
MINUTES

Call to Order: Mr. Porco

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor O'Malley

Roll Call:

Mr. Belmonte	Present	Mr. Porco	Present
Mr. Burleigh	Present	Mayor O'Malley	Present
Mr. Erbdinger	Present	Janet Sullivan, Tax Collector	Present
Mr. Karas	Present	Steve Korbel, Solicitor	Present
Mr. Tomasic	Present	David Gilliland, Engineer	Present
Ms. Wood	Present	Steven Morus, Manager	Present

President's Report: Mr. Porco

Mr. Porco announced that council held an executive session on March 3 to discuss personnel issues.

He noted the PELRAS Conference next week to be attended by the manager, Ms. Wood and himself.

April 14, the local elected officials have been invited to attend a meeting organized by the borough and the University of Pittsburgh to discuss regionalization of certain services and what benefit might come from that.

He also noted the work of our emergency responders at a Mass at St. Maurice responding to a gentleman who collapsed. He commended all for their work.

Mayor's Report: Mayor O'Malley

The Mayor presented a report of activities

On February 23rd, he attended funeral services for Forest Hills activist and volunteer Flivver driver, as well as St. Maurice Eucharistic Minister, Mr. Larry Vogel.

On February 24th, we were able to eliminate this past month's Tax Consortium meeting because things are running smoothly. The approved systems that are going to be put into place will allow us to have a unified tax collection system which will be significantly less expensive to our borough than the previous way it was done.

On February 25th, Mayor O'Malley attended the COG. The bad news out of that meeting is that the state of PA's money to the COGs will be severely restricted and reduced and, in many cases, things will be eliminated because of the alleged budget crisis brought on by too many poor people.

On February 26th, there was a clean up project at 414 Braddock Road involving the Forest Hills Rotary, many members of Forest Hills Council, the local Magistrate and a few other volunteers. The property can now be declared to be a partial success. We had approximately 30 trash bags filled and taken out of the front and side yards.

On February 26th, he attended the Pool Party fundraising event and answered many questions about what's going on at the Forest Hills Council's Meeting.

On February 26th, he participated in the Empty Bowl Service which called attention to the Pittsburgh Region's hunger crisis and, unfortunately, he reported that Forest Hills is not exempt from the needs that are being met by the Empty Bowl volunteers. He volunteers for Meals on Wheels, said there are people in Forest Hills who are on very meager food allowances.

On February 28th, he was interviewed by Channel 4 at the Healthcare for All Rally that was held Downtown at Market Square. There is current legislation trying to get through the PA legislature that has solutions to the health insurance problems for Pennsylvanians.

On March 6th, he updated Mr. Tarr's status with the Allegheny County Department of Housing social worker on the situation at 414 Braddock Road, and she was pleased that at the response and the ability of Forest Hills to get involved in helping this elderly gentlemen.

On March 9th, he attended the Forest Hills Civil Service Commission Meeting regarding the updating of various parts of the Police Department's information on civil service.

On March 15th, he represented Forest Hills at a county-wide meeting supporting Pennsylvania's collective bargaining rights and obligations.

In addition, he held some routine meetings with the Forest Hills Borough Manager, The Police Chief and the Maintenance Supervisor.

Tax Collector's Report:

Ms. Sullivan

Ms. Sullivan had no report.

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Williams

We had a burglary on Filmore Road in February so we increased patrols with unmarked vehicles to monitor the area. We monitored the business district for speeding, and we placed the speeding device on Greensburg Pike and Avenue L. Several officers attended mandatory update training and two attended an officer safety class. The Police Department was also inspected by the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and we passed with flying colors.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Theilacker

No report

Woodland Hills EMS Report:

Adam Knight

No report

Solicitor's Report:

Steve Korbel

Mr. Korbel had no report.

Wilkesburg Penn Joint Water Authority Report:

Ms. Broz

Ms. Broz reported on authority activities.

Public Comment – Agenda Items

At this time, citizens may address council on any issue appearing on today's agenda. Comments on non-agenda items will be taken at the end of tonight's meeting. Citizens are asked to use the microphone at the speaker's stand, clearly state their name and address for the record and keep comments brief and to the point (5 minutes or less). It would be helpful to spell the last name for the record.

Jim Busa, 471 Atlantic Avenue – He had a question about the municipal services fee and mentioned that the Fire Department has already sent out the fundraising form, and he wanted to know how that would impact the issue.

Mr. Erbelinger noted that the fee will go into effect next year, and that we plan to invoice in late December of 2011 with the fee being due end of January or early February of next year. The fees will be: single household - \$45 per year, apartment \$22.50 and \$90 for a business.

