

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Date: November 13, 2017

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Location: Municipal Building

1. Roll Call

Present: Council Members Colella, Consolmagno, Dixon, Gibbons, Hannan, Harrison, McLean, Moury, and O'Brien

Absent: None

Also Present: Mayor Jack Allen; Shawn Arbaugh, Manager; Judith L. Miller, Assistant Manager; Solicitor Robert L. McTiernan; Chief Timothy O'Connor; Joseph Villella, Finance Director; Ashley Moore, Municipal Planner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Chair Announcement

An Executive Session of Council was conducted on Monday, November 13, 2017 to discuss personal, legal issues and property negotiations.

Reports of Officials

4. Library Director's Report

Library Director, Christine McIntosh, stated that the Bethel Park Public Library provides services to inform, inspire and enrich the community.

Ms. McIntosh announced the current programs and classes. Preschool yoga will take place on Wednesday, November 22nd at 10am. This class is designed for strengthening preschooler's bodies and introducing listening and focusing skills. Please bring a yoga mat or beach towel to class with you. This is for ages 3-5 with a caregiver. Please register.

Also on November 22nd at 10am, Memory Café, coffee and conversation for people with memory loss and their caregivers, there are two professionals there. One will

work with the person with dementia, one will talk with the caregiver. The discussions can range from practical tips for coping with dementia, avoiding caregiver burnout, or information that's available to you by community resources.

A class called Appy Hour that's a lot of fun Tuesday, November 28th at 7pm. learn about what's new, what's trending and what you may have missed in the world of apps! Please register. Also have a class called Beginners Guide to the Cloud, Tuesday December 5 at 10am. This is an oasis connections class for those that are fifty years or older. This module will introduce a cloud with some of the popular Services covered include Dropbox, Pandora, Evernote, iHeartRadio and Stitcher. Each participant is provided with a Student Handbook to use in class and take home afterward. Again we ask that you register.

Ms. McIntosh mentioned that the library currently has one fundraiser going on right now at the Library. They have a 2016 Steelers autographed football that they are raffling off. Tickets are a dollar each, available at the front desk of the library. The drawing will be held on Monday, December 12.

The Library will be closed at 5pm on Wednesday, November 22 and closed Thursday, November 23 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Ms. McIntosh wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving on behalf of the library board and staff.

For more information on these and the many other programs and services offered by the Library, visit the Library's web site at bethelparklibrary.org. You can also follow the Library on Facebook & Twitter.

5. Police Chief's Report

Chief Timothy O'Connor announced that the Bethel Park crime watch Monday, December 4th at 7pm at the Community Center. Again if you can't make it you can follow us on Facebook & Social Media.

Chief O'Connor wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a safe Thanksgiving.

Chief O'Connor introduced Chief Nora of Tri Community South EMS. As some of you may know the Police don't just arrest people and do law enforcement duties. Police are trained in first aid and CPR, they have equipment and are often called upon to use those. Recently Bethel Park Police had in incident where the officers were called upon to use those skills and they were successful. So they are going to be recognized along with other people, who participated in this incident.

Chief Nora – Thanked the Chief, She said tonight was special and thanked Mayor Allen and Donnie Weis, they came over in the rain and presented the Tri Community South with a flag for their building that they desperately needed. Thank you from Tri Community South and the American Legion.

Chief Nora and Cheryl Rickens from the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association wanted to recognize a cardiac arrest survivor, Kathy, her dog Sadie, her family and present awards to those who helped save a life.

Chief Nora said if it wasn't for Sadie and Kathy's daughter. She would not be here today. Do you know how they say animals have a sixth sense, Sadie had a sixth sense and couldn't stop barking during the Steeler game to alert her family and her daughter that their mother was not breathing and was in cardiac arrest.

Cheryl Rickens from the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association presented a certificate and pin that says "Survivor" to Kathy. Sadie the dog was presented with a certificate and a charm for her collar that says "Bless my Pet".

Cheryl presented Skip from dispatch a pin that says "Hero".

Two Bethel Park Police officers Officer Michael and Officer Ryan, were presented with a uniform approved lapel pin.

Cheryl presented Todd Bosky an EMT with a pin that has a number 2 on it. This is his second pin.

Cheryl thanked Gary Lemasters and Gary Musil, they were the crew who transferred Kathy to the hospital. Cheryl also thanked John Bowers, paramedic supervisor.

