

Call to Order:

Mr. Tomasic

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Porco

Roll Call:

Mr. Burleigh – Present  
Ms. DeMarco – Present  
Mr. Kiley – Present  
Mr. Lawrence – Present  
Ms. Sowiski – Present  
Mr. Tomasic – Present

Mr. Erbeldinger – Absent  
Mayor Porco – Present  
Janet Sullivan, Tax Collector – Present  
Stephen Korbel, Solicitor – Present  
David Gilliland, Engineer – Present  
Steven Morus, Manager – Present

Vice President's Report:

Mr. Tomasic

Executive sessions held during March 3, 8 and 17 meetings to discuss contract negotiations and legal issues. One will be held this evening as well on labor negotiations.

Mr. Tomasic also reported on the following:

**EPI Building:** Mr. Tomasic read in Sunday's paper that the EPI building has been transferred to Action Housing and they are going to rehab the building. It will not be torn down. They are going to repurpose it. It's going to take some time so if you don't see any activity there very quickly, don't worry. It should be happening.

**2071 Ardmore Properties:** The Borough received a proposal the other night for these lots. As you all probably know, the borough has already begun the process to start the new building on Greensburg Pike. The builders are talking about a start date in June and we should be able to relocate to the new building in eight to ten months. In the meantime, the Borough has put out Requests for Proposals that are associated with these two lots being sold, either together or separately. We've had one proposal and it's from a company associated with Dunkin Donuts. They have a couple of different scenarios that they are proposing that will be looked at as they move forward.

**2016 Budget Books:** Mr. Tomasic would also like to let everyone know that the budget is printed and out. Mr. Tomasic held up one of the booklets and indicated that it was one of the budget books. He also stated that it could be accessed thru the Forest Hills web site. There is a lot of information contained in the book besides the budget. It details how things are done, etc. If you have any questions about specific parts of the budget, come to the Borough office and we will be happy to supply you with whatever you need. Also, we have a second booklet on Capital Improvements, Fire Protection Services fee, Rodent Program, all the details are in there. If you hear something that doesn't make sense to you, the Borough can go straight to the black and white details and let you know about them.

**Trash Hauling:** Our garbage contract is about to expire and we're going to be talking about renewing the contract. Of course, we'll also be looking for bids from other companies. Mr. Tomasic has been talking to a lot of people about our particular service and some people have concerns about the price of it. We're going to be dealing with that. However, when he talked to some of the people who were concerned, they were comparing our price to somebody else's but not looking at the details. What do they collect? How often do they collect? We have a very comprehensive package. A document is on-line that describes the different types of materials that you can actually put out for the trash but not in the garbage. There is a way you can actually put these materials out separate from the trash that is collected. You have garden chemicals, solvents, paints, aerosols, antifreeze, and even gasoline. But it has to be done in a specific way according to the regulations they have set up. There's a number to call to schedule pickup of these items. There were a lot of people who did not know they could get rid of their paints by calling and making an appointment, then putting them out to be picked up. You have to take some time to do this. You just don't throw it out there. We'll be talking about this as well. One of the things a lot of people have said to him (and he reiterated he was not speaking for the rest of council) is they like our present system. They like the way it works, they like what they can get rid of. Mr. Tomasic was told that in Penn Township, you're allotted two bags and if you put out more than that you are charged \$1.00 for each additional bag. He doesn't know how they go through that with the cost, but he knows for a fact that that's what happens. So, when we talk about our price and somebody else's we have to make sure that we are comparing apples to apples.

That concludes Mr. Tomasic's report.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Porco

The Mayor reported on:

- Noted the loss of Mary Ann Capezutto who served as interim mayor at one time and served as Democratic chair; he requested a moment of silence and asked that the meeting be adjourned in honor of her.
- He received an email from a representative of Blackridge Swim club who would like to give residents an opportunity to use their pool.
- Arbor Day ceremony coming up in late April
- He discussed with DA Zapalla's office on public safety surveillance cameras and securing help with obtaining. A representative will meet with the Chief, Mayor and Mr. Tomasic next Friday.
- Offered a Happy Easter for those who will be celebrating

Tax Collector's Report:

Ms. Sullivan

Ms. Sullivan reported that tax bills have been mailed.