Selena Johnson, Candidate for Woodland Hills School Board– At–Large – Turtle Creek, PA – She distributed a flyer and mentioned she'd like to bring a non-traditional approach to academic achievement. She's been a social worker for 10 years and she'd like to decrease school drop outs and work with the truancy prevention programs and try to work with children below the 3rd grade level to increase academic literacy.

Kevin Patterson, 1010 Braddock Road – A new resident who introduced himself to council and is interested in volunteering and helping out in the borough.

Mr. Tomasic asked if we have any signs marking Filmore Road off of Greensburg Pike or do we need to get the County involved?

Mr. Morus said we can get one and that he'll have Jim Theilacker order one.

Mr. Porco said to get one placed where we have control and then get the county involved for the one to be placed on the traffic light signal. Everyone agreed to this.

Committee Reports:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mr. Belmonte

Motion: Move to approve the policy attached to this agenda guiding the public works foreman in clearing snow from borough owned walkways.

Moved: Mr. Belmonte
Second: Mr. Tomasic

Mr. Karas said that he has a problem with the second paragraph which pre-authorizes overtime and feels that it's a bad precedent to pre-authorize overtime since we're getting a new machine, and there's a good possibility that we won't need it.

Mr. Tomasic commented that he didn't think we needed to allot 3 or 4 hours to cleaning that up before 7:00 a.m. He thinks we could have 1 man do the work individually, and they're guaranteed 2 hours overtime if they come in early. He feels when the regular shift comes in at 7:00, they could clear it from then on. He doesn't think we need to pre-authorize that and feels it's a mistake to put this into the policy as it's written.

Mr. Porco stated that we already pre-authorize overtime when we need the streets cleared, right? He asked who would make the call if we had a serious snow on a Friday night into Saturday morning. Who would authorize Jim to make a call about the weekend situation?

Mr. Karas stated that Jim Theilacker and Mr. Morus would make the call. He stated he thinks the guys were capable of doing it with the new motorized machine without the overtime.

Mr. Porco stated that he thought Mr. Karas was reading into this too much regarding the 3-4 hour allotment, and that as he reads it, it's at the foreman's discretion. So on a Tuesday morning, he's not going to call somebody to come in just do sidewalks, he'll wait until the rest of the crew comes in at 7:00. The weekend is what we need to be concerned about.

Mr. Karas had 2 points: 1) If you can get it done without the overtime, and that portion was out of the policy that would be fine with him. 2) He'd hate to see this clear 20 times, and at the end of the year we had 80 hours of extra overtime because okay we can give overtime and that's fine.

Mr. Erbeltinger said we were envisioning Friday night and Saturday morning because we don't want to let it sit all weekend. He stated maybe we should just not make policy out of it, just tell Mr. Theilacker that it's a high priority without being too formal, and he can take care of it on weekends, like 3-4 hours.

Ms. Wood asked if council could vote on this and then vote on an amended policy under new business. Her point to this would amend this to permit the scheduled overtime on weekends only.

Mr. Belmonte made a motion to withdraw, seconded by Mr. Tomasic.

Ms. Wood would revise this to include the wording on these main areas:

The foreman is permitted to schedule overtime on weekends only to be in the range of 3-4 hours, not to exceed 4 hours.

Moved: Ms. Wood
Second: Mr. Erbeltinger

Voice Vote – all in favor

Motion: Move to award the bid for sewer lining in 2011 to Reynolds Inliner in the amount of \$375,324 as recommended by the borough engineer.

Moved: Mr. Belmonte
Second: Mr. Erbeltinger

Mr. Porco - how many linear feet this would be?

Mr. Gilliland said he didn't have the information regarding linear feet, and there are 2 sections to this. The first part is for spot liners – 10 feet here, 15 feet there, and the second part is the manhole liners. The bid specifications state that it can be awarded at once, but the notice to proceed would be issued only for what we have funds for at this time. We have up until the end of the year to issue notice to proceed with the rest of the work.

Mr. Porco asked if all of these spot repairs had already been identified.

Mr. Gilliland said yes they've all been identified.

Mr. Porco stated he didn't think we had this kind of funding available and asked is we have any sort of "out" to terminate the contract.

Mr. Gilliland stated that we could just tell them to stop working and Mr. Porco asked if that was the way the contract was worded; Mr. Gilliland stated yes.

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	Yes
	Mr. Burleigh	Yes
	Mr. Erbedinger	Yes
	Mr. Karas	Yes
	Mr. Tomasic	Yes
	Ms. Wood	Yes
	Mr. Porco	Yes

Motion: Move to approve the purchase of a John Deere Riding Mower with attachments under the state contract at a total corrected cost of \$30,503.49 as directed by council at its Feb. 16, 2011 meeting.