Chief Nora thanked everyone for coming.

6. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Dave Gerber gave the fire report for the month of October. He also gave a recap of calls for the year of 2017. The grand total for the year at the end of October is 414 calls, he mentioned that they will run almost 500 calls this year. That number is way up. Over the last 5 years the average number of calls is around 430. He mentioned how busy the year has been for the fire department.

He then reminded residents that when we change the clocks, we should always remember to replace the batteries in smoke and CO detectors. This could help save lives.

Chief Gerber mentioned that the Holidays are coming up, Thanksgiving is coming up in a week or two. He reminded people to be safe. One of the dangerous things people cook is they like to deep fry turkey. Sometimes it's raining or wet on Thanksgiving people decide to do it in their garage. That is not a good idea at all. Best idea if you're going to deep fry turkey, stay outside of the house keep the fryer 15 + feet or more away from the house. Never leave it unattended make sure it's on a flat surface, make sure the turkey is thawed and dry.

He also wanted to remind people to always make sure you call 911 so the faster they get the call the sooner they can get there and hopefully save things for you.

Chief Gerber mentioned that it's that time to put Christmas Lights up, make sure when you are putting Christmas lights up outside that the extension cord is rated for outside. Outdoor lights should always be plugged into a GFI circuit. Keep

anything that is going to get hot, spotlights shining on the side of the house, etc... don't cover them up with boxes. Please be extremely careful with any Christmas decorations. Please keep light strings, extension cords or plugs from standing water or snow. Chief Gerber wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

Chief Gerber said he had one more award. He asked for Brian & Bill Olsoff to come up. Brian has been in the fire department for 25 years. Brian started when he was 21. Brian is a line officer, has held rank of assistant chief and has served on the Board of Directors, his dad Bill, has been with the Bethel Park Fire Dept. since 1964. Bill has been here for 53 years this coming December. Bill has also served as a line officer and on the board of directors. The unique things about these two guys they are our first life member father and son team that have been alive at the same time. Chief Gerber said they wanted to recognize them for being life members, because it is such a great accomplishment. Bill Olsoff presented his son Brian with a badge.

7. Mayor's Report

Mayor Allen asked the Chief if they just recently had an open house.

Chief Garber responded and said it was at the beginning of October.

Mayor Allen went on to thank the Fire Department for handing out over 320 brand new smoke detectors at their open house.

Mayor Allen, wanted to recognize our emergency management coordinator John Kuchma. During the water advisory, John was on top of the issue, sending emails out letting us know what was going on, what Pennsylvania water was doing, etc...

Mayor Allen reminded everyone that Diane Ford was here last month talking about the 2017 Operation Feed a Neighbor. They are asking for any food or cash donations to help 25 families all in Bethel Park. The drop off will be Saturday the 18th from 10-2 down at the Bethel Baptist Church, which is 299 Cherry St. in Coverdale. He mentioned that checks can be made out to CProject.

Mayor Allen wanted to inform everyone, about the annual 2017 Holiday Light and Decorating Contest, there will be 9 winners, just like previous years. 1 winner in each ward. If you're interested in being a judge this year, please call Janet Davin. 412-831-6800 x211. He also mentioned that if you would like to nominate a house, call Janet, whoever is judging that particular ward, will make sure they are looked at. The judging will be between December 18 – 31st. The winners will be announced at the January 8 council meeting.

Mayor Allen wanted to remind everyone that the annual tree lighting night, will be at the community center on Wednesday, November 29th at 6:45pm. Get there early because it does fill up. He also mentioned that Santa Clause will be there as well as light refreshments plus entertainment.

Mayor Allen wanted to thank and acknowledge the Community Foundation for raising money and bringing so much back to the community. Mr. Duff has raised 3 quarters of a million dollars since they have started. The Mayor mentioned that all the money they have raised has been given away to charities and different groups in Bethel Park.

Mayor Allen wanted to give special thanks to Andy Amrhein who is always the MC at the Community Foundation and does a terrific job.

Mayor also wanted to remind everyone that next year the Community Foundation will host Bethel Bounty, and it's always the second Sunday of November, so hopefully he will see you there next year.

8. Municipal Manager's Report

Municipal Manager, Shawn Arbaugh announced that the 2017 Road Program will be wrapping up for the year. It was a successful program, there are still a few restorations going on for a couple problem spots. He said that he was happy with the amount of roadways that were completed.

