

Call to Order:

Mr. Tomasic

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor O'Malley

Roll Call:

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

President's Report:

Mr. Tomasic

Mr. Tomasic welcomed the large crowd at tonight's meeting and noted he is substituting for Mr. Karas.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor O'Malley

Mayor O'Malley issued a proclamation honoring the Garden Club of Forest Hills on its 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Mayor noted that there may be a discussion of changes to ordinances re: keeping of bees and chickens.

Tax Collector's Report:

Ms. Sullivan

Ms. Sullivan did not have a report for February.

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Williams

Chief Williams presented a report on police activity including the start of the aggressive driver program and the DUI patrol.

Fire Chief's Report: Chief Theilacker

No report

Woodland Hills EMS Report: Keith Morse

No report

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Korbel

Mr. Korbel had not report

Wilkesburg Penn Joint Water Authority Report: Ms. Broz

Ms. Broz reported on authority activities including water breaks and the auditor's report.

Public Comment – Agenda Items

*At this time, citizens may address council on any issue appearing on today's agenda. Only residents and taxpayers of the Borough of Forest Hills will be permitted to address council. Comments on non-agenda items will be taken at the end of tonight's meeting. Speakers will be permitted to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before council who may speak for a maximum of 10 minutes. 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. Please spell the name for the record.*

Council agreed to open the discussion to the bee and chicken issue for this segment.

Phil Hilf, 160 Fairfax Road – spoke in favor of the proposed bees and chicken ordinance including discussing many misconceptions.

Donna Lee Dodson, 1912 Ardmore Blvd. – spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance and described her experience with keeping chickens. She apologized for not knowing the regulation that chickens are not permitted at this time.

Joann Meier, 306 Castlegate Road – spoke in opposition to the proposed ordinance

Gloria Madden, 646 Cascade Road – spoke in opposition to the proposed ordinance and expressed concern about the level of code enforcement to protect residents should it be implemented.

Mr. Tomasic clarified that there is no motion to be acted on tonight. The issue is in committee.

Susan McColloch, Overdale Road – spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance re: honey bees.

Ms. Wood asked that the person present that is an expert in bees return to the committee meetings to discuss this with council.

Tom Raible, 304 Overdale Road – not opposed to a group that is properly supervised to raise bees to experiment before anything is done and perhaps the same could be done with chickens.

John Holmes, 621 Cascade Road – he is not opposed to anyone keeping bees or chickens.

Lia LaBerge, 127 Fairfax – spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Stacey Atwell-Keister, 524 Barclay Ave. – asked her daughter to speak and she did in favor of having chickens. Ms. Atwell-Keister also spoke in favor.

Maddy Hilf, 160 Fairfax – spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Ms. Wood noted that there are several committee openings and wanted to take advantage of the number of people here to note that we need volunteers.

John Holmes, 621 Cascade Road—opposed high fees for Forest Hills Pool.

Marie Ferrante, 107 Williams Place—issue about roots in sewer line. Says she has high plumbing bills because of the roots.

Committee Reports:

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Belmonte

**Motion:** Move to approve resolution number 1129 designating Dave Gilliland as the agent representing the borough for the PEMA grant for work on the park hillside.

Moved: Mr. Belmonte  
Second: Mr. Erbedinger

***Voice Vote – all in favor***

*General Report:*

1. The borough engineer submitted the following report to the committee:

Forest Hills Borough  
Engineer's Report for March, 2013

Public Works Committee

A. 2012-13 Sewer Work for the Consent Decree

- i. This project is in progress with about 30% of the \$160,000 worth of work completed. Work is weather dependent but progressing when possible.
- ii. In early 2013 we will be advertising for bids for the next round of sewer liners and sewer repairs by excavation as funds become available.
- iii. CCTV inspections to comply with the Operation & Maintenance Plan will begin in early 2013 by in-house personnel.