Moved: Mr. Belmonte
Second: Mr. Tomasic

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	Yes
	Mr. Burleigh	Yes
	Mr. Erbedinger	Yes
	Mr. Karas	Yes
	Mr. Tomasic	Yes
	Ms. Wood	Yes
	Mr. Porco	Yes

General Report:

1. Members of this committee reviewed the following summary of consent order and other sewer related discussion items from meetings recently attended by the borough manager:
 - Turtle Thompson basin group is considering several sites for holding tanks/treatment facilities to take care of the SSO's. They are located along portions of the Turtle Creek Valley and may involve use of tunnels to convey to ALCOSAN. They are working with RIDC and are looking at Brownfield sites in the area to situate these facilities. Throughout the system they are looking at either retention treatment facilities vs. holding tanks.

- ALCOSAN will spread costs for these facilities across the full system and not just by basin or by community.
 - Requiring regionalization solutions - ALCOSAN and the regulatory agencies expect that this cooperation is starting among communities. This is likely to be a requirement in future consent orders or other mandates.
 - Final plan must be achievable by 2026 (for ALCOSAN – the O & M plan that the borough has will continue into perpetuity); Affordability limit at \$2 billion but present value costs estimated at \$7 billion for implementation of this plan. Costs will be passed onto the ratepayer.
 - ALCOSAN will investigate if the schedule can be extended to spread costs out over time.
 - Discussion at the CMAC meeting reminding ALCOSAN that the first customer in each community is the municipality itself. Why? Because it is required to pay the full bill for all ratepayers up front each quarter then submit bills to property owners for payment. Whether the municipality receives the funds or not, ALCOSAN gets its full money first. This issue was discussed because committee members felt it was important to engage municipal officials as the first customer as decisions are made and plans implemented.
 - ALCOSAN is drafting a letter of support for fundraising efforts and will ask each CMAC member to sign to support the application.
 - Side Note RE: Forest Hills - Concern that enough funds are available to meet our requirements. In the future will we continue an internal sewer program and upgrade equipment? If so, conversations should be held with Wilkins re: maintenance and eventual replacement of equipment (Vactor and Camera Truck and Camera Equipment).
2. PennDOT informed the borough that it would pay \$500 to the borough for the temporary acquisition of a portion of the Ardmore median in the southeastern corner of the borough beyond Avenue B to use as part of work on the Electric Avenue viaduct along route 30.
 3. The engineer is in contact with Churchill Borough re: dye testing of Woodland Hills High School property concerning drainage into the Filmore sewer line. A report on the findings will be provided to the engineer once the work is completed. The manager was asked to contact the Churchill manager re: progress in dye testing of the school district property. The Churchill manager indicated that all buildings should be completed within the next week and that results will be sent to the borough's engineer.

4. The transition from Gateway Engineers to Glenn Engineering continues and is in its final stages. Most documents have been transferred to Glenn electronically including feasibility study files. The only item still under Gateway's control is the contract with Roto Rooter.
5. The crew received several compliments from residents regarding snow removal efforts during several February storms.
6. The engineer is in contact with the County re: the Yost Blvd. crosswalk issue.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Erbedinger

Motion: Move to approve payment of bills for the month of February in the following amounts:

General Fund Budget:	\$ 190,887.85
Capital Improvements Plan:	\$ 7,560.00
Corrective Action Budget:	\$ 7,795.56
Liquid Fuels:	\$ 38,220.43

Moved: Mr. Erbedinger
Second: Ms. Wood

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	Yes
	Mr. Burleigh	Yes
	Mr. Erbedinger	Yes
	Mr. Karas	Yes
	Mr. Tomasic	Yes
	Ms. Wood	Yes
	Mr. Porco	Yes

Detail of Non-General Fund Items:

Capital Improvements Plan:	Police vests, pool lodge improvements
Corrective Action Budget:	Sanitary sewer consent decree work and engineering
Liquid Fuels:	Traffic signals, salt

General Report:

1. The committee agreed with the manager's recommendation that capital improvement planning should begin in advance of budget preparation in order to better consider potential future projects.

2. The manager reviewed a number of financial issues and statistics with the committee toward beginning a consideration of the 2012 budget. Included was a discussion on the borough's "fixed costs", issues related to collection of taxes and the statistics section of the 2011 budget.
3. The manager is reviewing several potential brokers for electric service and hopes to have a recommendation for council soon.
4. The committee is considering the increased cost of work for the corrective action budget under the sanitary sewer consent decree and will review the borough's sewer fee to determine if it must increase.
5. Members continued the discussion with the fire department re: a potential municipal services fee to pay off the new truck without hurting the department's fund raising efforts.