---

Chief of Police Report:

Chief Williams

Chief Williams reported on department activities for the past month. He also reported:

- Noted a development with a paintball incident and a local school bus; perpetrators were apprehended.
- Noted a vehicle entry and apprehension
- A robbery occurred at Aldi's; video was taken of the robber
- A traffic stop resulted in an arrest on drug activity.
- New vests have been received

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Theilacker

No report

Woodland Hills EMS Report:

Chief Mastandrea

No report

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Korbel

Mr. Korbel reported on the need for an executive session after the meeting.

Wilkesburg Penn Joint Water Authority Report:

Ms. Broz

Ms. Broz was absent.

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.*

No comments

Committee Reports:

---

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Ms. Sowiski

**Motion:** Move to ratify the award to the low bidder AW McNabb for \$7,900.00 for the CD 41 demolition project at 16 Kenmore Ave.

Moved: Ms. Sowiski  
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Note: see bid summary under engineer's report below

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
Mr. Kiley – Yes  
Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
Mr. Tomasic – Yes

*General Report:*

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

Public Works Committee

A. Sewer Work near new Municipal Building Site

The contracts for the replacement of a sewer on Avenue F and the lining of two sewers on Barclay have been awarded and work should begin within a month.

B. Additional 2016 Sewer Work

We are in design phase for a storm pipe extension in the creek along Watt Lane walking trail and the replacement of an access manhole at the Ashley Court Stormwater Retention structure.

C. CD 41 Demolition

Bids to demolish 16 Kenmore Ave. were opened at TCVCOG on Feb. 25, 2016 with the following results:

AW McNabb Demolition	\$7,900.00
Eveready Contracting	\$8,999.00
Allen Demolition	\$15,000.00

McNabb does acceptable work and his price is fair and reasonable. The grant totals 17,510.00 so funding is more than adequate. I recommend Council **award the CD 41 Demolition Project to low bidder AW McNabb for \$7,900.00.**

D. 2016 Street Paving

Bids for the following streets will be advertised March 11 and **opened March 24, 2016 at 1:00 PM.**

Fairfax Rd. (Cascade to Brinton)

---

Overdale Rd. (Edgewood to Circuit)  
Sherwood Rd. (Cherry Valley to Fall Run)  
Glasgow Rd. (Fairview to Greenwood)  
Filmore Rd. (Greensburg Pike to Patrice)  
Pacific Ave (Marion to Lenox) (Alternate)

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



**March 1, 2016**  
**March 2016 Update:**

In a previous Manager's Minute, we showed that groundwater (infiltration) comprises a much larger proportion of the flow than sewage or stormwater (inflow) in most municipal sewersheds. The graphic below (*not shown here – see source note at end of paragraph*) shows proportions of these three components in the 70 billion gallons of flow that travels through the ALCOSAN System in a typical year and the 9 billion gallons of overflow that exceeds the system capacity in wet weather (Source: ALCOSAN's 2014 Chapter 94 report and "Starting at the Source" Technical Report, August 2015 – Graphic not shown depicts 22.5 billion gallons of flow comes from sewage; 40 billion gallons from ground water infiltration; 7.5 billion gallons from storm water).

The new Phase 1 municipal consent orders require communities to conduct studies to identify the most cost-effective opportunities for source reduction in anticipation of future municipal flow targets. Green infrastructure is a tool for addressing some of the overflow volume in combined systems, but separate systems must look at the groundwater component to be most effective. The 2004 consent orders already required that separate sewer municipalities address sources of inflow so now the focus needs to be on groundwater infiltration. Flow monitoring and flow isolation studies will be needed to identify the wettest areas of your community that will benefit from green infrastructure, sewer separation or pipe lining and replacement.