B. 2013 Paving

The following streets will be bid for paving in 2013:

1. Forest Hills Road (house #311 to end)	\$6,000
2. Virginia Avenue (Barclay to Pike)	\$10,500
3. Hawthorne (Castlegate to Overdale)	\$24,000
4. Fieldcrest (Glasgow to cul de sac)	\$28,000
5. Rockwood (Kenmore to Yost)	\$19,000
6. Barclay (Arnold to dead end)	\$54,000
7. Marion (Ardmore to Gbg Pike)	\$105,000
8. Windsor (Lennox to Clover )	<u>\$7,500</u>
TOTAL: \$254,000	

ALTERNATES

9. Wellington (Burlington to Brinton)	\$10,000
10. Windsor (Marion to Vine)	\$5,000
11. Windsor (Lennox to house # 531)	\$13,000
12. Windsor (Marion to Glenn Ay.)*	\$12,000
13. Hawthorne (Castlegate to Cascade)	\$16,000

\* New asphalt on Windsor to include two deteriorated slabs past Glenn Alley.

The engineer and foreman also confirmed that the main sewer line along Ardmore must be televised again. This would necessitate overtime work from the crew as it would be less expensive to use them than bid it out. As agreed to before by council, the borough's general fund would be reimbursed from the corrective action fund for the cost of sewer work undertaken by the crew.

2. The committee received the following 2 reports from 3 Rivers Wet Weather on sewer & consent decree issues:

- In the December 2012 Managers' Minute we provided some suggested guidelines for developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) related to the municipal feasibility studies. This month we are providing a more detailed version of a model MOU, which municipalities in multi-municipal sewersheds can use as a template if they will be submitting a Point of Connection (POC) Feasibility Study Report. MOUs will need to be

prepared for each Point of Connection, signed by the municipalities that are part of that POC, and submitted with the feasibility study. As noted in the model MOU, the MOU will need to include such information as the description of the projects in that POC, the level of sewage control for the projects, the preliminary cost estimates, and how the costs (including capital construction, financing, engineering, legal, and land or right-of-way acquisition) will be allocated among the municipalities in that POC. In most cases, the MOU will be modified at a future time as the final design proceeds, and formalized into an inter-municipal agreement prior to the implementation of the plan.

- The EPA is encouraging communities to help meet their Clean Water Act obligations by evaluating opportunities for green infrastructure (GI) where cost-effective and appropriate. Municipal elected officials play an important role in deciding how and where source reduction methods, including green infrastructure—rain gardens, bioswales, pervious pavement, etc.—can be integrated into municipal wet weather planning. Each community should evaluate how GI can help to capture and infiltrate stormwater where it falls. To help municipal officials learn more, 3RWW and the Allegheny and Westmoreland County Conservation districts are co-hosting a workshop –Smart Stormwater Management for Municipal Officials at 6 p.m. on March 26 at the North Huntingdon Municipal Building or March 27 at the Green Tree Fire Hall. Glen Abrams from the Philadelphia Water Department will present cost-effective, practical source reduction methods. Participants will also receive a handbook of typical best management practices. (*Environmental Advisory Council members have been asked to attend one of the sessions*).

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Erbeldinger

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

General Fund Budget:	\$ 199,464.93
Corrective Action Budget:	\$ 10,585.18
Liquid Fuels:	\$ 14,258.49

Moved: Mr. Erbeldinger  
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	yes
	Mr. Burleigh	yes
	Mr. Erbeldinger	yes
	Ms. Wood	yes
	Mr. Tomasic	yes

Detail of Non-General Fund Items:

Corrective Action Budget: Sewage fee refunds, engineering, truck repair  
Liquid Fuels: salt, street lights

*General Report:*

1. The manager noted that the full 2013 budget and 2013 capital improvements plan are available via the borough's website – [www.foresthillspa.org](http://www.foresthillspa.org). The committee also discussed tax and budget issues at the March committee meeting.
2. The committee reviewed liability and volunteer fire insurance policy renewals as presented by Higbee insurance.

