

Call to Order:

Mr. Erbeldinger

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor O'Malley

Roll Call:

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

President's Report:

Mr. Erbeldinger

Mr. Erbeldinger noted that he believes we had a good season at the pool but we don't have numbers in yet.

He noted that an executive session was held on Sept. 9 and another will be held tonight to discuss personnel and litigation issues.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor O'Malley

Mayor O'Malley noted the passing of former councilman Bill Hogan.

Tax Collector's Report:

Ms. Sullivan

No report

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Williams

Chief Williams presented a monthly activity report.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Theilacker

No report

Woodland Hills EMS Report:

Chief Morse

No report

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Korbel

Mr. Korbel noted the executive session this evening would be on litigation and personnel matters.

Wilkesburg Penn Joint Water Authority Report:

Ms. Broz

Ms. Broz reported on authority activities and discussed a notice on the water bills re: conversion to a monthly account.

Noted that budget activities will begin soon.

She also noted that if Greensburg Pike is to be paved by the county the authority wants to go in and make repairs first.

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.*

Committee Reports:

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Ms. Sowiski

*General Report:*

1. Council has a tentative agreement for a contract extension with the non uniform union pending review by the attorneys.
2. The borough engineer submitted the following report to the committee:

Engineer's Report for September, 2014

Public Works Committee

A. 2013-14 Sewer Work for the Consent Decree

The Trenchless Project is 60% complete and can proceed further once the additional manhole adjustment work (approved at August Council meeting) is completed.

B. 2013 Paving

This project has been completed, except for the line painting and stop bars which will be done after the re-sealcoating of Marion.

C. 2014 Paving

This project has been completed except for stop bars which will be done after the seal coating is complete.

D. CD 41 Demolition

We have prepared a pre-application to obtain CDBG funds to demolish two properties in 2015: 419 Braddock Road and 16 Kenmore Road.

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

The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) performed a comprehensive review for all 87 Feasibility Studies submitted by ALCOSAN service area municipalities, including both municipal sanitary and combined systems, plus additional submissions from authorities within the service area and separate reports based on multi-municipal points of connection (the location where multi-municipal trunk sewers connect to the ALCOSAN interceptors). ACHD used the information to determine compliance with the specific requirements of the municipal administrative consent orders (ACOs) and on June 20, ACHD responded in writing to the specific municipalities that have an ACO. In order to understand the regional impact, ACHD also summarized the estimated costs for both internal municipal and points of connection (POC) multi-municipal projects for both the sanitary and combined sewer Feasibility Studies. Multi-municipal costs were evaluated in two separate ways, one based on the POC submissions and one based on the individual municipal submissions. Because of the different submissions, ACHD provided a range of costs.

The total regional municipal costs range from \$475 million to \$506 million, which includes \$72.65 million in projects internal to individual municipalities that are related to the need for increased capacity. This total estimate also includes improvements to multi-municipal trunk sewers to convey sewage to the ALCOSAN point of connection. Costs are presented in a range because some municipalities didn't discuss participation in the multi-municipal projects or the numbers didn't always match those presented in the POC reports. In addition, some of the Feasibility Studies were more comprehensive than others.

We recommend that separate sewer communities ensure that they have reviewed their June 20 letter from ACHD regarding their compliance with the ACO. The letter also acknowledges the study that the community conducted to evaluate their conveyance of wastewater to ALCOSAN, including estimated project costs.

Our thanks to the Allegheny County Health Department for making their Feasibility Study review summary data available for our information.

4. The foreman reported on work planned for September including the following tentative jobs (subject to change due to weather, emergencies, etc. and not including normal maintenance and Chalfant work):
  - Sanitary Sewer Work
  - Patch potholes
  - Change stop signs
  - Painting of crosswalks at Braddock at Cascade; certain locations on Ardmore Blvd;
  - Build new hay wagon; repairs to existing hay wagon
5. All Committees reviewed 2015 Capital Improvements Plan items and forwarded recommendations to the finance committee for review.
6. In Committee of the Whole, members reviewed the changes in cost for engineering services with the principal engineer's cost remaining unchanged per hour and Glenn Engineering staff increasing by \$5 per hour.
7. Members authorized the manager to send a letter to Chalfant Borough council that supports their effort to ask the county for repairs and pavement improvements on Greensburg Pike.

Mr. Erbedinger reports that he has had some questions from citizens regarding our road paving program, and asks Mr. Gilliland if he could briefly explain how it works.