Mr. Erbelinger wanted to stress the point that the municipal services fee had nothing to do with the 2011 fundraiser. It will be replacing the 2012 fundraiser. The Fire Department is allowed to carry the entire amount over from one year to the next. It will pay for the lease payment of the fire truck starting in 2012, not this year. The only issue we'll still have is how to deal with delinquents.

Mr. Porco asked if we were going to enter into some kind of a memorandum of understanding with the Fire Department once we've decided upon the minor issues.

Mr. Erbelinger said the solicitor will most likely come up with some kind of a motion to keep everyone in the loop and that everyone is on the same page.

Mr. Porco said if council desires something more detailed that's okay, and once it's captured in the form of an ordinance that's okay too. As soon as we're in agreement, it should immediately be put on the website to let people know it's coming and to avoid any confusion.

BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Karas

Motion: Move to approve a resolution (#1107) requesting assistance from Congressman Doyle's office in applying for funding for a police radio upgrade, renovation of the tennis courts and the installation of fencing at the Forest Hills/ Westinghouse Recreation Center ball fields.

Moved: Mr. Karas
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	Yes
	Mr. Burleigh	Yes
	Mr. Erbeldinger	Yes
	Mr. Karas	Yes
	Mr. Tomasic	Yes
	Ms. Wood	Yes
	Mr. Porco	Yes

General Report:

1. Members heard a proposal from Nathan Huang re: an Eagle Scout Project he proposed to clean and upgrade the bus shelters along Ardmore. The committee supports the project.
2. The Garden Club will hold a flower sale in the parking lot of the borough building on Saturday, May 7 from 8 AM to 2 PM. The sale may continue on the following Saturday, May 14 should flowers remain available.
3. The manager and foreman outlined work to be done at the Forest Hills/Westinghouse Recreation Center as part of continued grant funded work. Funds must be expended by June. Staff will review options for possible lighting and landscaping improvements as part of the work and may ask council to authorize bidding for such work should grant funds remain available.
4. The committee is reviewing options for repair and/or replacement of the tennis courts.
5. The committee chair will meet with the foreman to discuss options for use of the millings at several locations at the recreation center.
6. Staff will gather information on energy use at borough buildings to determine what the next steps may be in the greenhouse gas study conducted by Duquesne University.
7. Pool staff will be directed to clean various areas at the pool prior to opening day including brush removal and minor painting and repairs.
8. The committee continues to review lighting and energy options at several borough buildings and is waiting for a determination from Allegheny County as to grant funded work that may be scheduled to upgrade the borough building based on the energy audit undertaken by the County.
9. The committee of the whole asked that the public works foreman install signs at the Forest Hills/Westinghouse Recreation Center ball fields indicating that golfing is prohibited.

10. Mr. Karas is arranging a spring clean up day for all borough parks using volunteers to accomplish this task. The date is April 30 at 10 AM. Mr. Karas will coordinate volunteers and asks that people call here and leave a message.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Tomasic

Motion: Move to appoint Chief Charles Williams as interim Emergency Management Coordinator.

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Ms. Wood

Voice Vote – all in favor

Motion: Move to approve revised Civil Service Rules and Regulations as recommended by the borough's special labor council.

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Ms. Wood

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Belmonte	Yes
Mr. Burleigh	Yes
Mr. Erbeldinger	Yes
Mr. Karas	Yes
Mr. Tomasic	Yes
Ms. Wood	Yes
Mr. Porco	Yes

Motion: Move to authorize the Chief of Police to prepare and advertise an employment ad in a form acceptable to the borough solicitor seeking part time police officer(s) for testing and consideration for employment.

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Belmonte	Yes
Mr. Burleigh	Yes
Mr. Erbeldinger	Yes
Mr. Karas	Yes
Mr. Tomasic	Yes
Ms. Wood	Yes
Mr. Porco	Yes

Motion: Move to approve a police regionalization study with Edgewood Borough and to authorize the Chief of Police to complete the proper paperwork to implement.

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Mr. Belmonte

Mr. Tomasic didn't think that we should be moving in this direction. If we were to do this, we would not have a contiguous border with Edgewood, and he doesn't think it's a good fit. He doesn't think it's going to come to fruition, and thinks it's a waste of money.

Mr. Belmonte respectfully disagreed with Mr. Tomasic and said he thinks we need to do the study, and this is a way out given the economic times. He doesn't think it's a waste of money, but a proactive move on our part to alleviate the situation that we're facing now and done the road.

Mr. Erbeldinger stated he believes the study would provide a framework for subsequent additions - maybe Wilkins or Churchill, and just in case we'd have the study in place.

Ms. Wood said that cooperating with other fellow boroughs is the only way we can financially stabilize our communities. She was concerned with the redistricting of the Magistrate, that we are no longer in the same district as Edgewood. It's taxpayer money, and with times being tight right now, she thinks it's fairly wasteful to do this. She will be voting no for this on April 14th.

