

Call to Order: Mr. Erbeeldinger

Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Porco

Roll Call:

Mr. Burleigh	present	Mr. Erbeeldinger	present
Mr. Karas	absent	Mayor Porco	present
Mr. Kiley	present	Janet Sullivan, Tax Collector	present
Ms. Sowiski	present	Stephen Korb, Solicitor	present
Mr. Tomasic	present	David Gilliland, Engineer	present
Ms. Wood	absent	Steven Morus, Manager	present

President's Report: Mr. Erbeeldinger

Mr. Erbeeldinger discussed the new municipal building and noted a community meeting on September 26 at 9 AM at the recreation lodge.

There was an executive session at the end of committees on Sept 8 involving collective bargaining & litigation.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Porco

Mr. Porco arrived in time for his report. He presented a poster that was put up at a neighborhood block party with comments about what they like about their neighborhood. Also, an ongoing educational series for seniors will be held at Centurion Commons regarding fraud scams that are targeted at senior citizens. He is also judging a talent show at the Western PA School for the Deaf.

Tax Collector's Report: Ms. Sullivan

Ms. Sullivan presented a monthly report of collections at \$12,381 plus late collections

Chief of Police Report: Chief Williams

Chief Williams reported on department activities.

He discussed a robbery at First Commonwealth; the perpetrator was arrested.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Theilacker

No report

Woodland Hills EMS Report:

Chief Mastandrea

No report

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Korbel

Mr. Korbel had no report

Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water Authority Report:

Ms. Broz

Ms. Broz reported on Authority activities including 4 breaks.

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.

Natalie Picard of 307 Burlington Road commented on the dog park and presented the survey in regard to the dog park and the petition they conducted in that regard.

Committee Reports:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Ms. Sowiski

Motion: Motion to accept a change order for the 2015 paving contract eliminating saw cutting of joints and adding base repair on Sharon Drive and Filmore Road with a net reduction of \$9,996.50.

Moved: Ms. Sowiski
Second: Mr. Burleigh

NOTE: see engineer's report below for information.

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

General Report:

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

Public Works Committee

A. 2015 Sewer Significant Deficiency Repairs

The lining of two sections of sewer behind houses on Forest Hills Road has been awarded and will be underway within the next month.

B. 2015 Street Paving

After reviewing actual costs versus actual taxes received, Manager Morus is recommending the saw cutting of joints in three streets be deferred until 2016, reducing the project cost by \$12,996.50. The addition of Base Repair totaling \$3,000 on Sharon Drive and Filmore Drive was found to be necessary after milling the existing surface revealed soft spots. A Change Order showing the net difference of (\$9,996.50) is being presented for your approval.

C. CD 41 Grant

We will be demolishing 16 Kenmore Avenue under this program this year. The project can be advertised for bid after the County issues Grant Agreements to the TCVCOG.

D. Interim Consent Decree

Acceptance of the Interim Consent Order is recommended, pending approval of the document by the Solicitors group. This can be discussed in further detail at the meeting.

E. CD 42 Pre-Applications

Pre-applications are due September 11, 2015, so we will need a list of demolition sites for said application ASAP.

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

September 2015 Update:

Phase 1 Interim Municipal Consent Order Update

Much activity has occurred since the municipalities received draft consent orders in July. Groups of municipal managers, solicitors, and engineers have reviewed the orders and 3 Rivers Wet Weather has built a consensus around the issues and concerns that have been identified. A few of the issues addressed include:

Revising Paragraph 3 of the proposed Consent Order and Agreement to clarify the intent of the source reduction and green infrastructure planning. This analysis will help to identify the areas of the community with the most infiltration and inflow and to outline the steps for the reduction of these flows.

Allowed for the use of additional procedures, such as CCTV inspection and dye flooding for a time-of-sale private lateral demonstration program.

These issues were presented by a core group of municipal managers and engineers to DEP and ACHD staff in a meeting on August 31, 2015. As these issues and others identified by the Municipal Solicitors group are still under discussion, the solicitors requested that municipalities be given at least two municipal council meeting cycles to consider the orders once a final order has been negotiated.

In consideration of the good faith discussions with the regulatory agencies and with the concurrence of DEP, municipalities will not be required to adopt the consent order by September 30, 2015, but will extend the deadline date for execution to November 30, 2015.