3. The foreman reported on tentative work planned for March (other than normal maintenance work and Chalfant work and depending on weather):
- Leaf compost site – turn leaves
  - Install replacement pole light by Roman Bistro – 2 poles require replacement
  - Clean and televise sanitary sewer – various locations
  - Replace various signs
  - Patch potholes with cold patch
  - Cut and chip tree limbs – various alleys, parks
  - Repair mowing equipment; prep for season

The foreman also noted that crew member Mike Smith will take the municipal pest control training class beginning this month

4. The manager reported that the borough has spent approximately \$2.4 million on road improvements since the 1 mill dedicated tax was instituted in 2007. Detail can be found in the borough's 2016 Capital Improvements Plan which is on the website at foresthillspa.org. A copy is available to view at the borough office and at the library in the basement of the senior center.
5. In Committee of the Whole, members met with Walsh Granite representatives re: the culvert replacement at Ardmore and Braddock. Tentative plans are to begin the work in January and to install a liner in the culvert rather than excavate the intersection. There would still be disruption in the main park which could result in its closing and Ardmore and Braddock traffic might still encounter limited restrictions.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Ms. DeMarco

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

General Fund Budget:	\$ 195,305.81
Corrective Action Budget:	\$ 8,896.24
Fire Protection fee	\$ 5,567.84
Liquid Fuels	\$ 53,499.33

Moved: Ms. DeMarco  
Second: Mr. Kiley

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
Mr. Kiley – Yes  
Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
Mr. Tomasic – Yes

Detail of Non-General Fund Items:

Corrective Action Budget:	Engineering, billing, postage
Fire:	Utilities & submitted bills
Liquid Fuels:	Salt

**Motion:** Move to ratify the following insurance packages for renewal in April:

VFD Annual Premium:	\$ 19,750	(2015 premium: \$ 19,793)
Forest Hills Package Renewal:	\$101,204	(2015 premium: \$100,704)

Moved: Ms. DeMarco  
Second: Ms. Sowiski

NOTE:

VFD: Includes...Property/Equipment/Automobile/General Liability/Management Liability/Excess Liability

FH Package: Includes...Gen. Liability including law enforcement activity liability, auto, public officials and management liability, property, Inland Marine (mobile equip.), crime.

Roll Call Vote:      Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
                             Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
                             Mr. Kiley – Yes  
                             Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
                             Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
                             Mr. Tomasic – Yes

*General Report:*

1. Committee members reviewed the contents of various monthly financial reports that are provided by the Treasurer as well as a summary of the policy on budget reserve funds with the manager.

**BOROUGH PROPERTY**

Mr. Kiley

**Motion:** Move to enter into an Access Agreement with Forest Hills RE, LLC until May 12, 2016 regarding inspection and testing of Borough-owned property in a form acceptable to the Borough Solicitor.

Moved:                Mr. Kiley  
Second:               Mr. Burleigh

Mr. Kiley stated that Forest Hills RE has returned a signed and executed agreement in the form that he sent to them and we are satisfied with the terms. In case it's not clear to council or anyone in the audience, this is in respect to the sale of the Borough building and the magistrate's building so they can conduct due diligence activities.

Roll Call Vote:      Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
                             Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
                             Mr. Kiley – Yes  
                             Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
                             Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
                             Mr. Tomasic – Yes

**Motion:** Move to approve the cost of a base map survey from Allstate Surveying for \$1,985 as reviewed and approved by Pfaffmann & Associates with funds to come from budget reserve.

Moved: Mr. Kiley  
Second: Ms. DeMarco

Mr. Kiley noted it will be done at the new building site.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
Mr. Kiley – Yes  
Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
Mr. Tomasic – Yes

**Motion:** Move to approve the cost of sampling, drilling and geotechnical testing at the new borough building site from Construction Engineering Consultants, Inc. at an amount not to exceed \$13,321 as reviewed and approved by Pfaffmann & Associates with funds to come from budget reserve.

Moved: Mr. Kiley  
Second: Ms. DeMarco

Mr. Tomasic would like to add that if you read the report, it says that they are going to be doing sampling, drilling and geotechnical testing. One of our particular goals at the new building is to try to be as energy independent as possible which means that we have some options on how we obtain our energy and how to reduce possible costs. They will be looking at geothermal because we are talking about going with a geothermal unit in the new building. Mr. Tomasic only knows of one place presently in the Borough that has geothermal heating and that is Juniper Village and they have had it for at least 20 years he has talked to people over there and they are happy with their system. They believe it provides them with an adequate amount of heat for their building and at a cost savings. Now, there is an upfront cost when you do this but the return has already been made by Juniper Village in terms of the cost and now they have savings that continue on. And, just like any other system, you put in place there are repairs that have to be done and maintenance has to occur.