Mr. Burleigh said he and Chief Williams felt that future regionalization was probably a few years away. There's no border so you've got to take the Parkway. Also, with the time usage, the police are going to have to tabulate and write down everything that goes on and that's more time in their schedule of everything that's got to be done. He doesn't see the benefit of it.

Mr. Belmonte felt that we're making decisions prematurely. We started discussions in '05 and did a study with Wilkins in '08. That study came back and showed with the 23 full-time officers in each department employed, we could maintain level of service with 13. We need to make an educated decision.

Mr. Karas stated that when there was an issue in Edgewood Acres, we had about eight different police forces there. Even if the study comes back where we need better communication, he thinks it's a good thing, and he's in favor of it.

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	Yes
	Mr. Burleigh	No
	Mr. Erbeldinger	Yes
	Mr. Karas	Yes
	Mr. Tomasic	No
	Ms. Wood	No
	Mr. Porco	No

General Report:

1. The committee asked the Police Chief to determine whether the police association will once again operate the October hay ride this year.
2. Chief Williams discussed options for Civil Service testing, possibly using the services of the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments or a third party depending on the borough's needs.
3. The manager attended the opening meeting of the County's upgrade of its hazard mitigation plan. The borough will be asked to review the final document and endorse it as part of its own emergency planning process once it is completed.
4. The Crime Alert committee is sponsoring a night at the races tentatively set for Saturday evening, May 7. Details will follow. Mr. Tomasic explained some of the plans for this evening.

OPERATIONS & POLICY

Ms. Wood

Motion: Move to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2011 council meeting.

Moved: Ms. Wood
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Voice Vote – all in favor

Motion: Move to approve the attached policy governing the borough's website and website moderators as reviewed by the borough solicitor.

Moved: Ms. Wood
Second: Mr. Tomasic

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	Yes
	Mr. Burleigh	Yes
	Mr. Erbeldinger	Yes
	Mr. Karas	Yes
	Mr. Tomasic	Yes
	Ms. Wood	Yes
	Mr. Porco	Yes

Motion: Move to approve Ordinance Number 1009 governing the placement of dumpsters and PODS and similar containers in the borough.

Moved: Ms. Wood
Second: Mr. Tomasic

Ordinance Title Reads as Follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FOREST HILLS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 21 OF THE FOREST HILLS BOROUGH CODE OF ORDINANCES, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, TO REGULATE THE TEMPORARY PLACEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION WASTE DUMPSTERS AND PORTABLE STORAGE UNITS ON STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND DRIVEWAYS WITHIN THE BOROUGH

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Belmonte	Yes
Mr. Burleigh	Yes
Mr. Erbedinger	Yes
Mr. Karas	Yes
Mr. Tomasic	Yes
Ms. Wood	Yes
Mr. Porco	Yes

Motion: Move to award the bid for tree pruning services to Emery Tree Service in the amount of \$3,879 as recommended by the Tree & Shrub Committee.

Moved: Ms. Wood
Second: Mr. Tomasic

Bids were advertised and opened by the Tree & Shrub Committee on March 9, 2011 as follows:

Iron Mike's Tree Service	\$6,900
Krusper-Taylor Tree Service	\$5,600
Carl's Tree Service	\$7,280
Emery Tree Service	\$3,879
Ray's Tree Service	\$6,325

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Belmonte	Yes
Mr. Burleigh	Yes
Mr. Erbedinger	Yes
Mr. Karas	Yes
Mr. Tomasic	Yes
Ms. Wood	Yes
Mr. Porco	Yes

General Report:

1. The committee is considering a resolution supporting continued funding of the CDBG program and opposing the reduction of funds in bills sponsored by the US House of Representatives.
2. The manager and special labor attorney continue to work on a draft employee evaluation system for future implementation.
3. The committee will support the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life by purchasing a \$25 ad in the program for the July 9 – 10 event. Council is using its own funds for this ad.
4. Councilman Steve Karas continues preparation for bidding the borough's trash/recycling collection contract this year.
5. The committee hopes to encourage local businesses to again sponsor a light up night activity in the borough for the holiday season.
6. The committee asked the foreman and manager to approach Cliff Keogh about proposing a maintenance contract for HVAC and plumbing work in borough buildings.
7. Council wishes to begin planning for the 2019 borough centennial and will include a notice in the Tree City Times along with a request for volunteers to chair and serve on a committee that will assist in planning events and raising funds. Interested residents should contact the borough office to volunteer soon so that planning may begin.
8. The borough continues to seek applicants for vacancies on various boards and committees and encourages residents to volunteer. Information can be found on the borough website (www.foresthillspa.org) or by contacting the borough manager.
9. The committee is reviewing alternative membership plans for the borough pool and the committee of the whole advises that the issue be brought before the recreation board for discussion by Mr. Karas.

