

Call to Order:

Mr. Erbeldinger

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor O'Malley

Roll Call:

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

President's Report:

Mr. Erbeldinger

Mr. Erbeldinger noted that an executive session was held on September 5 to discuss potential purchase of property.

Council may hold a business meeting at the beginning of the committee meetings on Oct. 3 at 7 PM.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor O'Malley

No report

Tax Collector's Report:

Ms. Sullivan

Ms. Sullivan reported on August collections

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Williams

Chief Williams presented a report of activities for the department. The Hayride is scheduled for Saturday, October 19th this year.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Theilacker

No report

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Woodland Hills EMS Report:

Keith Morse

No report

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Korbel

Mr. Korbel noted:

- The updated zoning ordinance is on the agenda tonight and he reviewed the key points in the ordinance
- Asked for an executive session following the meeting to discuss the purchase of property.

Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water Authority Report:

Ms. Broz

Ms. Broz reported on authority activities and noted one water break.

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.

Jane Freund, 37 Bryn Mawr Road, comments that the trail behind Juniper Village is working out well. Some off track people are making ruts in the trail. She suggests a chain be put up to keep out off-road vehicles. She hasn't seen anything in the Tree City Times about the trail. She compliments the police and fire departments for their response during a bad storm when trees on her property were down. She comments about property at corner of Bryn Mawr and Sherwood about the dead trees and weeds. She also comments about tax notices and inquires about Hosanna House contacts.

Mr. Erbedinger reiterates that all comments pertaining to things that are not on the agenda should be held for the end of the meeting.

Committee Reports:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mr. Tomasic

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Motion: Move to authorize the borough engineer to piggy back on the Allegheny County Micro Paving contract and enter into an agreement with Suit-Kote for 6,765 SY of Type A surfacing on Marion Avenue and a portion of Windsor at the rate of \$3.59/SY for a total cost of \$24,286.35.

Moved: Mr. Tomasic

Second: Mr. Karas

Although Marion was just recently paved, getting the additional coating on Marion Avenue would be beneficial. Ms. Wood requested a comment from our engineer, Mr. Gilliland. He commented that a sealer coat will extend the life of the paving, so that it will last until the next time Marion needs paved, and hopefully, doubling the life of the paving. It would also contribute toward the traction on the street during bad weather. Mr. Gilliland continues that it would extend the paving on Marion at least double what it is now, and thereby saving the borough money as Marion is a very heavily traveled street.

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

General Report:

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

Forest Hills Borough
Engineer's Report for September, 2013

Public Works Committee

A. 2012-13 Sewer Work for the Consent Decree

- i. Later in 2013 we will be advertising for bids for the next round of sewer liners and sewer repairs by excavation as funds become available.
- ii. CCTV inspections to comply with the Operation & Maintenance Plan are in progress by in-house personnel as time permits.

B. 2013 Paving

This project has been completed, except for the line painting and stop bars. On Marion Avenue, we specified a courser top layer to prevent washboarding of asphalt when vehicles stop on the steep hill. While this material *does* prevent washboarding, the larger stones in the mix result in more open voids in the surface. My concern is that water and salt could infiltrate this surface causing cracking and deterioration. To prevent this, I am recommending a double seal coat of asphaltic material be applied to both Marion and the steep part of Windsor recently resurfaced. The cost of this work would be \$25,424.38. This price is based on the unit price of an Allegheny County

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contract with Suit-Kote, Inc. which we could piggy-back on. This is the same surfacing used on Centurion Drive and Forest Ridge Drive two years ago. Steve Morus has indicated this funding could be taken from the Liquid Fuels budget.

C. CD 39 Demolition

The contract to demolish 617 Barclay Avenue has been issued. Work will start once contracts are signed and bonding and insurance are in place.

2. The committee reviewed the following update from 3 Rivers Wet Weather on sanitary/stormwater issues:

The significant storms of this summer have provided an unfortunate reminder of the need to develop and implement plans that protect the health, safety, and welfare of residents for storm-related issues. MS4 stormwater permits are now being renewed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for separate sewer municipalities who will be required to gather the data needed to comply. It is anticipated that the MS4 program will result in identification of costly, but necessary storm system improvements.