Ms. Sowiski noted that this system would completely replace the need for an air conditioning system in the new building and that would be backed out of the cost.

---

Roll Call Vote:      Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
                             Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
                             Mr. Kiley – Yes  
                             Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
                             Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
                             Mr. Tomasic – Yes

**Motion:**      Move to approve the bid for gutter replacement and concrete work at the pool from Ecol-O-Pack Systems in the amount of \$ 265,018.

Moved:              Mr. Kiley  
Second:             Mr. Burleigh

Bids received as follows:

Ecol-O-Pack Systems: \$265,018

Patterson-Stevens, Inc.: \$298,596

Stoneridge Aquatic Construction: \$563,950

Mr. Tomasic pointed out to the public that this is the low bid we received although it is more than we were hoping it would be.

Ms. Sowiski asked since the lowest bid is \$100,000 more than we had anticipated, do we need to have a discussion and/or put this bid off to later regarding financing for this?

Mr. Tomasic stated this would be the time to discuss it. Ms. Sowiski brought up a point back in December that at the end of the year we had actually finalized our investigation into this matter. It started out with a possible cost of about \$100,000 to maybe \$125,000. So what we did was add \$100,000 to the budget. She understands this is for the pool and people have different feelings or thoughts about investing this kind of money but at that time we thought that was going to be adequate but we knew that wasn't the end. We continued to investigate and we finally put together a spec sheet and our engineer then received the bids and these are the three that came in. We're talking \$265,000, \$298,000 and the third one was almost \$564,000. Anyway we're short that money in terms of our budget.

Mr. Burleigh said it was a big price difference. Are they that much better or do we know?

Mr. Tomasic said it should be the engineer answering that specific question.

Mr. Gilliland said they were all bidding on the same thing and he doesn't know if they are any better but they may not be as proficient at doing the work. He doesn't know why their price is so much higher. He knows this company is

not local, they are from eastern PA. He doesn't know if that has anything to do with it. They would have to mobilize and house a crew for several months. He doesn't know the reason why it's so much higher. Maybe their source of stainless steel is different, but they are all bidding on the same thing.

Mr. Tomasic added that sometimes we have a situation when it comes to bidding on our streets in terms of paving. So someone comes in at \$1,000,000 and another comes in at \$1,500,000. The reason for the difference? Who knows? He was told by a person who is associated with accounting that often businesses, if they don't need the work and they have themselves booked, will submit a much higher bid without really anticipating getting it but if they do, they feel they have made a major coup and, therefore, they're going to reap the rewards of simply submitting the bid and he's not saying it is, but he's been told that by businessmen/accountants.

Mr. Burleigh asked about the quality of work. The quality of work needs to be there. Mr. Kiley agrees. Mr. Burleigh also stated that price is important.

Mr. Tomasic stated we don't have the option of simply saying, "well we have no evidence that the quality of work is going to be different." By law, we're required to take the lowest bid. So, everything being equal, we can't say we're going to opt for the \$563,000 bid because we think they do better work. There has to be some due diligence on our part to make sure we have people who are certified in this area.

Ms. DeMarco wanted to inquire about whether since this is a good bit higher than our budgeted amount, have we looked at the revenue generating options that might be associated with future use of the pool once it is repaired so that we might enhance recovery of these costs.

Mr. Kiley said the Recreation Board has had a couple of meetings where there was extensive discussion of different ways we could increase revenues from the pool. One of the items that came up was allowing a small number of sponsored non-resident memberships to occur. At the time this was originally discussed the Recreation Board approved it and he believes council approved it early this year or late last year. Mr. Kiley is not 100 percent sure it's the right way to go but it could be used to generate a few thousand dollars a year. An analysis of the costs versus revenues of the concession stand indicates the concession stand does make money – doesn't make a ton of money but makes money. We've done analyses of our membership costs; he should say the pool's costs versus the membership. It is hard to associate a simple relationship between the costs of the memberships and the number of memberships we sell. There is always going to be a point at which we start losing members. The proposal at the end of last year included an increase of around 10 percent for family and individual memberships and the removal of some of the more discounted daily rates and some other things to help us shore that up. The fact is the pool is a money loser and we don't operate it as a money making venture. However, with that said, the Recreation Board

---

absolutely approved of and gave us some ideas to help bring in more revenue and to help to offset that in incoming years.