PLANNING & ZONING

Mr. Burleigh

General Report:

1. Code Officer Ron Willard presented a monthly report to the committee.

2. The borough manager continues to seek applicants to serve as alternate members of the borough's Zoning Hearing Board for terms to be determined and with council seeking to appoint 1 to 3 alternate members. Contact the borough office for more information.
3. The committee determined that several pending issues including the Bacchus development, oil and gas drilling regulations, use of the environmental advisory council and pursuit of owners of dilapidated properties under Act 90 could be removed from future agendas as all are under review by the planning commission, staff and/or the solicitor.
4. The committee asked the engineer to investigate whether grants for demolition of two properties previously considered eligible for CDBG funding could be obtained since CDBG funds are not available for this year. Meanwhile, the committee recommends that the borough again apply for CDBG funding for the next round for the same demolition work. A resolution for approval will be on a future agenda once the new application is available.
5. The manager informed the committee that there is a pending sale of the gas station to Hari Krishanji Corp.

Old Business:

Yost at Ardmore Crosswalk

Mr. Karas

Mr. Karas said he has been fairly disappointed by the response from the county executive office, county councilman's office and from the public works office. They have indicated by phone that they're looking into it, but have not responded in writing. He wanted to make sure that council is on the same page and that we can get some sort of action on this.

Mr. Burleigh added that he feels this project is very important to us and Mr. Karas and he has been working together to try to get some conclusion. It's dangerous to us and it's dangerous to the county. We're hoping something happens with this as soon as possible.

Mr. Tomasic said we need to get those signs back out there. We had asked constantly to have crosswalk signs there, and every time you turn around they're gone. There needs to be some other type of sign put in there, and we need better enforcement.

Mr. Karas asked the Chief if it is possible a couple of times a week to send an officer down there for 20 or 30 minutes out of the car.

Chief Williams said he thought we were going to move the crosswalk back to the original intersection. Right now, we're looking the crosswalk in the middle of the intersection and the one that's actually at the corner. You can barely see the lines and we'd have to paint one of them. Hopefully, we don't want to paint the one in the middle because if we have a problem, that may be something that could put us in jeopardy

Mr. Gilliland said the county has informed us that the crosswalk in the middle of the block does not conform to PennDot regulations for crosswalks and is technically illegal. The other part of the argument is that that's where everybody walks and there's no sidewalk and there are bus stops.

Chief Williams said our police sit in that shopping center a lot to see what's going on. They base how often they can do that on the calls they get as well.

The Mayor is serving as the point person with the County. He will report on progress at the next meeting. He stated he believes the county is clear about what we need.

Mr. Porco said if Mayor O'Malley is going to be the point person that's great, but we need action items and dates or, if they're too busy, we could do it ourselves and ask them to reimburse us. That's an option we can throw out there.

Mr. Karas said he thinks we would be safe to paint the crosswalk at the intersection of Yost and Ardmore because that's an official walkway.

Mr. Porco said he's not interested in the middle one. He's interested in nailing anyone who is refusing to respect the crosswalk.

It was decided to move this discussion to the Public Safety Committee next month.

414 Braddock Road Issues

Mr. Tomasic stated this is somewhat dangerous. During the clean up, he saw approximately 30 gas cans, batteries sitting on the driveway, and an electric cord running along the walkway. If our emergency personnel would have to go there to put out a fire, they could run into explosive materials, get electrocuted or get hurt by trying to fend their way down that driveway. He urged council to move in a direction which makes that property safe for everybody. He thinks it needs to be put squarely on the Magistrate to enforce our code, and that he should do his job.

New Business:

Motion: Move to appoint Melissa Bell to the Recreation Board for a term ending February 28, 2014.

Moved: Mr. Karas
Second: Ms. Wood

Ms. Wood highly recommended her because she said she wouldn't have known about Forest Hills if she hadn't brought food to the Bell family and if it wasn't for Melissa Bell.

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	Yes
	Mr. Burleigh	Yes
	Mr. Erbeldinger	Yes
	Mr. Karas	Yes
	Mr. Tomasic	Yes
	Ms. Wood	Yes
	Mr. Porco	Yes

Public Comment – Other Items

At this time citizens may address council on any issue. Citizens are asked to use the microphone at the speaker's stand, clearly state their name and address for the record and keep comments brief and to the point (5 minutes or less). It would be helpful to spell the last name for the record.