**BOROUGH PROPERTY**

Mr. Belmonte

**Motion:** Move to approve the bid of Mariani and Richards in the amount of \$11,040 for pool caulking and repair work.

Moved: Mr. Belmonte  
Second: Ms. Wood

Note: see bid information under general report below.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Belmonte	yes
Mr. Burleigh	yes
Mr. Erbeldinger	yes
Ms. Wood	yes
Mr. Tomasic	yes

*General Report:*

1. The Committee reviewed the following report from the borough engineer:

Borough Property

A. Leon Way Trail

DPW has begun the construction of this trail.

B. Tennis Courts

This project will be advertised for bid in April.

C. Pool Projects for 2013

Proposals were opened on February 28, 2013 for the Pool Caulking Project. The following quotes were received:

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<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Dynatred</u>	<u>Alternate Caulk</u>	<u>Concrete repairs</u>
Mariani & Richards	\$10,280	\$12,700	\$760
Allegheny Restoration	\$8,400	\$8,400	\$4,900

Jim Theilacker believes we should include the concrete repair because their price is less than what it would cost if DPW did it. If you include the concrete repairs, the low quote is from Mariani & Richards at \$11,040. Jim stated that Mariani & Richards did excellent work the last time with the Dynatred and he was very pleased with the results, in fact the caulking lasted a year longer than anticipated. Therefore we recommend Council award the Pool Caulking Project to Mariani & Richards for \$11,040.

We have received the following quotes for the replacement of the sliding glass doors and windows:

	<u>The Window Specialists Center Glass</u>	
2 Sliding Doors, 3 Windows	\$15,545.62	\$13,564.00
2 Man Doors, 3 Windows	\$15,706.29	\$13,044.00
3 Sliding Doors, 2 Windows	\$16,509.50	\$13,596.00
3 Man Doors, 2 Windows	\$16,604.87	\$14,376.00

We requested a quote from Singer Glass but got no response.

We received two quotes for the gas logs:

Manear's Fireplace & Hearth	\$1,500.00
The Fireplace & Patio Shop	\$1,575.00

This is for a 36" gas log. Prices do not include brick repair of the hearth and cleaning of the flue.

D. Senior Center

We are going to solicit quotes in April for the replacement of the floors in the rest rooms and the re-alignment of the stalls for ADA compliance. Does the committee prefer ceramic tile, vinyl squares or one piece linoleum? The committee recommends vinyl squares.

The manager noted that the door and fireplace bids would be considered by council for a vote later after receiving confirmation from the state on the change to the grant which will pay for both jobs. The committee requested the 3 sliding door and 2 window option outlined by the engineer above. The gas logs will require securing the costs of a chimney liner which the engineer will seek.

2. Cindy Simm reported on costs for adding internet service to the Forest Hills/Westinghouse Recreation Center Lodge and changing the phone service to Comcast. The committee advised that she proceed after discussing further with the manager.

3. Work on the access path at the end of Leon Way is complete.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mr. Erbeldinger

*General Report:*

1. Keith Morse, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported on progress toward preparing a plan and consideration of an emergency shelter with generator. He also noted that he is now serving as interim director for Woodland Hills EMS.
2. The committee discussed future funding for the Swiftreach program and noted that it should be placed as a separate item in the budget.

**OPERATIONS & POLICY**

Ms. Wood

**Motion:** Move to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2013 council meeting.

Moved: Ms. Wood  
Second: Mr. Erbeldinger

***Voice Vote – all in favor***

**Motion:** Move to approve the appointment of Matt Rodrigues of 986 Braddock Road to the recreation board with a term to expire on Feb. 28, 2017.

Moved: Ms. Wood  
Second: Mr. Belmonte

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Belmonte	yes
Mr. Burleigh	yes
Mr. Erbeldinger	yes
Ms. Wood	yes
Mr. Tomasic	yes

**Motion:** Move to approve resolution number 1130 directing and authorizing the proper borough officials to dispose of municipal records pursuant to ordinance 723 and as directed by the authority contained in the PA Municipal Records Act.