In a related but separate issue, DEP has completed a list of Impaired Streams under section 303d of the Federal Clean Water Act, and will be establishing pollutants that must be controlled within a defined period of time (15 years). Many of our local streams have already been classified as impaired and total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) have been established. In many cases these pollutants are stormwater-related. Moving forward, 3 Rivers will provide support to municipalities for the MS4/TMDL issues.

3. Members on this committee and all other committees reviewed a list of suggested questions and reminders prepared by the manager as an aid in preparing the 2014 budget.
4. The manager reported on public works department jobs and costs in Chalfant through the end of July.
5. The foreman reported on work planned for September

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Porco

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

General Fund Budget:	\$ 222,037.46
Corrective Action Budget:	\$ 6,076.47
Capital Improvements:	\$ 30.71
Real Estate Tax Refunds	\$ 19,904.95
Liquid Fuels	\$ 1,490.61

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Moved: Mr. Porco
Second: Mr. Burleigh

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

Detail of Non-General Fund Items:

Corrective Action Budget: Sewer repairs, engineering, refunds
Liquid Fuels: Hot patch, street lights
Capital: Step repair

Motion: Move to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) calculation received from Mockenhaupt Benefits Group specifying that the borough's obligation to the police pension fund is estimated to be \$351,329 in 2014 and to the non-uniform funds estimated to be \$85,195 in 2014 with both payments representing a 25% reduced amortization payment under the state's distress level designation.

Moved: Mr. Porco
Second: Mr. Tomasic

Note: the police MMO 2013 estimate: \$229,738 and the non-uniform funds 2013 estimate: \$86,778 under the same distress level designation.

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

General Report:

1. The committee continued to review a summary of projects submitted to date for the 2014 Capital Improvements Plan.
2. The 2014 budget preparation process continues at each finance committee meeting through the end of the year. Citizens are reminded that finance committee meetings are used to prepare a new budget rather than holding

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separate budget hearings and all meetings are open to the public. The first draft of the budget will be reviewed at the October committee meeting.

3. The committee reviewed information provided by the manager on the 2013 taxable assessed value of properties in the borough. The initial number provided by the County in February 2012 was \$421,815,300. The latest numbers provided on the County's real estate website show that the value fell to \$391,684,315 with appeals. To date about 40% of those appealing 2013 assessments have resulted in no change to their property's taxable value. We understand that many appeals have yet to be heard and some of those decisions noted above have been further appealed by the property owners to the court.
4. The committee reviewed the latest MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation) calculation with Colleen Deer of Mockenhaupt.

BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Karas

Motion: Move to authorize the manager to seek bids for cleaning services for the borough building, magistrate's office and borough garage.

Moved: Mr. Karas
Second: Ms. Wood

Mr. Tomasic asks that the item be tabled and explained that there are several reasons for this. One is that lease for the magistrate's office term is up in June and rumor has it that they may move into the shopping center. Also, there is an issue regarding the pool work that public works is doing now which had been done in the past by a retiree. He would like to explore ideas about the cleaning service. Possibly we could get someone to do this work, and coordinate a better way to deal with the cleaning issue.

Motion to Table – Mr. Tomasic
Second – Mr. Burleigh

Vote to table

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Burleigh	yes
	Mr. Karas	yes
	Mr. Porco	yes
	Mr. Tomasic	yes
	Ms. Wood	yes
	Mr. Erbelinger	yes

General Report:

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

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Borough Property

A. Tennis Courts

DPW has excavated the existing courts and is grading and compacting in preparation for the contractor to begin work which is scheduled for September 23. I am in the process of obtaining quotes for a card-reader system to limit entry to the courts to those who have purchased a pass. Steve Morus has also mentioned the possibility of stationing summer workers to check for passes.

B. Pool Projects for 2013

The replacement of the sliding glass doors and windows with 3 sliding glass doors and 2 windows will be underway any day now, once the materials are received.

C. Senior Center Rest Rooms

Work started on this project on August 26 and should be completed by the end of September.

