150,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority, which will be used for the Chalfant Recreation Site Improvements. The borough designates Chad Hoover, President of Borough Council, and Stephanie Schwoegl, Borough Manager, as the officials to execute all documents and agreements between the Borough of Chalfant and the Commonwealth Financing Authority. The motion was unanimous.

Mayor Perry asked what the improvements to the park will be if the grant is awarded. Mr. Hoover advised that Council would like to restore the walking track, install new fencing, and perform tree maintenance, but improvements will depend on whether the grant is awarded and the amount.

Mr. Lilac advised that the motherboard for the furnace at the Community Center was rescheduled to be replaced on Friday.

CRIME WATCH

Ms. Bouvier asked Mr. Lilac if he can retrieve a crime watch sign out of storage and have it posted at the Brighton St. entrance at John St because there is graffiti on the existing sign. Ms. Bouvier thanked residents and Council for coming out for Redd Up Day. It was nice to see everyone picking up trash in the borough and maybe CW can host another informal Redd Up Day in six months or so when the vegetation begins to die back. Ms. Bouvier asked that the overgrowth at the Parkway Steps be addressed. She also asked about a drainage issue on Chalfant St.; Mr. Hoover said the drainage would be addressed after Chalfant St. is paved. Mr. Hoover thanked Ms. Bouvier and Ms. Hillen for their resident outreach during the storm.

TAX COLLECTOR

Ms. Donahue advised that the last day for the face amount for Borough RE Taxes is June 30th.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Bob Lasser, 243 Lynnwood Ave., asked about a handicapped spot on Lynnwood that should be removed. Mr. Hoover advised that while the painted lines remain on the street, the sign was removed, so it is no longer considered handicapped parking. Mr. Lasser said he would like to suggest a pickleball court at Chalfant Park. He said it is a slower game for older adults, and residents might be interested. Mr. Lasser also suggested a dog park or dog walking lane at the park. Mr. Lasser advised that he is one of the Republican candidates running for Mayor on Tuesday; he asked residents to please consider voting for him.

Doris Libell, 127 Lynnwood Ave., thanked Mr. Sauter for his update on the roads and said she was going to ask about patching, but he answered her question. Ms. Libell also thanked Ms. Hillen for the improvement in the trash situation across the street from her. It has been excellent. Ms. Libell addressed Mr. Hoover regarding the flags at the North Ave. Memorial. She said some of the flags need to be replaced. Mr. Hoover said that he has new flags. Ms. Libell stated that she was upset with Mayor Perry's response to the storm; she felt Mayor Perry should have been more visible during the storm, seeing if residents needed help. Mayor Perry responded by saying that he is sorry that Ms. Libell feels that way; he was in communication with Mr. Hoover throughout the storm's aftermath and was active in issuing the emergency disaster declaration. He said that he understood that the Community Center was open to residents, though he didn't personally go down. Mayor Perry also stated that he's been dealing with some personal issues that he doesn't want to address publicly, but would be happy to discuss with Ms. Libell following the meeting. Mr. Hoover said that he would accept some fault; he told Mayor Perry that Council would handle the response. Mr. Hoover advised, though, that most of the borough's power was restored within 24 hours, which is a normal power outage. If it had gone beyond that, they probably would have come around and made announcements. Mr. Lilac advised that he tried to get the word out that temperature-sensitive medications could be stored at the Community Center's fridge. Mr. Hoover said he tried to call Ms. Libell, but since she doesn't have a cell phone and her power was out, he was unable to get through. Council and residents discussed the storm response; Council urged residents to be prepared for these types of emergencies. Extreme weather events will continue and potentially become more frequent.

Mark Swinney, 127 West St., asked about a missing stop sign on Elizabeth that was knocked down in the storm. Mr. Sauter advised that the DPW is aware and it is being addressed. Mr. Swinney asked about the radar speed sign that is currently positioned on West St. Mr. Hoover advised that the current study is almost complete, at which point, data will be collected and sent to the police. The amount of information the radar speed sign generates is unbelievable; all information is sent to Chief Williams and the police will adjust their patrols accordingly. Mr.

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Swinney said there is a school bus that speeds down West St. daily. Ms. Hillen suggested getting the bus number and reporting it to the bus company. Mr. Swinney advised that he is a Republican candidate for Mayor and he spoke with a few residents concerned about a property on Wilkins that is running a business and generating noise. Mr. Hoover advised that the borough is aware of and addressing the issue; he encouraged residents to call the police for noise complaints.

Cindy Roche, 206 Fairveiw Ave., said the DPW needs to cut the grass along Fairview and there's a tree that came down near her as well. Mr. Sauter said the DPW will get to it; they are still working on storm cleanup. Ms. Roche said her grandkids had a ball at the Egg Hunt and thanked Council and CW for the event.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS.

The Tri-COG Land Bank has sent notice of proposed property disposition for the vacant lot at 0 Greenfield Ave., lot and block number 374-G-206. Motion by Hillen, seconded by Sauter, to sign the waiver of the 60-day objection period for 0 Greenfield Avenue. If all relevant taxing jurisdictions agree to the disposition, the disposition process may be expedited. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Hillen, seconded by Sivak, to advertise the Condemnation Hearing for Allegheny Co., PA. HET a dwelling k/a 117 West St.; Lot No. 287 of the East Pittsburgh Land Company's Plan of Lots known as East Pittsburgh Addition, PBV 20, p 138-139. 374-F-40. DBV 9314, p. 147. A hearing will be held in Council Chambers at the Chalfant Community Center at 218 North Ave., East Pittsburgh, PA 15112 on June 11th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. This building may be declared to be a public nuisance and hazard. The motion was unanimous.

Motion by Fullwood, seconded by Lilac, to advertise a public hearing on June 11th, 2025, regarding the Verizon cable franchise renewal at the Chalfant Community Center at 218 North Ave., East Pittsburgh, PA 15112. Chalfant citizens are invited to testify. The purpose of the public hearing is to review the past performance of Verizon and to identify the future cable-related community needs of the borough. The motion was unanimous.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Ms. Fullwood asked about the Verizon cable franchise renewal public hearing. Mr. Hoover explained that TCVCOG and Cohen Law are handling the cable franchise renewal on the

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borough's behalf. Cohen Law has requested a public comment hearing as part of their renewal negotiations.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Sauter, seconded by Lilac, to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. The motion was unanimous.

ATTEST: _____
Borough Manager Council President