3. The foreman reported on tentative work planned for September (other than normal maintenance work and Chalfant work and depending on weather):

- Repair pole lights – Ardmore
- Change various signs throughout the borough
- Rebuild storm sewer inlets, various roads
- Sweep all streets
- Patch roads & alleys
- Paint lines including Rec Center parking lot
- Install French Drain, 400 Block Pacific
- Cut brush and clean various locations

4. This committee along with all other committees reviewed projects for the 2016 Capital Improvements Plan, made adjustments and forwarded recommendations to the finance committee for review.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Tomasic

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

General Fund Budget:	\$ 200,538.29
Corrective Action Budget:	\$ 84,722.52
Fire Protection fee	\$ 2,287.69
Capital Improvements	\$ 98,406.50

Road Improvements \$ 336,268.25

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Mr. Kiley

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

Detail of Non-General Fund Items:

Corrective Action Budget: Engineering, contract sewer work & supplies
Fire: Utility bills, back flow testing
Capital Improvements Grant work at park
Road Paving work

Before making the next motion, council will review and consider the following proposals for investment of bond issue funds:

We have \$3.504 million to invest total. Proposals Submitted for an investment of \$3 million (with PA Invest: balance of bond issue funds would be kept on hand in short term savings for expenses over the next 3 – 9 months) or full amount with PLGIT (they overestimated at \$3.6 million) – notes from each entity included with proposal:

1. PA Invest: We are not FDIC insured as we are not a bank, all investments under this criteria of the Pennsylvania State Treasury's INVEST Program are fully collateralized at 102% of the investment (principal and interest). Collateralization for these investments is backed by U.S. Government securities with full faith and credit of the U.S. Government (GNMA's). The instruments proposed for the Borough's investment needs are custom pools or CD's. I have 2 different sample scenarios dependent on the necessary redemption of the funds for building expenses.

\$1.5MM 182 days mat 3/18/16 rate .40%
\$1.5MM 364 days mat 9/16/16 rate .50%

OR

\$3MM 364 days mat 9/16/16 rate .50%

As previously noted, you would not need these funds for 1 year, we can simply rollover the principal for various terms after the 1 year is up to meet your construction needs. Please advise as I will be out of the office on 9/18 to return on 9/21.

Also to note, these rates are net of fees; we are not charging any fees in order to possibly attract the Forest Hills Borough's participation in the INVEST Program.

2. PA Local Gov't Investment Trust (PLGIT) – FDIC CD's:

FDIC CD's			
Maturity Date	Par Amount	Gross Yield	Net Yield
9/19/2015	1,531,115	0.07%	0.07%
1/15/2016	248,000	0.40%	0.25%
2/15/2016	248,000	0.45%	0.30%
3/15/2016	248,000	0.50%	0.35%
4/15/2016	248,000	0.51%	0.36%
5/15/2016	248,000	0.55%	0.40%
6/15/2016	248,000	0.61%	0.46%
7/15/2016	400,000	0.66%	0.51%
9/15/2016	200,000	0.86%	0.71%
	3,619,115		

- As each term matures, we can simply rollover for additional terms and set maturity dates to meet your withdrawals needs as construction warrants.
- Includes fees, shown by the actual yield.
- Another thought- when comparing our new sample to PA Invest's portfolio, keep in mind that our new sample matches your new draw schedule (estimate of dollars needed from the architect) and theirs may not. The new draw schedule has us spending money faster than the old sample, possibly faster than what PA Invest shows, so keep that in mind when comparing our samples.

Motion: Tentative: Move to invest proceeds of the bond issue with PA Invest in the format shown splitting the investment above (\$1.5 million each) in its proposal.

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
 Second: Mr. Kiley

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

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 \$332,698 in 2016 and to the non-uniform funds estimated to be \$76,664 in 2016 with both payments representing a 25% reduced amortization payment under the state's distress level designation and specifying the 2016 non-uniform defined contribution plan estimated to be \$5,947.

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Mr. Tomasic comments that every year the borough has to come up with a certain amount of money that is acceptable for the plan to maintain the funding by the borough. After lengthy discussions with our solicitor who does our labor negotiations, and Wendy and Mr. Morus, we are doing what is required of us to do.

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

General Report:

1. The manager provided a summary of 2016 Capital Improvements Plan projects referred to finance from various other committees for review with the intent that a preliminary plan is approved by the committee in November at its regular meeting.
2. The manager noted that staff continues preparing requests for the 2016 budget this month. A first draft will be presented to the finance committee at its October meeting. Subsequent discussions on the new budget will occur at finance committee meetings through year end. All meetings are open to the public.

BOROUGH PROPERTY

Mr. Kiley

Motion: Move to approve the dog park plan as outlined by the engineer and establish a dedicated account to accept and track donations under the supervision of the borough treasurer.