Mr. Gilliland explains that we have a computer program called Paser that was developed by the University of Wisconsin. About 10 or 12 years ago all of the roads in the borough were evaluated. A lot of information is included in that report and every year that program suggests which roads are going to need paved. We take that information and tweak that a bit—some roads age uniformly others do not. Some will age better or worse. But it is the basis for making our decisions. We always take into consideration other roads as suggested by Public Works or Borough Council.

Mr. Erbedinger comments that typically decisions are made late winter, early spring about which roads will be paved that year.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Karas

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

General Fund Budget:	\$ 187,875.46
Corrective Action Budget:	\$ 42,054.21
Fire Protection fee	\$ 2,429.18
Tennis Courts	\$ 24,309.31
Real Estate Tax Refunds	\$ 758.91
Road Improvement	\$ 6,109.32

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Moved: Mr. Karas  
Second: Mr. Tomasic

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burleigh yes  
Mr. Karas yes  
Mr. Kiley yes  
Ms. Sowiski yes  
Mr. Tomasic yes  
Mr. Erbedinger yes

Detail of Non-General Fund Items:

Corrective Action Budget: Engineer, sewer repairs, sewer truck repairs  
Fire: Utility bills  
Road: Asphalt and patching supplies

**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 \$355,733 in 2015 and to the non-uniform funds estimated to be \$81,967 in 2015 with both payments representing a 25% reduced amortization payment under the state's distress level designation.

Note: MMO for the current year for non uniform was estimated at \$97,484 and for police estimated at \$436,200 before the 25% reduced rate.

Moved: Mr. Karas  
Second: Mr. Kiley

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burleigh yes  
Mr. Karas yes  
Mr. Kiley yes  
Ms. Sowiski yes  
Mr. Tomasic yes  
Mr. Erbedinger yes

*General Report:*

Mr. Karas comments that he had a brief meeting with the borough manager tonight, and he believes we are in excellent financial shape. He asks members of council that anyone here tonight or reading these minutes to consider a larger idea or something outside the box for next year or the remainder of years to come with something unique.

1. The finance committee will continue preparation of the 2015 budget and capital improvements plan at the October committee meeting with subsequent budget discussions at their committee meetings or in Committee of the Whole in November and December. Staff is currently preparing estimates for the manager who will submit a first draft at the October 7 committee meetings. All committee meetings are open to the public.
2. The committee discussed the escrow accounts from the 2013 property re-assessment.
3. The manager reported that the recommended new accounting system, Accufund, should work on the borough's system to replace the unsupported Fundware software. Members agreed that the borough should consider implementation in time for January 2015 to take advantage of discounts available. Staff will review and comply following that review.

## **BOROUGH PROPERTY**

Mr. Kiley

### *General Report:*

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

#### Borough Property

##### A. Tennis Courts

This project has been completed. The small rust stains that appeared in the surface paint will be ground out and repainted after Labor Day.

##### B. Walkways

Councilman Karas has asked that I perform an assessment of all the walkways in the borough. I will be meeting with Jim Theilacker to walk the sites and will submit my report thereafter.

2. Members briefly continued to discuss uses and costs of all borough owned properties.
3. In Committee of the Whole, members agreed to participate in Pitt's *Make a Difference Day* on Oct. 18 which provides student volunteers to assist with a project or projects in the borough.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mr. Tomasic

**Motion:** Move to authorize the Chief of Police to advertise for sale the 2008 K-9 vehicle with minimum bid required of \$5,500 and bids due by Noon Friday, October 10, 2014.

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Moved: Mr. Tomasic  
Second: Ms. Sowiski

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burleigh      yes  
Mr. Karas                      yes  
Mr. Kiley                        yes  
Ms. Sowiski                    yes  
Mr. Tomasic                    yes  
Mr. Erbedinger                yes

**Motion:** Move to purchase a 2008 Ford Expedition from White Oak Borough to replace the K-9 vehicle at a cost of \$11,000

Moved: Mr. Tomasic  
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burleigh      yes  
Mr. Karas                      yes  
Mr. Kiley                        yes  
Ms. Sowiski                    yes  
Mr. Tomasic                    yes  
Mr. Erbedinger                yes

*General Report:*

1. The committee reviewed a number of items that may be considered as part of the 2015 budget process.
2. The committee reviewed several fire department issues.

**OPERATIONS & POLICY**

Mr. Karas

**Motion:** Move to approve the minutes from the August 20, 2014 council meeting.

Moved: Mr. Karas  
Second: Mr. Burleigh

***Voice Vote – all in favor***

**Motion:** Move to approve the borough's participation in the Waste Management Recycle Bank program with any agreement in a format acceptable to the solicitor and for implementation by January 2015.