Mr. Tomasic stated it was a point well taken and that as Mr. Kiley said we've been running at a deficit at the pool somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50,000 per year since he's been on council. That's not his committee. He is on public safety so he would defer to the recreation committee and how they decide to handle it. We consider it to be a positive component for the residents of the borough that they can access. And he thinks the discussion will take place in the future.

Mr. Kiley was wondering if seeing that this does exceed the amount that was budgeted, where does the excess come from?

Mr. Tomasic said we've talked about this in terms of the budget reserve which we have been practicing since he was the finance chair. Mr. Morus has allocated monies from our general budget on a yearly basis to be placed in the budget reserve so that it is at least 7 percent of our total budget. Mr. Morus confirmed this information. Mr. Tomasic asked Mr. Morus if he thinks with what's in the budget that we would have adequate funds to cover this \$100,000, meaning that we're only going to have to come up with \$165,000 out of the budget reserve to cover the balance.

Mr. Morus stated that barring any other emergencies that could occur, yes you would have enough in the budget reserve.

Ms. DeMarco, the current chair of the finance committee, agrees. Ms. DeMarco stated that as she understands it, that's the function of the budget reserve.

Mr. Tomasic said we have the reserve so that when we run into these kinds of things that's where we get the money.

Mayor Porco has a couple of questions. First of all, have we looked at, for instance, in terms of the work that's going to be done, is it all the same specs, all the same kind of work and did we do specs on such items as slurry tests on concrete, etc. Mr. Gilliland replied yes, there was certain manufacturer's fabrications of the stainless steel gutters that were pre-approved and there was one that was added during the bidding process by a pool consultant that had three or four that were all pre-approved manufacturers' of stainless steel gutters. We did have two meetings prior to the bid. One was just an open house and the bidders were invited to look at the pool. There was a second meeting where bidders were invited to come and ask questions in front of the other bidders so that everyone knew the questions and the answers and everyone was bidding on the same thing.

The mandatory pre-bid meeting and all bidders had to attend. There were a number of questions and concerns brought up at that time and answers were given so everyone was bidding on the same thing and standard specifications

---

for any construction calls for testing of concrete and materials. Also the cut sheets or plans they put together before they fabricate the gutter be submitted and approved also by the pool consultant and our office so that we verify that what they are going to do is in conformance with the specifications.

Mayor Porco asked if the gutters are pre-fab manufactured or will they be made onsite.

Mr. Gilliland said they won't be made on site but will be custom made for that pool.

Mayor Porco asked if we were using the same gauge of stainless steel – is there a specification on that? He just wants to make sure that when comparing these three bids it's all apples to apples. Are we using the same gauge steel on all of those bids?

Mr. Gilliland said there was an option that you could add a deduct item for a second type of stainless steel. He is not a stainless steel expert but the pool consultant did put in the specifications that there is one type of stainless steel where you could add a deduct item for a second acceptable grade of stainless steel. The low bidder is the only one who added a deduct item. Before that second type of stainless steel was added, there was a \$4,400 deduct. Their bid was actually a \$269,000 base bid where you deduct it off it comes out to \$265,000 to use that second option of stainless steel. The bidder told us he included both grades because both grades are acceptable.

Mayor Porco questioned if it's safe to assume it's a lower gauge steel on the second type.

Mr. Gilliland cannot answer that question. Our pool consultant gave us those specifications. He said that both work but one is obviously cheaper. And all bidders had that option to add that deduct item.

Mr. Porco's concern is that you're talking a \$4,000 delta between one gauge of stainless steel and another and is that \$4,000 delta nets us what in terms of life expectancy of the solution and it is worth it? Mayor Porco's concern before we rush to accept it or maybe we can accept both proposals and vet them further and make a decision and maybe Mr. Morus can keep Mayor Porco in bounds in terms of accepting this particular agenda. For the difference in the gauge of the steel he'd like to understand if the \$4,000 difference in the steel makes a difference in quality.

