

## **JUNE 6, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The June 6, 2011 Council Meeting was called to order at 7:33 P.M. in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Mayor Anthony DeLuca presiding.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor DeLuca –Good Evening, we will call this meeting to order. The Agenda will stand as presented. Will you please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council and the audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mrs. Kuhn  
Mr. Palumbo  
Mr. Underwood  
Mayor DeLuca  
Dr. Kincaid

Mayor DeLuca – First up we have a Proclamation we would like to make. This is for Chris Miller who has been helping us with the litter control in Penn Hills organizing pick-up in Penn Hills. Let me read what the Proclamation says:

Whereas, The Penn Hills Community wishes to recognize the continuing community service efforts of Christine Miller, 109 Garlow Drive; and,

Whereas, Chris Miller has been recently recognized by the University of Pittsburgh by receiving a Chancellor's Award for outstanding community organizing while both working as an Administrator for the Pitt Department of Education and as an advocate for Beautification in Penn Hills; and,

Whereas, Chris Miller has served the local Crescent Hills Civic Association a variety of community efforts and has spearheaded efforts to beautify Penn Hills and organize local litter control programs; and,

Whereas, Chris Miller has supported efforts by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, The City of Pittsburgh's Redd-Up Program, and Pitt's Make A Difference Day, and has brought large numbers of volunteers to Penn Hills to participate in community litter control programs; and,

Whereas, Chris Miller continues to promote advances in local recycling and beautification programs, and

Now, therefore, I, Anthony L. DeLuca, Mayor of the Municipality of Penn Hills, express our sincere and heartfelt appreciation to Chris E. Miller for her long and dedicated service to the residents of Penn Hills and further express our best wishes for many happy, healthy years in the future. Thank you Chris.

Chris Miller – I would like to thank Council for one and for my committed members of my litter committee without them I wouldn't be here and two of them are here, Andrea and Jim Getsy who are always with me all the time and I just want to say I couldn't of done it myself. I just wanted to bring attention to the next Pitt Fall Clean Up which is October 22. We just got notice of that so we will be getting forty more students for that. This Friday on Lincoln Road we have the Dump Busters from Allegheny Clean Way and they are coming back and coming back and coming back. I helped out one day but they keep coming back, they have actually a man who does this every day. He is retired of course but he does it every day. This Friday starting at 7:00 A.M. they are going to be back again for anybody who would like to volunteer and also in July, July 4 – 8 there is a group of Mennonites here in Pittsburgh for a convention and they have four to five high school students available to any project that anybody has going on during that time and they can give about 4 - 5 hours. They leave downtown and come to your place at 12:30 and have to be back by 5:00. So that is an opportunity if you have a project in the parks, etc. I won't actually be here, I will be away but I can help anybody get the information I have, actually I have a form here if anybody is interested. I am glad to see that the Code Enforcement is working with us and we are trying to establish some kind of collaboration. We try to report code violations when we see them and we have pretty good luck. I have been in touch with Bob Hunter, if I really am disgusted about something that we have reported before I will e-mail him and he gets on it right away. So I am pleased that he is working with us and if we can do that here like what Allegheny Clean Ways does they collaborate and they also will come to any site in Penn Hills and work with you so there is a lot of help out there, free help so it is not going to cost money and I just wanted to say there is a lot out there that can be taken advantage of and I hope that Penn Hills does. And I would like to see someone from Penn Hill's Council at least greet the people that come from Pitt. I think it would be nice for someone to do that when they get off the bus, just to show them our appreciation for all the work they do. Thank you.

Mrs. Kuhn – Mr. Mayor I would just like to extend my congratulations to Chris and I know that in the Crescent Hills Civic Association Letter, Mr. Getsy I am glad that you are here, has written that he has been able to take advantage of being in the University Courses on Urban Studies and that what the people thought were the most important values of a neighborhood is the result of security services and neighbors and Chris I think that you have shown you have a quality for all three of those and it goes on to list several of the things that are important – I won't list them all but it is saying neighborhood projects, identifying needed improvements, contributing to neighborhood watch , promoting pride through home, property and maintenance and I hope everyone

will take a lead from you because you are more than qualified for all of these things so I do thank you for everything you have done and I am so happy that we have recognized you. Thank you.