Mr. Arbaugh said that 2018 will be an interesting year, there is a new program from CMU called Roadbotics. The program uses hundreds of thousands of photographs. They will be out driving our streets taking photographs and then those photographs are analyzed through a computer database to determine where the defects are. He mentioned that they are very interested in this program and that there will be a special on the Bethel Park YouTube station in the near future to outline that program and how it all operates. He mentioned that we will really benefit from this program over the next 5 years.

Mr. Arbaugh announced that we are in the design phase of some projects in Village Green Park. We are looking at the installation of a turf athletic field for soccer, lacrosse and will be full sized to accommodate football. Additionally there will be a grass field located there as well. Also some restroom updates will be made and a nice showcase bio retention and some rain guards. Construction should start next year.

9. Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2017

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2017. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

10. Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2017

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2017. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

11. Public Hearing of October 23, 2017 – 2018 Municipal Budget

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of October 23, 2017. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

12. Bills and Payrolls

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Bills and Payrolls for the Municipality per Bill List #111317 in the amount of \$2,931,809.31. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

13. Residents' Comments (non-agenda items only)

“Mark Salma with Bricks Mortar Property Group, 22054 Farmington Rd, Farmington, Michigan. Good Evening, Mr. Mayor, council members. We have two agenda items tonight. Items number 13C and 13D that are related to the redevelopment of Bethel Park shopping center. A Shopping center that we own on Library rd that has Walmart and Giant Eagle. We have plans to replace most of the pad buildings along the street front. The agenda items tonight are related to application 1 and application 2. We have a 3rd application processing that is not on the agenda for tonight and we are going to be presenting that to the zoning board within the next couple of weeks and the planning commission, so dependent on the outcome of those two meeting we would like to with all respect, request a special session of city council anytime on December 13 or after. Thank you”

GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE

14. Citizens' Comments – General Policy and Finance Items

None

15. General Policy and Finance Items

Ordinance – Year 2018 Budget

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to approve the Year 2018 Municipal Budget. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

Mr. Moury mentioned that there will be no tax increase.

16. Ordinance – Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2017

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to approve the ordinance setting the 2018 Tax Rate for general purposes, the sum of two and nineteen hundredths (2.19) mills on each dollar (\$1.00) of assessed valuation for municipal purposes and thirty-four hundredths (.34) mills on each dollar (\$1.00) of assessed valuation for the provisions of funding to Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company and costs associated with the same Motion Carried 9 – 0

17. Ordinance – Parameter Ordinance- Fire Department Bond Refinancing

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to approve the ordinance authorizing the incurring of non-electoral debt by the Municipality of Bethel Park, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing and directing the issuance of general obligation bonds of the Municipality of Bethel Park. Motion Carried 9 – 0

Mr. Moury mentioned that this is a refinancing. The bond issue we did a few years ago when the fire station was built. There's two ways you can refinance. You can take cash value upfront and the debt service would remain the same. Or you can reduce the debt service over the duration of the balance of the bond issue. Council has chosen to reduce the debt service. If all goes well and this passes tonight. Potentially this week or next when we go to market with the bond issue refinancing/ based on current market conditions we will save over \$300,000.00 for the duration of the bond that will go in the dedicated fire fund.

Mr. Harrison said:

“Mr. Moury”

Mr. Moury said:

“I think over the past few months Mr. Harrison has made some accusations about information that council may have passed off to the solicitor and Mr. Harrison has said it wasn't him. It's been talked about for the last few months, last month I shared with Mr. Harrison an email that he was in fact the one that copied the solicitor on his email that he alleged everyone here did. Are you willing to apologize this evening?”

Mr. Harrison said:

“I would speak to that in a minute and you're the one who owes the apology. So give me the floor”

Mr. Moury said:

“The email was very clear, the email came from Mr. Harrison and Mr. McTiernan was copied on the email where he alleged we did it. So I rest my case.

Mr. Harrison said:

“Every once in a while Mr. Moury gets “Inaudible.” At the October meeting I summarized my 44 years as a Bethel Park council member. O’Brien took the last shot at me at that meeting, stating that I had no friends among the elected officials. Due to “inaudible”. I had no opportunity that night to respond to that comment. So I will take this opportunity to respond. One has to wonder if the comments from O’Brien had any relevance except to continue to try to besmirch my reputation. Fortunately these repeated efforts by members of council to besmirch my reputation have been unsuccessful.

