

**BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION**

**JANUARY 7, 2014**

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Ms. Williams, Pustorino, Messrs., Hensell, Swinney, Kasardo, Hoover,

ABSENT: Mr. Lasser

The work session began at 7:00 pm and ended at 9:08 pm.

**BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING**

**JANUARY 8, 2014**

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Ms. Williams, Pustorino, Messrs., Hensell, Swinney, Kasardo, Hoover, Lasser, Solicitor Evashavik

ABSENT: None

Ms. Williams called the meeting to order and led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Kasardo, seconded by Hoover, to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Swinney, seconded by Hoover, to approve the bank balances as read. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Kasardo, seconded by Lasser, to approve for payment the bills for the month after being properly countersigned. Motion was unanimous.

Motion by Swinney, seconded by Hoover, to approve the Tax Collection report as read. Motion was unanimous.

**MAYOR**

For the month of December there were 20, 911 calls and 182 regular patrols by F.H.P.D. The majority of the 911 calls were:

- 3- Parking Complaints
- 2- Alarm Calls
- 2- Welfare Checks
- 2- Suspicious Activities
- 2- Suspicious Persons

There were also two traffic stops with citations issued.

**SOLICITOR**

Mr. Hoover asked what his limitations were in dealing with properties. Solicitor Evashavik stated that if a property is not in compliance with an ordinance, a letter can be sent and the letter could cite the ordinance which is being violated. There is no requirement to send a warning letter but magistrates often want boroughs to give owners an opportunity to remedy a problem. Solicitor Evashavik stated that it is good to send via certified and regular mail so there is a paper

trail. If there are nuisance issues, such as regular calls from the police department, he can again either call or send a letter, as can anyone, but a person cannot harass another. Again, he recommended a letter for documentation purposes.

#### **BOROUGH PROPERTY**

There is a leak in the basement of the Community Center which is being investigated. The lights or ballasts in the storage room also need to be replaced.

The borough needs to find a replacement for Ms. Libell. Four applicants requested interviews but only two showed for their interviews.

Council plans to meet with Barry Cassidy to explore grant funding. A meeting that was cancelled earlier due to bad weather is being rescheduled tentatively for January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mayor Perry stated that residents of Forest Hills received a notice about meetings scheduled on January 18<sup>th</sup> at noon and January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm concerning the Westinghouse property. Mr. Lasser noted that he was aware of the meeting but wasn't aware that Chalfant residents weren't notified and he will alert P&L Investments. Mayor Perry stated to Solicitor Evashavik that the meeting with Barry Cassidy was for the purposes of obtaining information and the solicitor confirmed that it would not be a violation of the Sunshine Law if no actions were being taken as a council body.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

The Forest Hills public safety meeting is scheduled for January 9<sup>th</sup>.

There were two alarms and two practices for the VFC. The number of members attending was read.

The VFC will contact the fire extinguisher company for testing. Mr. Hoover will provide the number of extinguishers to them.

The VFC will contact J. Marcoz as the siren has been going off by itself.

Mayor Perry stated that council discussed bringing in the VFC for another meeting and would like to have this scheduled. Mr. Kasardo will request that they attend the February 11<sup>th</sup> caucus.

#### **HEALTH AND SANITATION**

Estimates have not been received yet for the storm drain work needed at the corner of Elizabeth and Rossmore. It is too cold to do the work at this time.

A pick up for E-cycle has been scheduled for Tuesday January 7<sup>th</sup>.

The borough has entered into the third year of the contract with Waste Management.

Mr. Kasardo presented some information regarding the Alcosan rate increase which is 17% in year 01 and 11% in years 2-4. He noted that the typical increase will be about \$4.19 / month.

**ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS**

Forest Hills DPW is continuing with snow removal and salting. There haven't been any major issues this winter.

The sign at the park which the Orosz family donated was damaged. It was found on the ground. Mr. Theilacker thinks it is okay and just needs to be cleaned up. It will be put back up when the weather is better.

Mr. Swinney will speak with the engineer about the Brighton Street paving in terms of the boundaries.

Mr. Swinney received some reports from Forest Hills concerning their time worked and will report on this next month.

**PERMITS AND ORDINANCES**

Mr. Hoover started by stating that he didn't realize how much work Mr. Sperduto did for the permit and ordinance department.

There were six occupancy inspections completed by Mr. Dodge.

The property at 200 West Street was purchased by Rocco Ventrice.

There is an issue with the property at 222 North Avenue. There was a dog left in the home and the home is without heat. The police were aware of the situation and the title holder of the property had been contacted. This evening, the police needed to enter the property. Water was running, an alarm was going off, the side door was open and there was a lot of ice in the home. The dog was removed. Solicitor Evashavik noted that the property owner can be contacted for ordinance violations and the health department can be consulted to determine if the home is habitable. An engineer would need to determine if the property would need to be condemned.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

There were no rentals for the community center or park in December.

Interviews are ongoing for Ms. Libell's position.

The website is being updated to reflect changes to council and ordinances.

The newsletter is to go to print on January 21<sup>st</sup>. The submission deadline is January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Regarding the Centennial, the committee voted on the color scheme of maroon and silver. Mr. Scigliano updated the logo for use in print. Cost of flags are being looked into to start publicity in 2014. Mr. George Markovic is planning the first event which is a car cruise scheduled for July 26<sup>th</sup>. The next Centennial Committee meeting is January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Pustorino, seconded by Kasardo, to transfer \$4,000 from the General Fund Money Market to the General Fund Checking. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

Doris Libell, Lynnwood Avenue, asked if her job would be reposted in the newsletter. She would like to let the county know who is responsible for voting machines no later than March. Ms. Libell also described what to check for on walk throughs of the buildings that should be done until someone is hired. Trash will also need to be removed. Ms. Libell gave her keys to the buildings to Mr. Lasser.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Swinney, seconded by Hensell, to issue real estate tax refunds to P&L Investments for four parcels in the following amounts: \$394.91, \$173.10, \$114.27 and \$114.14. Mr. Hoover voted no on the motion. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Hoover, seconded by Kasardo, to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Borough Secretary

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Council President