Chris Miller – thank you.

Also present were: Manager Rayan, Planning Director Davidson, Solicitor Brimmeier, Controller Futules, Gateway Engineer Minsterman, Senior Citizen Director Zarotney and Manager's Secretary Sorce.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve Minutes of May 2, 2011.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

### **EXPENDITURES**

### **APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve the Master Expenditures Summary dated June 6, 2011 – Journal Vouchers – 0 - \$0.00, C.D. Requisitions – 16 - \$24,166.09, EECBG Requisitions – 14 - \$142,376.39 – Checks Numbering 17732 – 18023 - \$1,439,038.12 making a grand total of \$1,605,580.60.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Mrs. Kuhn abstained from Check # 17824 to Don Kuhn Auto Body for reimbursement from insurance companies for auto repairs, yes on all others.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

Mrs. Kuhn made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2011-044** authorizing the execution of Agreement(s) with The Allegheny County Department of Human Services/Area Agency on Aging for The Municipality of Penn Hills to provide services and programs to Senior Citizens in the total amount of \$226,793.00 for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

Mrs. Kuhn – I see Ron is in the audience, I just want to extend a grateful thank you to Ron and all of his staff for the great job that they do as I tell everyone our Senior

Center is something to be proud of throughout Allegheny County, so Ron thank you and if you could extend my thanks to the entire staff for all that they do. Thank you.

Mr. Underwood – Excuse me Mayor, I applaud them for the work that they do.

Mayor DeLuca – yes, Ron make sure you go back and tell the staff, thank you for making the Penn Hills Senior Center the best in Allegheny County.

Ron – Thank you.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2011-045** authorizing the filing of an application for funds with The Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

Mrs. Kuhn – I see on the back up material that we got from Chris Blackwell that this is a \$50,000 Grant that we are applying for and Howard we are doing a matching Grant for \$57,676.12 which is the CD money, correct? Howard Davidson – yes. Mrs. Kuhn – This would be for the improvements that basically are for the Youth use at the Multi-Purpose Center is that correct? Howard Davidson – new playground equipment, safety surfaces. Mrs. Kuhn – o.k. thank you.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2011-046** awarding a Contract to Nick's Automotive, Inc. for the Maintenance Repair of Municipal Vehicles for a period of two (2) years in the amount not to exceed \$90,000 per year and authorizing the Proper Municipal Officials to enter into the same.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

Mr. Underwood – Who is really bird dogging the charges that Nick charges our vehicles when in a theoretically twelve month cycle we have seven months and we can go back through the controller who can verify this. How many times do we need to do preventive maintenance on a vehicle, seven times out of twelve? Two out of the last three inspections and the alternators which I complained about in the past let's do rebuilds, except and I will do an except here because I strongly believe EMS needs regular alternators but the windshield washer fluid that situation that I brought up many many times has kind of gone away and that may be mixed into preventive maintenance but who is really looking into these situations, the Managers of those departments are they just reading and signing off or are they really going out, who is responsible to check on Nick. Thank you.

Moe Rayan – Mr. Underwood every Department Director is in charge of reviewing all of the invoices and making sure that all the repairs were performed and verified through them. As far as the vehicle maintenance, primarily is our Police Department. They take their vehicles down there and it is every 3,000 miles for the oil change and the preventive maintenance is performed. They are all aware of the instructions that Mayor and Council gave me and I pass these instructions down to them that everything needs to be watched and as far as I can tell any invoice that comes in that has been verified by the Department Director and they sign off on the requisition, I believe they are doing their jobs.

Mr. Underwood – thank you for that but I have to ask the second question from what you are saying you have to believe that they are doing that but I can't believe that somebody is going to really read through those documents and somebody is going down to do the visual rather than somebody telling the Police Department or whatever department that this needs to be done and nobody goes down to verify that because, I don't know if they do that.

