

CHESWICK BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

June 20, 2023

A meeting of Cheswick Borough Council was held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at the Cheswick Borough Building, 220 S. Atlantic Avenue, Cheswick, Pennsylvania. Frank Meledandri called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Dan Carroll, Mayor	Lorraine Zebrine, Secretary
Kathy Gillard	Shawna Ecker
Frank Meledandri, Vice President	
George White	
Brad Yaksich	
Karen Matisz	
Bill Kuzmirek	
CharLee Rosini, Solicitor	
Jaime Varshine, Assistant	
Jeff Curti, Zoning Officer	
Matthew Pitsch, Engineer	

There were 3 visitors in attendance. 2 Residents and 1 Valley New Dispatch Reporter

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Mr. Sharkins addressed Council regarding his neighbor and his beekeeping activity. After hearing his concern, the Zoning Officer agreed to speak with the neighbor and assess the issue.

MINUTES:

- Kathy Gillard motioned to approve 05/09/2023 Caucus meeting minutes sent via Council via email 5/31/2023. Motion seconded by Brad Yaksich and carried.

AVJSA REPORT:

None

AVRPD REPORT:

Mayor Dan Carroll reported on police VASCAR lines are being painted. Brad Yaksich reported on the police department budget, labor negotiations that resulted in the officers receiving a raise in pay, and the use of cameras in and out of the Borough to capture expired plates, BOLOs, and other activities.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Dan Carroll commented on the Strawberry Festival, a very nice event which enabled good interaction with the community, and he appreciated the strong police presence.

ZONING OFFICER'S/ INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

Jeff Curti reviewed his June 2023 Code enforcement report with Council citing number of zoning permits and occupancy inspections for the month. He highlighted his meeting with Shawna Ecker on enforcing the Borough's sign ordinance as part of a beautification project.

Lastly, he requested Council to comply with sending all requests/complaints through the office for action so that the issue(s) may be documented through the work order system, so that he can better track his work to do as opposed to fielding phone, texts, and email messages from any number of people, whether residents or Council members. Dan Carroll requested that he be copied on all work orders assigned to Jeff Curti.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

None

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Matt Pitsch reported on the following:

- Grant received for work at Pine Ave and Hill Ave may possibly start in 2024.
- Bids for the restoration of the salt shed and the traffic light at Pittsburgh St. and Highland Ave. will be opened on July 7th at 1:00 pm but cautioned that the traffic light may not be done until 2024.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

CharLee Rosini gave updates on her work regarding the traffic signal easement, alley vacation off S. Atlantic, AVRPD Cost-Sharing Agreement with Harmar and Springdale Townships, municipal lien on a vacant parcel, and Pop-Up Market correspondence to the owner of the property where the activity will be held.

COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

- Brad Yaksich motioned to approve bill due list #06.23, bills posted 05/10/23 – 06/20/23. Motion seconded by Kathy Gillard and carried.
- Reviewed Limits of Authority Agreement. Suggestions were made. Frank Meledandri will make changes.

FACILITIES:

George White commented on the good work that Matt Pitsch and Jeff Armstrong were doing.

GENERAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION:

Kathy Gillard reviewed the Secretary report for activity 5/8/2023-6/16/2023. Council was also briefed on the change to Full Service Network as the Borough's telephone service provider and the Paycor acquisition of Sentric, Inc. now providing payroll services.

GRANTS:

None

PERSONNEL:

None

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY & UTILITIES:

Brad Yaksich reminded Council of the upcoming meeting of the Lower Ambulance Service on June 28th. Also, Council was updated on the updated agreement (updated by Charlee Rosini) to include Cheswick, with Harmar and Springdale Townships, in sharing costs to support the Allegheny Valley Volunteer Fire Department.

At the request of the AVRPD, Council was asked to consider the enactment of a nuisance ordinance to establish a sur-tax or fee for excessive police calls within a defined period to the same location. The topic was discussed and tabled until July pending review by the Solicitor.

Action to approve resolution 2023-9 and associated agreement with Pa DOT regarding plan to replace the traffic signal at Pittsburgh St. and Highland Ave.

- Brad Yaksich motioned to approve resolution 2023-9 authorizing and directing the Secretary to submit the Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement, to submit future modification to the agreement and future applications for the signal approval to the Dept. of Transportation and to sign the agreement on behalf of the Borough. Motion seconded by Karen Matisz and carried.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Frank Meledandri updated Council on his discussions with Springdale Township regarding a water interconnection, which he had not received a proposal and a mutual assistance agreement on winter maintenance. Council was also directed to the monthly Public Works activity report for review and comment.

- Karen Matisz motioned to approve the Amendment to Articles of Agreement between the Borough and Cargill Salt Division to purchase and take delivery of the balance of our minimum 80% purchase requirement between July 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023. Motion seconded by Kathy Gillard and carried.

RECREATION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

None

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

Karen Matisz updated Council on the Pop-up Markets scheduled for the 2nd Sundays of July, August and September and tentative plans for a Murder Mystery Dinner in October.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & SERVICES

Bill Kuzmirek updated Council on providing unique emails for Council at a cost of \$3.50 - \$4.50/person/month. He will have a proposal ready for the July meeting. In addition, he is looking into cameras in the parks.

ZONING & CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Pursuant to the Zoning officer's report on all requests for action be made through the office, Mayor Dan Carroll requested to be copied on the work orders assigned to Jeff Curti. The mayor also commented on the maintenance of the grass on Borough property and suggested that part-time help be hired is needed. Frank Meledandri agreed to discuss his concerns with Jeff Armstrong.

COG:

Frank Meledandri updated Council on the proposal from Cohen Law Group to represent COG members in the negotiations with Comcast regarding the renewal of the franchise agreement.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

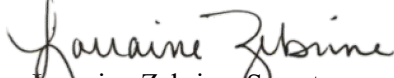
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by George White to adjourn at 9:14 PM, motion seconded by Brad Yaksich and passed.

Meeting notes taken by Jaime Varshine and Kathy Gillard and transcribed by Lorraine Zebrine.

Respectfully submitted,


Lorraine Zebrine, Secretary