Tom Meshanko, 348 Barclay Ave. – Municipal service fee. He believed from past history the Fire Department only received back 20-30% of their solicitations. So basically they'll be making more money than ever before. "Does the borough still donate or give them \$12,000 a year?" Is that on the budget for this year and, if it is, my question is why?

Mr. Porco said part of the Municipal Service Fee will actually go towards the payments on the truck purchased several years ago that the borough is obligated to. The remainder of the money will be used for the day-to-day operations of the Fire Department.

Mr. Meshanko - Is the Borough privy to the Fire Department's books? He said when was on council they had a heck of a time getting data on the books.

Mr. Erbeldinger said almost half of the fee goes to the ladder truck. In past years, the Fire Department has run approximately a \$20,000 deficit per year. We want to make sure that the long-term future of the Fire Department is safe. Part of the condition that they get the money is that they have to report to council as to how the money was spent.

Mr. Tomasic mentioned is that this ordinance specifies that the fees that are collected can only go to fire equipment, truck and so on. So the money can't be collected in that fee and then transferred somewhere else.

Mr. Porco confirmed that the borough does contribute \$12,000 per year and that's not going to go away.

Mr. Meshanko – Is the WHEMS money from Congressman Doyle 2010 WHEM money? Or is that 2011? He thought that was discontinued by the government.

Mr. Porco said that is state money.

Mr. Meshanko asked about the status of properties on Marion Avenue that he had asked about 3-4 months ago. He said Mike Belmonte was to keep him posted.

Mr. Belmonte said he didn't have an update for him.

Mr. Meshanko – What about our Code Enforcement Officer – he was supposed to take them to the Magistrate I believe?

Mr. Tomasic said to just call the borough and let them know about problems like this.

Ms. Wood mentioned they do get reports from the Code Enforcement Officer and they could check where it is in the process.

Mr. Meshanko stated that ordinances exist but nothing's being done – cars parked on lawns for months and dogs, etc.

Ms. Wood suggested he compose a list of those things to be addressed during Planning and Zoning.

Kevin Patterson, 1010 Braddock Road – What problems are we having that are causing us to have to share borders?

Bill Tomasic said sharing of borders means that we have mutual aid agreements. If something is going on Ardmore Blvd, we'd have people respond from different police forces – Forest Hills, Braddock Hills, Churchill, etc. Regionalization means you're merged with other communities. You wouldn't have a Forest Hills or Edgewood police department, you would have a merged police department.

Mr. Patterson said that Edgewood is not even relatively close so he didn't understand why we'd want to merge with them.

Mr. Porco mentioned a study was being proposed to determine if the merging of those police departments would make sense. In the past, the state has made funds available to have experts conduct a study of the two police departments and our communities, which communities share a border with us, etc. They come back with a report and make a recommendation as to whether it would make sense and, if so, how we would work with them.

Mr. Patterson asked if that would cost more money.

Ms. Wood mentioned that about a year ago Wilkins, Churchill, Edgewood (as an observer) they met to discuss this. There was not enough interest from any other municipalities to come on board except Edgewood.

Mr. Patterson asked if there was any particular reason for this.

Mr. Belmonte said Churchill voted 4 to 3 not to participate, but Wilkins voted to participate contingent upon Churchill's participation. Had Churchill participated, it would have been the single most significant change in our communities in our lifetimes.

Mr. Tomasic said he'd be available after the meeting if Mr. Patterson wanted to speak further about the issue.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn or adjourn by acclamation

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Mr. Belmonte

Voice Vote – all in favor

- Next Scheduled Council Meeting: April 20, 2011
- Next Scheduled Committee Meetings (order to be determined): Tuesday, April 5, 2011 (Public Safety, Public Works, Borough Property, Operations & Policy) and, Thursday April 7, 2011 (Planning & Zoning, Finance, Committee of the Whole).

POLICY ON REMOVING SNOW FROM BOROUGH WALKWAYS

On the following main walkway areas of borough property, the public works crew shall clear ice and snow based on the procedures discussed in this policy:

- Ardmore Sidewalk at Main Park
- Filmore sidewalk
- Borough Building and Magistrate Building Sidewalks
- Forest Hills/Westinghouse Recreation Center Sidewalk along Greensburg Pike
- Filmore and Greensburg Pike corner
- Filmore sidewalk portion at Koch Park

On these main areas, the foreman is permitted to schedule overtime on weekends only, to be in the range of 3 – 4 hours, not to exceed 4 hours, to clear ice and snow and otherwise treat the walkways listed above.

Other borough owned steps and walkways shall be cleaned by the crew when time permits. Otherwise steps and walks that may be icy or snow covered may be closed temporarily.