Moved: Mr. Kiley
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Mr. Erbedinger comments that the Friends of the Dog Park will present a fund raising plan with details, like putting signs up, etc. We will have to

approve that. That will be the next step. Then there will be fund raising so they can move forward. If there's a gap we have to think about that. Then hopefully we can build it next year.

Voice Vote – all in favor

Motion: Tentative: Move to approve a revocable license with SCW Investments, Inc for use of Marwood property for parking.

Moved: Mr. Kiley
Second: Ms. Sowiski

Mr. Erbedinger asks Mr. Korbel to explain. Mr. Korbel responds that there is borough owned property on or about 122 Marwood Avenue that we are licensing so individual that owns property adjacent to it can park vehicles. The borough will receive \$600 per year in exchange for that right. The license agreement is revocable upon 30 days notice. We have no liabilities.

Mr. Tomasic asks if there was any discussion with the owner about the purpose of this other than just the parking? Mr. Korbel responds that it is to be used for parking for tenants of the building.

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

General Report:

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

Borough Property

A. Main Park GTRP Grant Project

All work has been completed with the exception of the following items:

New metal bollards & chain @ shelter
Instructional signs for Exercise Stations

These items have just been received and should be installed by September 4.

B. Walking Trail Map

We are working on this map. We have submitted a preliminary map to Jim Theilacker for his review for accuracy and to add names of trails, if there are any.

ADDITIONAL ITEM:

- Hosanna House – met with Leon Haynes and walked the new trail into Churchill to review drainage; discussed connecting the trails as per Mr. Karas. Not interested in pushing this with people in the area who do not want a trail (e.g., Niagara area)
2. The manager provided suggested alternative language for facility rental contracts and asked that members review and discuss at the November or December meetings.
 3. Mr. Theilacker repeated a report that the pool is experiencing loss of water and we are bringing in a company to determine where that may be occurring prior to emptying the pool at season's end.
 4. A list of guidelines for appointed boards was reviewed by this committee as well as others to provide newly appointed members with assistance when they assume their duties. All involved committees will continue to review.
 5. Members discussed the wall along the stream on Sherwood in the Bryn Mawr neighborhood and noted the limits that the borough has in making repairs. Any repairs would have to be prioritized by borough management based on other duties assigned to the public works department. Discussions were held with the contractor in understanding the wall's construction characteristics. Committee members agreed that while the borough will assist with some repairs there would be limits on borough involvement if a significant repair issue should arise.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Tomasic

General Report:

1. Mr. Morus was directed to follow the Chief's recommendations for wattage on the new LED street lights along Greensburg Pike. This has been submitted to Duquesne Light for their LED conversion program
2. Members continued to discuss the need for establishing several snow emergency routes in the borough to ensure that crews could safely clean snow in an emergency without vehicles parked on those streets. Specific streets are under review.
3. Members discussed concerns raised by a resident of the noise level of certain parties at the Hosanna House facility on Sherwood Road. The Chief will be in touch with the resident to outline procedures.

OPERATIONS & POLICY

Mr. Burleigh

Motion: Move to approve the minutes from the July 15, 2015 council meeting.

Moved: Mr. Burleigh
Second: Mr. Kiley

Voice Vote – all in favor

Motion: Move to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2015 council meeting.

Moved: Mr. Burleigh
Second: Mr. Kiley

Voice Vote – all in favor

General Report:

1. 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. The centennial celebration tentatively will coincide with the 2019 Community Day event.
2. 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. A number of vacancies remain.
3. The manager reviewed several issues, rules and procedures dealing with appointed boards and their responsibilities and powers.
4. The manager will advertise in a local paper for the arborist position. In addition, the Penn State Cooperative Extension offered to help in spreading the word and it will be placed on the borough's website with a job description.
5. In Committee of the Whole, members reviewed accepting the option for the final year of the trash/recycling contract with Waste Management for 2016 and will likely consider a motion to that effect at the October business meeting.

PLANNING & ZONING

Mr. Burleigh

General Report:

1. Members reviewed code enforcement activities with code officer Don Branzel and briefly discussed the status of the Silversmith property.
2. The solicitor reported on actions taken regarding the condition of the EPI Building and fence at Ardmore and Braddock.
3. Members asked the manager to contact Mr. Silversmith, the owner of the former research center property, to ask if he would consider donating the property to the borough along with the atom smasher.