Moved: Mr. Karas  
Second: Ms. Sowiski

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Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Burleigh	yes
	Mr. Karas	yes
	Mr. Kiley	yes
	Ms. Sowiski	yes
	Mr. Tomasic	yes
	Mr. Erbedinger	yes

**Motion:** Move to authorize the manager to send a letter or email to Waste Management accepting the option year for trash and recycling collection services for 2015 with the base rate increasing from \$13.73 per unit per month to \$14.07 per unit per month.

Moved: Mr. Karas  
Second: Mr. Kiley

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Burleigh	yes
	Mr. Karas	yes
	Mr. Kiley	yes
	Ms. Sowiski	yes
	Mr. Tomasic	yes
	Mr. Erbedinger	yes

*General Report:*

1. Members asked the solicitor to review requirements for an ordinance that would control sale of public green space in the borough and will discuss this further in committee.
2. The committee continues to review draft policies on social media and has asked the solicitor for personnel matters to comment.
3. The borough continues to seek volunteers for the 2019 Centennial Committee. A separate committee is important for planning, organization and fund raising purposes. Please contact the office if interested.
4. The borough continues to seek volunteers to serve on various boards and committees and asks interested residents to contact the manager at the borough office for further information.

**PLANNING & ZONING**

Mr. Burleigh

**Motion:** Motion to authorize the solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance with an intergovernmental cooperation agreement that would permit the borough to participate in the Turtle Creek Valley COG land bank.

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Moved: Mr. Burleigh  
Second: Mr. Karas

***Voice Vote – all in favor***

*General Report:*

1. The committee approved the commentary section of the code enforcement policy of the borough and authorized the manager to place it on the policy section of the website without further objection.
2. Members reviewed code enforcement work with Officer Don Branzel including several problem properties that he is working on currently.
3. The committee discussed the “custodial ownership” requirements of the Silversmith property (former research center site) which is necessary to permit access to grant funds for cleanup. Any agreement would be subject to review by the borough solicitor who noted there would likely be contingencies placed on the procedure to protect the borough.

Old Business:

Mr. Tomasic comments on a couple of old business items. The issue concerning the bylaws of the Volunteer Fire Department. I just want to get the facts on the record here. We've been talking about the bylaws for several months under Public Safety. We misspoke in the last committee meeting in which somebody said something about Braddock Hills. In our discussions over the last several months we've never said anything about Braddock Hills. I will repeat our concern and that concern is that the property and assets will not revert to the membership fire department or the Borough of Forest Hills. The Borough of Forest Hills has been the main benefactor associated with the fire department. We have given them hundreds of thousands of dollars, we pay all the utilities, we take care of the building, we are in the process right now of upgrading some concerns that they have with the rusted-out doors. The concern that this council or this committee expressed was the fact that we could not receive the money as the Borough of Forest Hills. And it is specifically because of the bylaws that they have passed. That has nothing to do with Braddock Hills. I think it is a shame that that particular statement is in there, when the residents of this Borough of Forest Hills are the ones that are primarily responsible for the monies. The truck although it's ours, we've been paying almost half a million dollars over the years. We just put a \$60,000 roof on the building, we pay all the utilities. Mr. Tomasic also comments on the status of the Ford Explorer, and the expired insurance and sticker.

New Business:

Mr. Burleigh comments on the 10 year development plan that council designed. He feels that the planning and development committee should be investigating that ten year plan to see where we are because community development is something that we need

to develop a direction. He is going to be meeting with the planning commission to go over the ten year plan, on the last Wednesday of the month.

Public Comment – Other Items

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Mike Pillar, 603 Marion – re: suggests putting a street light on Glen Alley near Barclay (he presents a petition) and eliminating a stand of trees at Glen Alley and Violet Alley. Mr. Tomasic comments that Violet Alley is not owned by the borough.

Mr. Morus comments on the installation cost and approximate cost to maintain the street light.

Mr. Erbedinger noted that council typically asks the police chief to review if it is a public safety issue and report at the public safety committee meeting.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn or adjourn by acclamation

Moved: Mr. Tomasic

Second: Mr. Kiley

***Voice Vote – all in favor***

Upon adjournment, Pres. Erbedinger asked all to stand for a moment of silence in memory of former councilman Bill Hogan.

- Next Scheduled Council Meeting: October 15, 2014.
- Next Scheduled Committee Meetings (order to be determined): Thursday, Oct. 2, 2014 – Borough Property, Operations & Policy, Public Safety, Public Works.  
Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2014 – Finance, Planning & Zoning, Committee of the Whole.  
Council may choose to meet as a whole on these dates and conduct business if necessary.