Draft: February 9, 2011

Website & Website Moderators – Borough of Forest Hills

The purpose of the Borough of Forest Hill's Web site is to provide information about the borough's government services and regulations. In establishing and maintaining its official Web site, the borough does not intend in any manner to create a forum or other means by which public discourse, exchange of opinions, or discussion on issues of any nature may occur. Rather, the sole and limited purpose of the Web site and permitted external links is to provide information of a factual nature about Forest Hills including various services and resources available within and around the borough, or as may be available from other governmental agencies. The Borough of Forest Hills homepage is not intended to be a forum for expressive activity by members of the public or by government officials; instead it should provide neutral information and data and links which do not espouse specific views. The goals of the Web site are to encourage increased citizen participation in local government by making public information more readily available to them, provide electronic access to borough information through a logical single point of entry, and to keep the public informed of local events.

Webmaster - Council shall appoint a Webmaster, who is responsible for maintaining the borough's Web site. All information prepared for posting on the Web site shall be routed through the Webmaster. The Webmaster is responsible for establishing maintenance procedures and style guidelines. Borough Council is the ultimate authority regarding policy governing the borough's Web site. The Webmaster aims to carry out borough Web policies day-to-day, but is subject to the authority of Council. These policies should include defining the look and feel of the Web site or deciding who may post information on the site.

The webmaster is responsible for the daily operation of the website. The webmaster makes independent editorial judgments on stories appearing on the home page and on other pages, determines the order of links on any page, makes judgments on links that are acceptable pursuant to these guidelines and regularly updates information on the website.

Comments about any aspect of Web policy should be brought to the attention of the Webmaster or the borough manager. The Council reserves the right to make changes to Web policy at any time.

Content – all content on the borough's website must be directly related to official borough business and borough activities. Exceptions may only be granted by the borough manager or borough council. Content must be free of any and all political statements and language that may be considered prejudicial, racist, or sexist or that may denigrate one person, group or any other protected class under federal state or local law. Content must be considered appropriate for minors and avoid any and all words, pictures, phrases, etc. that may be considered obscene or for mature readers only.

All content posted is the property of the Borough of Forest Hills. The borough has the right to remove, edit, adjust, etc. any and all website content.

All content is subject to editing by the Borough Manager and/or Borough Council. Any data that is considered restricted or confidential shall not be placed on the borough's website. Personal information shall not be placed on the borough's website.

Any and all links added to the site must first be reviewed and approved by the Borough Manager and/or Borough Council.

The Borough's Web site may provide links to Web sites for:

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- Government and educational institutions;
 - Organizations with some relationship to the borough (including but not limited to: organizations contracting with the Borough, organizations sponsoring Borough activities or programs, and organizations participating in Borough activities or programs);
 - Generally recognized community organizations;
 - Organizations providing information about art, cultural, and sporting activities in the Borough's area;
 - Businesses physically located within the Borough of Forest Hills;
 - Organizations providing information about employment opportunities in the Borough's area; and
 - Organizations providing information about tourist attractions in the Borough's area.

The Borough's Web site will not provide links to Web sites for:

- Candidates for local, state, or federal offices;
- Political organizations or other organizations advocating a position on a local, state, or federal issue;
- Corporate or other for-profit organizations unless they fit any of the criteria stated above; and
- Individual or personal home pages.

Disclaimer. The materials and information contained on or obtained from this Web site are distributed "as is" without warranties of any kind, either express or implied, including without limitation, warranties of any kind regarding the accuracy, timeliness, or reliability of the website's content. Information contained on this Web site, including information obtained from external links thereon, is provided without any representation of any kind as to accuracy or content and should be verified by the user. The Borough of Forest Hills is not responsible for any special, indirect, incidental or consequential damages that may arise from the use of, or the inability to use, the Web site and/or the materials contained on the site whether the materials contained on the Web site are provided by the Borough of Forest Hills, or by a third party. Data contained on the Web site are subject to change without notice.

Neither the Borough of Forest Hills, nor any agency, officer, or employee of the Borough warrants the accuracy, reliability or timeliness of any information published on the Web site, nor endorses any products or services linked from the system, and shall not be held liable for any losses caused by reliance on the accuracy, reliability or timeliness of such information. Portions of the information may be incorrect or not current. Any person or entity that relies on any information obtained from this system does so at his or her own risk. Various Web sites may be linked through the Borough site. Visitors to those sites are advised to check the privacy statements of those sites and be cautious about providing personally identifiable information without a clear understanding of how the information will be used. This Privacy Statement does not apply to linked sites that are not affiliated with the Borough of Forest Hills.

By visiting the website you expressly agree to be bound by the terms, conditions and rules of conduct for the website as may be published and amended from time to time by borough council. Unauthorized use of the Forest Hills Borough logo is strictly prohibited.