Mr. Korbelt commented that the EPI Building has been an issue that the borough has been working on diligently for several months and weeks. He states that most recently his office has issued notices of violation to the EPI building at which they have failed to respond to in a positive manner. Those violations are with respect to the condition of the building, closing the windows, closing the hole, etc. that's in the side of the building facing Braddock Avenue. And from a legal perspective you have just a few options available when the owner does not adhere to your notice of violation. They did not file an appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board which is typically their right. So we proceeded at council's behest to file non-traffic citations to take the owner to the magistrate to collect fines in order to obtain compliance. As of this date, the owner of the building has not entered his intent to defend those non-traffic citations and is currently on the "warrant" list according to the magistrate and is waiting to be served from the warrant list, and when they are served and/or arrested we will have a hearing. So they are scoff-laws at this point and it will be a topic I will be discussing in executive session of borough council this evening as to what other options we may have.

Mr. Tomasic comments that for years this has been a problem. We have been trying to address it. We have had different people interested, trying to buy it, renovate it. There are problems that come with the building, the size of the lot, some of the sub-surface structure that exist there as well. A deal fell through when they couldn't get any additional land. Duncan Donuts has been trying to get in there, and other agencies as well, but every plan falls through. This has been going on for years. It is not a pretty sight. As Mr. Korbelt said, Council has now taken another step in terms of engaging the owner, and it has changed ownership three times. We are at the point where we just can't let it sit there, because the reason the one area was gauged out is because he brought in heavy equipment and told us he was ready to demolish the building, and took one bite out of it and then all the equipment left the area. We will try and work with the owner. We decided to move forward with the process we have now, where the fines will be \$1,000 a day.

Mr. Korbel confirms that the fines will be \$1,000 a day. Although that doesn't mean that we will get that money.

Mr. Porco asks if we can have our public works department go out and do some weed whacking and bill the owner for our time.

Korbel responds that we could do that, but it might take as much as a month to get that in motion.

Mr. Porco says that he thinks that we should; he can't go anywhere without someone approaching him about the building. We should put as much pressure on them as possible.

Mr. Korbel noted he will discuss this issue in executive session this evening.

Mr. Tomasic commented here

Old Business:

New Business:

Mayor Porco comments about the upcoming hayride in the community this fall on Saturday, October 17th. He encourages members of council to participate if they can in helping with this event.

Public Comment – Other Items

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Carol Orient, 133 Sumner Ave. – re: Spaghetti Dinner benefiting the cat sanctuary of Delmont. She asks permission to promote their annual Spaghetti Dinner benefit in Olympia Hall on October 17th.

Mr. Erbeldinger does a voice vote to permit her to promote the Spaghetti Dinner. Steve Morus mentions that she should talk to Don Branzel in the office. He also mentions that after one week the signs must be removed.

Mary Kay Baum, 2141 Ardmore Blvd., is the owner of Antiques on Ardmore at the same address, and is the “chef” for this event. At her store, once a month she has a fund raiser (flea market) to benefit the cat sanctuary.

Mr. Morus commented that she should apply for a permit to put a sign in the median. To be consistent she should apply for a permit in the future.

Rose Kaucic, 1904 Ardmore Blvd. – commented on the EPI Building, asks if they are up to date on their property taxes.

Mr. Erbedinger says this is public knowledge which is available on the county website. Mr. Korbel says they were up to date as of last year.

She says that she has seen people dumping yard waste into the lot.

Mr. Morus comments that if she sees someone tossing garbage, or clippings she should call 911 at the time it is happening. As it isn't our property, we can't put a sign up.

Mr Karas comments that our hands are tied, and it is very frustrating for all of us.

Tina Costacou, 704 Cascade, she is concerned regarding drilling that might be taking place in her neighborhood in the future. She heard about a gas company trying to do drilling in Churchill.

Mr. Karas says our hands are tied in these matters. We have a pretty strong anti-fracking ordinance in Forest Hills. He strongly encourages her (and anyone else who might be concerned) to contact her state senator's or representative's office, or the governor's office.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn or adjourn by acclamation

Moved: Mr. Tomasic
Second: Mr. Kiley

Voice Vote – all in favor

- Next Scheduled Council Meeting: October 21, 2015 beginning at 7 PM
- Next Scheduled Committee Meetings (order to be determined): Tuesday, October 6, 2015 – Borough Property, Operations & Policy, Public Safety, Public Works.
Tuesday, October 13, 2015 – Finance, Planning & Zoning, Committee of the Whole.
Council may choose to meet as a whole on these dates and conduct business if necessary. Meetings begin at 7 PM.