Clearly those council members don’t learn too fast. Apparently Mother Nature was not to kind to these boys. Many years ago the advertiser, the predecessor to the Almanac, endorsed candidates for council and did not give me their endorsement. Because they said that I don’t go along to get along. I am having a little difficulty reading. It was true then and its true now and it will continue to be true. I do my homework. If I think an action proposed by council is not in the best interest of the citizens then I inform the public and vote against the proposed action. I will continue this practice. The 5th ward voters gave me 4 more years last Tuesday. I am hoping from the man upstairs will give me additional time on earth to serve you.

I feel the need to speak to the cheap shot by O’Brien at the October meeting. I explained my moral compass was set by my mother by the use of adages and old folks saying. One of the sayings is “Don’t befriend people who violate the law because it may lead to future trouble”. My fellow council members violated the constitution of Bethel Park Home Ruled Charter by casting an affirmative vote to put the Bethel Park Volunteer Fire Company Ordinance on the on the primary ballot a few years ago. Excuse me a few years ago. Based on the timing of the introduction of the ordinance by council, a display of the ineptness of the council leadership. An Election of charter rules could not legally go on the ballot until November of that year. I didn’t go along because I will never defy my mother’s good guidance.

As usual Moury immediately passed the gavel and stated what I had to say was mostly untrue. He repeated that tonight. He does that at every meeting. Moury continues to implies I am a liar, but never sites examples of my untruths. Is his code of operation, at the meeting he issued a fake apology for publically presenting a copy of an email to me for which I previously issued. I know you can’t read it. But here is where the issue is and I’ll comment in a minute. Do you see in handwriting it says confidential at the top. Confidential. Two things worth knowing. Written at the top of the copy is hand written Confidential. One has to wonder the intent of that note. The more important thing to know is that at the top of the email it says in Bold type “Renew Manager Update”. It has nothing to do with the topic continually under discussion, which is an illegal action by council, by casting a vote contrary to the Home Rule Charter. There must have been some hanky panky between the back room gang, that’s all accounts for except me, and McTiernan before the illegal vote. What is it that makes council members comfortable in casting affirmative vote

that violated the constitution of Bethel Park, The Home Rule Charter. Now you can listen to “inaudible” subjected to is this “inaudible” make your own judgement.”

Mr. Moury said:

“My only comment is that I guess that was not an apology. The stories he’s winding together are simply not true as usual. The accusations that Mr. Harrison made are about an email he wrote to council and he wondered how Mr. McTiernan, the solicitor was copied on it. That’s the bottom line. It has nothing to do with the fire department, I do not know where that story comes from, but it was very clear that the original email that went out clearly Mr. Harrison copied the solicitor and the reason I marked it confidential because it’s a personnel issue that it was dealing with So. Your right Mr. Harrison right most of what you said tonight is not true again. Thank you”

Mr. O’Brien said:

“Mr. Chairman”

Mr. Moury said:

“Mr. O’Brien”

Mr. O’Brien said:

“I also asked and gave you a challenge, Mr. Harrison. To do something positive, to choose one of the many issues that are facing our country, our community, our state. Obviously again you haven’t chose any of those. You choose this. Mr. Olsoffs’ grandchild”

Mr. Harrison said:

“Please speak into the microphone”

Mr. O’Brien said:

“Mr. Olsoffs’ grandchild will be a 25 year life member and you’ll still be talking about this. There will be three of them.

How do we put this away, Mr. Harrison? How do we continue governing, with this every month, every month. I asked you to do something positive, we have great plans for recreation, we have a beautiful plan. I don’t know how we will fund it but there is a great plan. We have issues happening in our country last Sunday. I’ve never heard you talk once about are we prepared. We have on opioid epidemic across the United States and not once have you chosen to talk about that. These are issues. We have state budgets, we have an issue in Washington D.C., not once you discussed those, you choose to do this.