Mr. Kiley said that the \$4,000 falls well within the bounds of a standard change order, if we look at things and decide to use a higher quality of steel.

Mayor Porco's view would be if you want to analyze them in the future, because that Add-In would not interfere with the bid prices you received from the other two bidders, then proceeding down the change order path would be acceptable. So you can analyze it later, have conversations with Jimmy

---

Goldman and the engineer and determine whether you want to spend the extra \$4,000 and then we have to prove it out of a future deal.

Mr. Tomasic stated that when he's looking at the bids he doesn't think, "if the option was there for all three of them regardless of whether they opted to include it in their prices, it's irrelevant to me." He stated we can have our engineer ask any experts in the field including the person who bid the job about that quality and then we can approve it tonight, if we want to, and then indicate that a change order can take place.

Mayor Porco asked if they show any samples of the steel or are they knowledgeable of what they're talking about as far as the samples are concerned.

Mr. Gilliland said they did not provide samples. Samples are not required at this point. They are required before they begin fabrication to submit shop drawings which will detail the fabrication of the steel is being used. What he would like to suggest is that he call Jimmy Goldman and ask him for the definition of the two grades of steel, what's the difference in life expectancy, quality, and why is one a little cheaper than the other. He can present that at committee meeting which is next week.

Mr. Tomasic suggested making a decision whether or not we want to move forward with this particular motion with the understanding that further research by our engineer and his consultations with people who are more knowledgeable in this will give us the answers we want. That's not Mr. Gilliland's area of expertise. He'll investigate it and we'll decide whether or not to move forward so as not to hold it up if we decide to approve this particular motion. Mr. Tomasic suggested putting that all with Mr. Gilliland and he can report to the committee under Mr. Kiley in the future and we could discuss it from there because it would still have to come back for the full council to approve that expenditure. He doesn't mean to short circuit it but what will happen is Mr. Gilliland will give us a heads-up in terms of the report before we meet.

Ms. DeMarco suggested approving this and to going forward with that subject to a change order.

Mr. Morus asked if that would delay things.

Mr. Tomasic said the change order would not delay things.

Mr. Gilliland said It takes approximately one month after council awards the project tonight for contractors to submit bonds and insurance, sign the contracts, and all other paperwork and they wouldn't be starting fabrication within the next month so we do have some time.

Mr. Tomasic thanked Mayor Porco for his input.

Roll Call Vote:        Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
                              Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
                              Mr. Kiley – Yes  
                              Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
                              Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
                              Mr. Tomasic – Yes

*General Report:*

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

Borough Property

A. Falls Run Culvert Replacement

PennDOT has informed us that they are going to replace the culvert carrying Falls Run under Ardmore Boulevard in the summer of 2016. Their preliminary plan shows that the work will impact our bus shelter and stone wall at the corner of Ardmore and Braddock Road however they are looking at lining the culvert which would be much less disruptive.

B. CITF Recreation Grant

We have submitted an application for a CITF Grant for recreation improvements as follows:

Koch Park: new shelter, replace fence fabric at basketball/tennis court, replace waterline to fountain, new walkway, picnic tables, benches and replacing wood chip surfacing.

Dog Park: building the dog park as detailed in my previous report.

These grants are usually announced in July.

C. Swimming Pool

Bids for the new scum gutter and concrete slab replacements will be opened **March 22, 2016 at 11:00 am.**

D. Pool Caulking

This project will be advertised in May so that the actual date work can begin (after the scum gutter project) is closer to the bid date.

2. The manager reviewed a number of financial statistics on the pool over the past ten years. These appear in the 2016 budget books which can be found on the borough's website or in a hard copy of the book at the borough building or the library at the senior center.

3. The manager noted that some misinformation has circulated and has been received by the office regarding the pool leak issue. He clarified that it is not a new problem that council has only recently addressed. It has been a problem for the past two decades and various councils have responded by utilizing assorted maintenance methods to keep the pool operating until such time as a major repair was required with the understanding that a major repair would seriously impact the pool season since work must be accomplished in good weather. With general maintenance no

---

longer able to fix the problem, the borough has reached the point where a major repair effort is now necessary.

