

**BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION**

**DECEMBER 11, 2012**

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Ms. Williams, Ms. Simek, Messrs. Swinney, Hoover, Lasser, Kasardo

ABSENT: Mr. Sperduto

The work session began at 7:00 pm and ended at 9:20 pm.

**BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING**

**DECEMBER 12, 2012**

PRESENT: Mayor Perry, Ms. Williams, Messrs. Swinney, Hoover, Kasardo, Solicitor Nick Evashavik

ABSENT: Mr. Sperduto, Ms. Simek, Mr. Lasser

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 Hoover, 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 November there were 25, 911 calls and 181 regular patrols by F.H.P.D. The majority of the 911 calls were:

5-Med Unit Assists  
5-Alarm Calls  
2-Ordinance Violations  
2-Accident Reports  
2-Parking Complaints  
2-Suspicious Activities

**SOLICITOR**

Solicitor Evashavik sent the lease needed by the VFC to get a small games of chance license to Mr. Hoover.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Swinney gave Ms. Simek's report in her absence.

There were three park rentals and one community center rental in 2012.

Ms. Simek noted that Ms. Scampone gets ten additional copies of the newsletter and provides to those that advertise. Ms. Scampone was to drop off any extras at the office. The borough may need to order more next time.

The occupancy report has been put on the office computer so changes can be made in-house.

**PERMITS AND ORDINANCES**

Mr. Swinney gave Mr. Sperduto's report in his absence.

There were occupancy inspections done at 142 Highland, 310 Lynnwood Avenue, Apt 1 and 120 West Street (which has been sold). An inspection was also done at 355 West Street which is now a rental property.

The owner of 109 Shadeland has been contacted to notify the tenant regarding the upkeep of the property and having cars covered properly with no more than six vehicles permitted on the property (unlicensed and/or no current inspection)

The property owner of 240 Greenfield Avenue has been notified of the illegal vehicles on the property and has been given two weeks to remove them and comply with the borough ordinance. Citations will be issued if no action is taken.

Motion by Swinney, seconded by Kasardo, to transfer \$15,000 from the General Fund Money Market to the General Fund Checking. Motion carried.

**ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS**

Mr. Swinney has received requests for millings to be put in some alleys.

Forest Hills billed the borough \$98.17 for snow removal which was initiated by a police officer calling out the snow truck.

A Forest Hills machine was damaged when rocks were added to leaves set out for pickup.

At the TCVCOG meeting a brief update was provided by John Shombert regarding Alcosan's plans. Also it was reported that \$7800 is available in CDBG funding for 2013. Finally the Parkway East metering project was discussed but was put on hold due to lack of support.

**HEALTH AND SANITATION**

Motion by Hoover, seconded by Swinney to pass ordinance 411 an ordinance repealing Chapter 21, Part 1 of the Chalfant code and establishing new regulations related to street openings.

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The alarm system has been switched over to radio frequency.

Mr. Hoover attended the storm water management meeting. The county is now discussing having municipalities keep the storm water within the municipality via rain gardens, drainage beds etc. There is push back however given the cost of the consent decree to municipalities and now municipalities would be required to pay for this too.

The borough defibrillator has been updated as per the recall requirement.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mr. Kasardo attended the Forest Hills public safety meeting. At the meeting Forest Hills passed an ordinance making the alley behind the senior citizen center one way. Mr. Kasardo also mentioned to the police chief that drivers were parking in an area by Avenue B that could be problematic to fire vehicles. The police will look into this.

The batteries for flashing light on the stop sign at Chalfant and Elizabeth were replaced. The batteries last six to eight weeks.

There was one alarm and one practice for the VFC last month. The members attending were read. Regarding the alarm, the resident called the fire station directly and Mr. Kasardo stressed that residents should instead call 911.

The VFC wishes all a happy and safe holiday.

Mr. Hoover showed council and the audience t-shirts that will be sold as a fundraiser.

**BOROUGH PROPERTY**

Mr. Hoover gave Mr. Lasser's report in his absence.

Mr. Bichsel will provide an invoice for cleaning the gutters and downspouts.

A high water bill was received for the park due to water running in the ladies commode. The restrooms have been winterized.

Mr. Lasser attended the Blight meeting in Homestead on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Some efforts that West Homestead is taking to combat their blight problem were discussed and some of the strategies may be helpful to Chalfant.

Mr. Lasser met with Rep. Paul Costa and Paul D'Alesandro (District Director for Congressman Doyle) on separate occasions to update them on the Chalfant Vacant and Tax Delinquent Program as well as the status on the sale of the Westinghouse Research property to P&L Investments.

Mr. Lasser traveled to Downingtown to meet with Barry Cassidy, a consultant that worked on a brownfield reclamation project with P&L Investments. The site was turned into 167 townhomes. Mr. Lasser also traveled to Manheim for another P&L Investments project that resulted in a business park. Gary Silversmith of P&L Investments also gave a presentation to council on December 11<sup>th</sup> in which he outlined his plans for the Westinghouse Research property which

include constructing townhomes that will be rental units. Mr. Silversmith also reported that he was looking for someone to take the atom smasher since it has historical significance.

Mr. Lasser assisted Mr. Hoover with setting up the TCVCOG rat baiting on North Avenue.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Swinney, seconded by Kasardo to adopt the 2013 budget. Motion carried.

Motion by Kasardo, seconded by Hoover, to advertise the 2013 meeting dates. Motion carried.

Motion by Kasardo, seconded by Hoover, to maintain the 2013 millage at 6.9 mills. Motion carried.

Ms. Williams attended a workshop where managing costs for street lights was discussed and she shared information from the session with council. The borough will do a street light audit and see if any rebates are available.

It was noted that Mr. Lasser would like the borough to consider laying millings in the 300 block of Lynnwood. This would require removal of some vegetation by Mr. Lasser. It is a paper street that has never been maintained by the borough. Solicitor Evashavik noted that if the borough did this then the borough would be responsible for maintaining it year round. Also, all neighboring property owners would need to be contacted and a hearing held. Council will discuss at the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

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Council President