Mr. Harrison you've talked about your tenure over the last time and I gave it a lot of thought and wondered why did your own party and the people that you ran with, people that supported him in that time, remove you as chairman of Health, Safety and Welfare? And I searched my memory and came up with the reason. That you were being an obstructionist, you were interfering with the day to day operation of the police department and the chairman had to make a decision, whether it would continue or he would have to do other actions or remove you and that's why he removed you. I do remember that very clearly. Don this is 2017, we have Christmas coming up. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Lets try to work together, okay? Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Mr. Mclean stated that he had one additional item. This past Tuesday there were 4 ballot questions, which were on the ballot for amendments to the Home Rule Charter. The unofficial results from the County, indicate all 4 of the measures passed. Mr. Mclean stated that we will be working with Mr. McTiernan when they get the certified results to amend the Charter accordingly, in accordance with the vote from electorate and then submitting the amended Charter with those 4 changes. Mr. Mclean stated that all 4 changes passed last Tuesday.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

18. Citizens' Comments – Planning and Zoning Items

None

19. Application #2017-0559: Parkside Center Development, Major Land Development, South Park Road And Library Road

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. Consolmagno to approve Application #2017-0559 Parkside Center Development, Major Land Development, South Park Road And Library Road in accordance with the Municipal Planner's correspondence dated October 18, 2017. Motion Carried 7 - 0. Council Members Moury and McLean abstained.

Mr. Mclean said he will recuse himself from voting on this Application and the next item on the agenda, Application #2017-0560 as he provides legal services to the applicant.

Mr. Moury said he will recuse himself from voting on this Application and the next one due to the applicant making a generous donation to the Bethel Park Historical Society of which, Mr. Moury is President

20. Application #2017-0560: Parkside Center Lot Consolidation, Major Subdivision, South Park Road And Library Road

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. Consolmagno to approve Application #2017-0560: Parkside Center Lot Consolidation, Major Subdivision, South Park

Road And Library Road in accordance with the Municipal Planner's correspondence dated October 18, 2017. Motion Carried 7 - 0. Council Members Moury and McLean abstained.

21. Application #2017-0565: Bethel Park Shopping Center Phase 1 Redevelopment, Major Land Development, 5055 Library Road

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. Consolmagno to approve Application #2017-0565: Bethel Park Shopping Center Phase 1 Redevelopment, Major Land Development, 5055 Library Road in accordance with the Municipal Planner's correspondence dated October 18, 2017. Motion Carried 9 - 0

22. Application #2017-0636: Bethel Park Shopping Center, Phase 2 Redevelopment, Major Land Development, 5055 Library Road

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. Consolmagno to approve Application #2017-0636: Bethel Park Shopping Center, Phase 2 Redevelopment, Major Land Development, 5055 Library Road in accordance with the Municipal Planner's correspondence dated October 18, 2017. Motion Carried 9 - 0.

Mr. Dixon stated that these applications represent a very exciting redevelopment along the Route 88 corridor, the entire frontage along the Wal-Mart, Giant Eagle property is going to be redeveloped with new retail pads, as the gentleman had indicated. So that will really clean up and beautify that area to make everything look better there. There will be redevelopment where the old Elks building is and the strip center with the mail retail place and the Bethel Park Deli. That's going to be all redeveloped in there along with two new buildings. Some new retail opportunities there that's going to really clean up that entire area. Mr. Dixon stated that he was very excited for the redevelopment of that area.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE ITEMS

23. Health, Safety and Welfare Items

No Items

Mr. O'Brien stated that there is a planning and zoning workshop on Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at 7:00pm in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. There is a proposed 130ft cell phone tower Bethel Masonic Hall at Wilamit drive. For people who don't really know where Wilamit Drive is. It's the corner of Irishtown and Logan. Mr. Dixon said please come on out and give your opinion, there will be enough seats for everyone. Mr. Dixon mentioned that last Saturday, was Veterans Day and the forecast for Veterans Day was unseasonable temperatures. The Girl Scouts planted 300 bulbs on Veterans Day in the cold to honor the Veterans. We will have beautiful flowers this spring. Mr. Dixon said that was commendable on such a cold day and thanked Erin Carter and her girl scouts.

PUBLIC WORKS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

24. Citizens' Comments – Public Works and Maintenance Items

None

25. Public Works and Maintenance Items

Resolution No. 11-13-17 – Community Development Block Grant Concurring Resolution

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. Hannan to adopt Resolution No. 11-13-17 authorizing South Hills Area Council Of Governments to file all necessary documents on behalf of the Municipality of Bethel Park to obtain Community Development Block Grants in the amount of \$50,671 for the Second Alley Pervious Paving Project. Motion Carried 9 – 0.

26. Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 8:30 P.M.



Manager