4. In Committee of the Whole, members met with architect Rob Pfaffmann on the new borough building. A community meeting is scheduled tentatively for Saturday, April 2 at 9:30 AM until Noon to discuss plans and sustainable features of the new building. The meeting will be held in council chambers and notice will go out via the crime alert system as well as twitter and the borough's website.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mr. Lawrence

### *General Report:*

1. At the March committee meeting, the manager reviewed financial data contained in the 2016 budget books related to the fire fee. The information can be found in the 2016 Capital Improvements Plan booklet on the website.
2. Members discussed options for repairs to or replacement of the garage doors at the fire department building.

Mr. Tomasic stated since this is his committee that they are going to replace at least one of the garage doors at the fire department. They have been having problems with leaking for at least a year and a half, maybe two years. We have had professional services check out the doors, the seals, everything. We added some weather stripping for a regular maintenance program that we go through. The doors are operational but they are starting to age a bit. The leaking into the doors occurs because of the panels, the weathering and the age of the panels. They start to move a little bit. We've bolted them in place. But the most important door where we have our pumper back in is going to be replaced as soon as we go through the processes. We know that the cost is going to be around \$8,500 and we have a little bit of carryover from the budget because the borough added \$10,000 which would cause a deficit if we didn't do over the last two years. We're definitely going to put that door in there and the door comes with a new operating system so at least that door is going to be made to be safely opened considering that It's going to be new.

3. The manager noted that Duquesne Light still has not replaced the street lights along Greensburg Pike with LED lights.

## **OPERATIONS & POLICY**

Mr. Lawrence

**Motion:** Move to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2016 council meeting.

Moved: Mr. Lawrence  
Second: Ms. DeMarco

---

Voice Vote:           Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
                              Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
                              Mr. Kiley – Yes  
                              Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
                              Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
                              Mr. Tomasic – Yes

**Motion:**   Move to approve the appointment of the following residents to the zoning hearing board for the term indicated effective retroactively from 3/1/16:

Myron Lewis, Member – term expires 2/28/19  
James Dodson, Alternate – term expires 2/28/19

Moved:                Mr. Lawrence  
Second:               Mr. Burleigh

Roll Call Vote:       Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
                              Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
                              Mr. Kiley – Yes  
                              Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
                              Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
                              Mr. Tomasic – Yes

**Motion:**   Motion to approve resolution number 1170 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:                Mr. Lawrence  
Second:                Ms. DeMarco

Resolution title reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF FOREST HILLS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, DIRECTING AND AUTHORIZING THE PROPER BOROUGH OFFICIALS TO DISPOSE OF MUNICIPAL RECORDS PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 723 DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE BOROUGH TO FOLLOW THE RETENTION AND DISPOSAL SCHEDULE FOR PUBLIC RECORDS ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN THE “MUNICIPAL RECORDS ACT”

Voice Vote:           Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
                              Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
                              Mr. Kiley – Yes  
                              Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
                              Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
                              Mr. Tomasic – Yes

**Motion:** Move to authorize the manager to seek alternate web hosting services for the borough's website at a rate not to exceed \$300 per year.

Moved: Mr. Lawrence  
Second: Ms. DeMarco

Mr. Morus explained that we are on a website that is free but as we add more and more information to get to residents and those that have an interest in Forest Hills, we have to delete things if we want to add new items. We're not quite there yet but we're getting closer and we would also like to modernize the site so that it looks more like sites do for the types of computers and screens that most people have now as other sites have done. A smaller site like this won't permit that because it takes up a lot more space. So, this would give us the opportunity to have more space to be able to do those things.

Mr. Tomasic said that this is an upgrade for us. All the information we have, all of the council minutes are on there. So if you want to go back to find out what was said in the record, on the record, back in December of 2015, for example, all you have to do is go on our web site, pull it up, and I'm sure a lot of the Scouts attending tonight's meeting to get some information about municipal government are computer savvy and we welcome you guys, go online find some minutes and read them and give a report to your Scout Master about what is going on here. There is a lot of information on the web site and we have the *Tree City Times* on there, we have garbage collection information as well. He thinks that's a good thing for us to be doing. We need a vote on it.