Moved: Ms. Wood  
Second: Mr. Burleigh

***Voice Vote – all in favor***

**Motion:** Move to approve the bid of Ray's Tree Service in the amount of \$3,450 for the special removals program.

Note: Bids were opened by the Tree and Shrub committee at their public meeting in March. Other bids received from Carl's Tree Service at \$3,500 and Iron Mike's at \$3,800.

Moved: Ms. Wood  
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Belmonte	yes
	Mr. Burleigh	yes
	Mr. Erbedinger	yes
	Ms. Wood	yes
	Mr. Tomasic	yes

*General Report:*

1. The borough continues to seek volunteers for the 2019 Centennial Committee. Please contact the office if interested.
2. The borough continues to seek volunteers to serve on various boards and committees (e.g., planning commission, zoning hearing board, code appeals board, etc.) and asks interested residents to contact the manager at the borough office for further information.
3. The committee is reviewing language for an ordinance that would permit property owners to own and raise a limited number of chickens and/or own a bee apiary, both with prescribed restrictions and limits. Discussions will continue during future committee meetings before a final ordinance would be drafted. The committee is also accepting comments in favor of and opposed to such an ordinance prior to deciding to forward this to the full council at a business meeting for consideration.
4. Council has received a letter from Marlene Chelosky of 156 Tanglewood Dr. appealing the decision of the Tree and Shrub Committee denying the removal of a tree. She requests that council consider permitting the tree removal.

**PLANNING & ZONING**

Mr. Burleigh

*General Report:*

1. Members reviewed code enforcement activities with the borough's code officer, Don Branzel. Mr. Burleigh reminded all that trash cans must have lids and that we will begin a skunk trapping program again.
2. The chair discussed a meeting held with Mr. Silversmith and the school district re: the Westinghouse Research Site and potential educational programs.
3. The committee reviewed draft plans with Innovative Controls re: the purchase of the EPI Building.

Old Business:

Easement – Twomey Property

Mr. Tomasic

We have received the easement from the Twomeys and from Juniper Village to construct a footpath/walkway through Juniper Village property along the Ardmore for Cherry Valley area residents to have safe walking access in that area. A letter of appreciation should be sent to the Twomeys and Juniper Village for allowing the easement through their property.

Mr. Tomasic announced that there will be an executive session following the meeting.

New Business:

Public Comment – Other Items

*At this time citizens may address council on any issue. Only residents and taxpayers of the Borough of Forest Hills will be permitted to address council. Speakers will be permitted to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before council who may speak for a maximum of 10 minutes. 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. Please spell the name for the record.*

Pat Aiello, 402 Cascade Road – thanked council for discussing the future funding for the crime alert program. She asked if the Crime Alert system could be also be used to alert citizens of when voting will take place on certain issues. The Public Safety Committee meeting would be the place to comment on this.

Tom Raible, 304 Overdale Road – discussed a community supported agriculture facility for fresh food and eggs and noted that these type of farms need our support. He also commented on enforcement of code.

Joann Meier, 306 Castlegate Road – discussed a rented house and garbage issues. She expressed concern in introducing new problems into the borough.

John Holmes, 621 Cascade Road – discussed cost of town pool; he believes rates are excessive. He has done research on other area public pools in the county, and found their rates to be much lower. Forest Hills pool fees are the highest in the area, and a poor value for residents.

Marie Ferrante, 107 Williams Place – re: sewer line and tree roots. She asks if the borough is going to do anything about this problem as she has had a lot of plumbing bills for this problem. It was suggested that she attend a Public Works Committee

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn or adjourn by acclamation

Moved: Mr. Burleigh  
Second: Ms. Wood

***Voice Vote – all in favor***

- Next Scheduled Council Meeting: April 17, 2013
- Next Scheduled Committee Meetings (order to be determined): Tuesday, April 2, 2013 – Borough Property, Operations & Policy, Public Safety, Public Works.  
Thursday, April 4, 2013 – Finance, Planning & Zoning, Committee of the Whole.  
*Council may choose to meet as a whole on these dates and conduct business if necessary.*