D. Hosanna House

I will be preparing an analysis of current and projected traffic volumes and characteristics on Sherwood Road based on the data supplied by your Police Department and usage data from Hosanna House. Director Leon Haynes stated that although the hockey rink is scheduled to be completed this fall, a schedule of games and practices will not be established until January, 2014 and commence until March or April, 2014. Therefore I cannot project future traffic until early 2014. The data supplied by Chief Williams has shown that of the 1579 vehicles that used Sherwood Road over a one month period, only 6 exceeded the 20 mph speed limit.

2. Members reviewed current fees related to tennis court use and discussed the need to have a key system or card system installed to ensure that people who use the courts acquire a pass. Fees may also increase since the courts are under reconstruction.

3. Members asked the Chief and manager to determine if the magistrate is interested in maintaining the office at the current location. The lease with the county court system expires at the end of June 2014.

4. Arborist Ted Gilbert provided a written recommendation on plantings at the main park hillside where construction took place earlier. He and the foreman recommend that natural growth be allowed to continue there and that new trees could be planted at the top of the hillside and the bottom. The committee agreed and noted that funds for new planting should come from the 2014 tree budget.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Tomasic

General Report:

1. Members discussed several issues related to fire services in the borough and the volunteer fire department including:

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- a. Lack of mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities other than Edgewood
 - b. Lack of response by the department on request for their bylaws. We would make the copies, to make accessible to the Public Safety Committee.
 - c. Lack of response re: the issue of police access to weight facilities in the fire department building, started due to misinformation on a potential spread of disease by one or more officers.
 - d. Vehicle insurance coverage cost and responsibility.
 - e. Use of vehicles outside of borough – charter restrictions & language
 - f. Access to VFD logs/log books/vehicle logs & mileage since the borough covers the cost of fuel; if there are none the committee requests that a logging procedure is started so we know where trucks are going to avoid paying for gas for out of town fire calls. Residents should not pay for out of town calls.
 - g. Right to Know decision re: the department's request for access to delinquent fire fee rate payers and the Public Safety Chair's request for access to VFD meeting minutes.
2. The committee reviewed possible purchase of a police vehicle with Chief Williams. Our policy has been that no new purchases are made until the old vehicle has been sold.
 3. Mayor O'Malley discussed a resident's concern re: Lafayette and Circuit Lane and truck travel. The public works crew will install signs indicating limited access to the route. Mr. Tomasic noted that the signs have now been installed.

OPERATIONS & POLICY

Ms. Wood

Motion: Move to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2013 council meeting.

Moved: Ms. Wood
Second: Mr. Tomasic

Voice Vote

Motion: Move to accept the bid of Carl's Tree Service in the amount of \$9,985 for tree pruning work through the last quarter of the year.

Moved: Ms. Wood
Second: Mr. Porco

Note: other bids received were Ray's Tree Service (\$12,650) and Iron Mike's Tree Service (\$13,500).

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

General Report:

1. The committee reviewed items for the 2014 Capital Improvements Plan and noted that included in the recommendation to the finance committee is the purchase of new accounting software to replace the current version that is being retired by the software company. This may be a time sensitive item.
2. The borough continues to seek volunteers for the 2019 Centennial Committee. Please contact the office if interested.
3. The borough continues to seek volunteers to serve on various boards and committees (e.g., planning commission, zoning hearing board, etc.) and asks interested residents to contact the manager at the borough office for further information.
4. A session called "bee curious" at the Westinghouse Lodge is scheduled for this Sunday.

PLANNING & ZONING

Mr. Burleigh

Motion: Move to approve ordinance number 1041 amending the boroughs' zoning ordinance to include solar panel regulations, regulating LPG as an accessory use and updating application and approval procedures.

Moved: Mr. Burleigh
Second: Mr. Karas

Ordinance title reads as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FOREST HILLS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 27 OF THE FOREST HILLS BOROUGH CODE OF ORDINANCES, ZONING, AS AMENDED, TO ADOPT OMNIBUS AMENDMENTS TO THE FOREST HILLS BOROUGH ZONING ORDINANCE.

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

General Report:

1. Members reviewed additional information on the subdivision proposal for the Silversmith development at the former Westinghouse Research Center site.
2. Code officer Don Branzel reported on his activities for the month.
3. Wilkins Township approached the borough about considering a joint comprehensive plan but the committee decided that our plan is fairly recent and does not require revisions or replacement at this time.