Voice Vote: Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
Mr. Kiley – Yes  
Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
Mr. Tomasic – Yes

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.

Mr. Lawrence said we need to seek volunteers for the 2019 centennial committee. Ms. DeMarco asked if there was a chair for that committee. Mr. Tomasic believes there are two people for that: Mayor Porco and former council member Devin Wood.

- 
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.

Mr. Lawrence said the other thing is the various board committees, including the environmental advisory council, know we do a lot of advertising trying to get people to join these committees and we haven't had a lot of luck. He asked Mr. Morus if this was the same problem.

Mr. Morus replied that some are full like the Recreation Board, Planning Commission, and the Zoning Hearing Board but committees such as Environmental Advisory are not as popular. Mr. Lawrence chaired the Environmental Advisory Committee but had to resign since he is an elected official. There are two or three vacancies there, for example.

3. The committee is reviewing the borough's trash/recycling contract in anticipation of asking the solicitor to prepare and advertise for bids for a new contract beginning in January 2017.

Mr. Tomasic said there was a resident in attendance, Mr. Watt, and he may have some suggestions he'd like to share with you. Mr. Watt is the guy you want to contact he may speak at the end of the meeting.

4. Members are reviewing a draft "use of building" policy that would govern requests from Forest Hills nonprofit organizations that may wish use of one or more borough buildings.
5. The manager reminded members that there are several organizations in which the borough is a member that are hosting conferences, meetings and/or training in the next few weeks and may require representation of elected officials.
6. The manager informed members in Committee of the Whole that the company that has codified our ordinances, Keystate, will be out of business at the end of March due to the death of its founder. This will mean that access to the borough's code of ordinances via the website will be suspended effective March 31 until such time as council may choose a new company to handle this codification. He will review possible vendors in a few weeks and report back to council.

## **PLANNING & ZONING**

Mr. Burleigh

### *General Report:*

1. Members were updated on activities by code officer Don Branzel.
2. Members discussed a possible update of the borough's zoning ordinance with special council Harlan Stone to regulate gas/oil drilling.

- 
3. The manager informed members of a neighbor dispute on Castlegate Road wherein each property owner attempted to have the borough intervene. The committee agreed that the borough cannot intervene in a dispute in which it has no standing and no violation of borough regulations.

Old Business:

Mr. Tomasic asked if there was anything under old business.

Mr. Tomasic stated that as a government agency, we are supposed to be as open as possible. Anything that you hear, or have questions about, we want you to contact us. All of our contact information is in the *Tree City Times*. He suggests you call him at his home if you have questions because a lot of time there is misinformation going on. He'd like to take this opportunity to say if you have a problem or questions, contact us and let us know what they are. There's a lot of misinformation that people put out there and sometimes it's not for the good of the borough. It's more or less some type of diatribe against something they don't like. So he encourages you to get the facts about something, information is located in the minutes, give us a call whatever will help you resolve the issue you have a question about.

New Business:

None

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.*

Jim Watt, 112 Avenue A – commented on the trash collection and recycling programs Forest Hills has.

Brad Graham, 132 Fairfax Road – complained about the speed on Fairfax Road despite the signs posted there.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn or adjourn by acclamation in memory of Mary Ann Capezutto

---

Moved: Mr. Kiley  
Second: Mr. Burleigh

Voice Vote: Mr. Burleigh – Yes  
Ms. DeMarco – Yes  
Mr. Kiley – Yes  
Mr. Lawrence – Yes  
Ms. Sowiski – Yes  
Mr. Tomasic – Yes

- Next Scheduled Council Meeting: April 20, 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Next Scheduled Committee Meetings (order may be adjusted): Thursday, April 7, 2016: Borough Property, Public Works, Operations and Policy, Public Safety.  
Tuesday, April 12, 2016: Committee of the Whole, Finance, Planning and Zoning.  
Council may choose to meet as a whole and conduct business if necessary.  
Meetings begin at 7 PM.