

**BOROUGH OF CHALFANT – WORK SESSION**

**MARCH 8, 2011**

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

ABSENT: None

The work session began at 7:00 pm and ended at 9:38 pm.

**BOROUGH OF CHALFANT - REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 9, 2011**

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

ABSENT: None

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

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

Motion by Sperduto, seconded by Simek, to approve the bank balances as read. Motion was unanimous.

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

Motion by Kasardo, seconded by Simek, to approve the Tax Collection report as read. Motion was unanimous.

**MAYOR**

For the month of February, there were 24, 911 calls and 167 regular patrols by F.H.P.D. The majority of the 911 calls were:

- 3 - Med Unit Assists
- 2- Animal Complaints
- 2 –Domestics
- 2 – Alarms
- 2- Parking Complaints
- 2-Suspicious Vehicles

Overall it was an average month and it continues to be quiet in the borough.

**SOLICITOR**

Solicitor Evashavik provided an update of the billboard issue and advised council to file a property tax appeal on a parcel.

Mr. Hoover noted that under state law, an animal must be under the owner's control but not necessarily on a leash.

**BOROUGH PROPERTY**

Mr. Kasardo provided Mr. Lasser's report. Mr. Lasser arrived at the meeting following this report.

Bids were received from Bob Henkel and Daniel Bridge to correct the vandalized electrical service at the park. The low bid was from Bob Henkel at a cost of \$1,050.

The carpet was cleaned at the Community Center.

The lighting audit at the PSB will be completed when Mr. Lasser gets keys to the VFC doors.

Redd-up Day is scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 1 to 4 pm. To date, donations were received from Giant Eagle, Kuhns and WalMart.

Committee chairmen and members are needed for the Chalfant 100 Year Anniversary which will be in 2015.

Mr. Lasser attended a workshop titled "Financing Blight Project" on February 16<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Forest Hills has a crime watch meeting scheduled on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in council chambers. Also, they will hold a "Night at the Races" on May 7<sup>th</sup> at the pool lodge.

The VFC held two practices and two alarms last month. The number of members attending was read.

The VFC has two new members, one is a firefighter and one is an associate member.

A pasta dinner will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup> and a hoagie sale on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Hoover read aloud a letter from Mrs. Pistella who lost her home to a fire. She provided a \$500 donation to thank the VFC.

**HEALTH AND SANITATION**

The codification is close to being finalized. Keystone is making some revisions based on the county's recommendations. It must go back to the county for final review before it can be advertised and adopted.

Mr. Hoover is looking into various recycling programs. One estimate he received would cost each household \$20 per year.

One storm drain has collapsed and one sewer line has a hole. These will be fixed as emergency repairs.

Mayor Perry brought up again about the Litman properties. He thinks that their annual fee is less than what Chalfant residents are paying annually for the sewage surcharge. Mr. Hoover stated the engineer is looking into this.

### **HIGHWAYS**

Mr. Swinney received estimates for the guide rail from Allegheny Fence (\$4,860), Interstate Enterprises (\$4,997.60) and Green Acres Co (\$5,362). He will discuss the bids with the engineer.

Mr. Swinney is discussing with the engineer about his attending the April meeting.

Mr. Swinney is working on a list of signs that need to be replaced. This includes speed limit signs which will be changed once the codification is complete.

Some alleyways need millings.

Forest Hills DPW does have the ability to use salt brine on the roadways.

### **PERMITS AND ORDINANCES**

The demolition of 154 Brighton Street is complete and clean up is in process.

Seven occupancy permits were completed during the last few months.

Thus far there has been a very low return rate for the annual occupancy forms which are due back at the end of this month. To date, 21 forms for rental units have been returned. There are 81 rental units in the borough.

The borough has received confirmation of funding for the \$13,000 grant for the community center renovations.

Motion by Sperduto, seconded by Simek, to transfer \$30,000 from the General Fund Money Market to the General Fund Checking. Motion carried.

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

The borough website ([www.chalfantborough.org](http://www.chalfantborough.org)) is ready to launch. Ms. Simek thanked all who contributed including Steve Orosz for preparing the introduction and history of Chalfant.

The tax collector is now set up at the borough office with the necessary computer program. March tax collection hours have begun.

Ms. Simek met with Ms. Libell to go over her job responsibilities and she has prepared a job description. As of March 4<sup>th</sup>, two individuals have expressed an interest in the position.

The borough's insurance premium decreased by 1% this year. The decrease was primarily due to the drop of one vehicle.

Ms. Simek has been working with Mr. Lasser to secure donations for Redd-up Day.

Ms. Simek thanked Mr. Sperduto for his work in obtaining grant funds which makes projects possible without having to rely on borough funds for completion.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

Tara Reis, 19 Garden Terrace, Churchill, introduced herself and stated that she is running for school board at large.

Selena Johnson, introduced herself and stated that she is running for school board at large as well as for region one.

Mike Belmont, Forest Hills resident and councilman, and stated that he is running for school board at large as well as for his region. Mr. Belmont also noted that next week, Forest Hills council will vote on the resolution to participate in the police study.

Doris Libell, Lynnwood Avenue, reiterated that she is officially resigning her position including coordinating the rentals. She thanked Mayor Perry for his suggestion that she retain this duty.

Joanne Baburich, Brighton Street, asked if any food is being sold on Election Day. Mr. Hoover said no, not for the upcoming Election Day.

Robert Baburich, Brighton Street, thanked Mr. Sperduto for his efforts on getting grant funds. Mr. Baburich also questioned if a resident can use the Community Center without charge in the event of a death in the family or if the Democratic/Republican party could have it for a political event. He noted that the CAA and the VFC use it for free for their events. Mr. Lasser said that there currently is a charge for use of the center but he will discuss with his committee. Mr. Baburich also read from a draft of the code of ordinances regarding that he could hire an attorney and have the borough pay for it but Solicitor Evashavik said that he would need to review this before making a decision on the accuracy of his statement.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Motion by Lasser, seconded by Sperduto, to award the repair work at the park to Bob Henkel. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Simek, seconded by Kasardo, to have the solicitor file an appeal for Lot and Block 374-K-40. Motion carried.

Motion by Sperduto, seconded by Swinney, to exonerate the tax collector for 2010 unpaid real estate taxes in the amount of \$14,552.59. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Hoover, seconded by Simek, to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. Motion was unanimous.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President