Old Business:

It was brought up in public safety about the inability of the police to use the firefighter's exercise facilities. They would like to discuss this in the committee of whole next month. Also, if the chiefs of both police and fire, and Officer Armstrong to represent the police and Rick Colella and Chief Theilacker to represent the fire department could be asked to discuss the situation. This has been an ongoing thing for a long time, at least five years and perhaps getting the parties together to discuss this issue will resolve it.

New Business:

A resident of Bryn Mawr Road brought to a Mr. Porco's attention that some people doing work at Hosanna house property, and that Bryn Mawr Road was being used as an access road to the construction of the dek hockey facility. Anyone have objections to putting up a "Local Traffic Only" sign at the beginning of Bryn Mawr Road. Bryn Mawr is a very narrow road with parking on one side. It is not designed to be a throughway, and this could be a public safety issue.

Chief Williams noted it is difficult to enforce a local traffic only sign.

Mr. Korbelt notes there is no requirement to vote on this suggestion.

Mr. Karas asks the solicitor for the record to explain the use of executive session. Mr. Korbelt explained the rules under the Sunshine Act.

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Mr Korbel explained that under the Pennsylvania sunshine act, discuss matters such as the purchase real estate, personnel items, labor negotiations, to discuss items that are otherwise privileged, that is seeking at opinion from the solicitor, and litigation matters.

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.

Nina Sowiski, 155 Fieldcrest Drive, responding to what Vivian was saying. Their street was refinished and apparently there was a leak at the very top of Fieldcrest. The leak was fixed and the street was refinished afterward so there is nothing more that needs to be done there.

Jim Reed, 517 Sherwood Road, comments Hosanna House issues and the speed measuring device. He noted that it does not always work, and has called at least 5 times to report this. There are only about 8 or 9 houses on the street and traffic on the street is about 1600 cars in one month. The speed limit on Sherwood is 15 MPH. He asks if there been any dialogue with Wilkesburg about the differences in our ordinances, i.e. the noise ordinance?

Chief Williams responds to Mr. Reed's comments on how the speed / radar system works and that it often will not show an indicator or speed because we use a stealth mode to prevent the device from influencing traffic to get a realistic reading. He also discussed the amount of 911 calls received, noting that 10 have been reported for the past year. He explained how the 911 system works and reports calls.

Page Forrest, 31 Roxbury Road – asked why no minutes were available from the August meeting and what were the reasons for replacing the council president?

John Holmes, 621 Cascade – re: Hosanna House and speed humps. There was a similar situation in the city of Milwaukee. Speed bumps tend to be ineffective because although people slow down with the bumps, they speed back up to make up the time once they are past them.

Jim Reed, 517 Sherwood Road, had conversation with Mr. Soltis of the Penguin Foundation regarding the hockey dek. He feels that if the Penguin Foundation had heard that there was opposition to building the hockey dek, that it would not have been built.

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Jane Freund, 37 Bryn Mawr Road asks about policy about the public speaking at council meetings. She asks if something can be put in the Tree City Times about the proper way to be heard at meetings. Steve Karas discusses the policy of speaking at committee meetings. Committee meetings are open to the public. It is at the discretion of the committee chair, but normally the committee members have discussion after which it is open to the public to get their feedback.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn or adjourn by acclamation

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Mr. Karas

Voice Vote – all in favor

Following the September 18, 2013 meeting, council held a special meeting on Thursday, October 3, 2013 to formally appoint a plan administrator for the borough's pension plan. The following represents the only business conducted at that time:

Motion to appoint Ms. Archer as Plan Administrator for the uniform pension plan and Mr. Morus as the Plan Administrator for the non-uniform plan.

By William Tomasic, second by Frank Porco.

Mr. Belmonte	yes
Mr. Burleigh	yes
Mr. Karas	yes
Mr. Porco	yes
Mr. Tomasic	yes
Mr. Erbedinger	yes

- Next Scheduled Council Meeting: October 16, 2013
- Next Scheduled Committee Meetings (order to be determined): Tuesday, October 1, 2013 – Borough Property, Operations & Policy, Public Safety, Public Works.
Thursday, October 3, 2013 – Finance, Planning & Zoning, Committee of the Whole.
Council may choose to meet as a whole on these dates and conduct business if necessary.