Moe Rayan – I will say about a couple of years ago we were instructed by Mayor and Council to have our mechanics from the Public Works Department to verify any work to be performed in excess of \$600.00, so our mechanics down at the Public Works is notified by Nick's shop and if it is required for him to go down to verify the repairs and then it is done.

Mr. Underwood – do they currently really do that?

Moe Rayan – that is as far as I know yes.

Mrs. Kuhn – Mr. Mayor just to follow up on that Moe I know we have gone through this at great length prior to this, the question is and I think what Councilman Underwood is getting to is, is there a watch dog on the repairs that are being done because of the fact that who actually is watching to make sure that is it not just being said this needs done that needs done and it is being signed off on. Now my question is which we had brought up before is someone, also I know we do get a vehicle report from Ed's office and really and truthfully I don't know that it should be coming to Mayor and Council, I think that needs to be going to someone in house to be doing that checking of that vehicle report. But my only concern also is there someone who is watching to see how much repair is done per vehicle so we don't have a car that might have 80 to 100,000 to 120,000 miles on it and we keep putting money into it because then we come to a point of are we putting money into a car that really should need to be replaced. So is there someone within the Municipality who watches that type of scenario to make sure we are not putting so much money into a car so that we should be saying it might be better for us just to get a new car than to be putting money into a car that has so many miles on it.

Mr. Rayan – Well Mrs. Kuhn this is a loaded question that has multiple questions in one question. The main thing was if there was anyone in particular watch dogging a

short from assigning somebody to stand at the shop. It will be hard but again if the brakes are squeaking, they need breaks, major repairs you can see from the invoices there isn't any major repairs that we need to do like put a transmission into a vehicle or a whole engine it is mainly the brakes, rotors, alternators that Mr. Underwood mentioned and yes they do send them down for rebuild and so on. Watching the vehicles as far as the mileage yes again each Department Director has the responsibility to keep up on that and subsequently as you see through the Budget process each department looking for new vehicles mainly the Police Department and we have allotted for four vehicles this year and those vehicles are phased out and also the ones that are 89 and plus. Again these vehicles are running 24 hours a day. 30,000 miles can be done in one month so it is hard just to dispose of these vehicles without doing some repairs on them at least to keep them for a few years. But they alternate through the whole fleet and try to watch out how they are using the vehicles and making sure they are distributing the use of the fleet continuously so they don't ruin one vehicle within a short period of time.

Mrs. Kuhn – o.k. so as with the expenditures we did have over a \$1500.00 expenditure on one and it is stating pm rear brakes. I am assuming it has to be more than what that is and again I do apologize because of the fact I know Ed does give that vehicle log to us but that is really a time consuming situation for Council to do but I mean I know that we do have incidents where we do have \$1500.00 for repairs and that so I think that Mr. Underwood's concern and I know my concern is just to make sure we do have someone in the Municipality who is making the decision as to what needs to be done and what does not need to be done.

Moe Rayan – Again I have to rely on the Department Directors and of course it is not in their area of expertise that is why when Mayor and Council brought that issue up a couple of years ago the only avenue that we had at that time is to seek help from our mechanics down at Public Works Garage and they do from time to time and I know I have got calls from Department Directors asking for them to go and verify repairs.

Mrs. Kuhn – o.k. thank you.

Moe Rayan – we try to do the best we can to watch them and we do have to put some trust in to him for doing our work.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.

## **ORDINANCES**

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 2535 of 2011** approving the editing and inclusion of Local Legislation incorporated into the Codified Ordinances of The Municipality and to approve, adopt and enact new matter in the Codified Ordinances.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the Ordinance was approved by a 5-0 vote.

## **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### a. Appointments

Mayor DeLuca – next we have one appointment tonight, this is for the Arts Council, and her name is Mary Anne Pischke. I would like to make a motion for that.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the appointment was approved by a 5-0 vote.

## **REPORTS**

Mrs. Kuhn – Mr. Mayor I have some that I did want to go over, I did see that we did receive a letter dated May 26, 2011 from Mr. DiNinno's Attorney stating that they are awaiting receipt from Mr. D'Andrea's lending bank of a proposed Letter of Credit Document. The only reason I bring this up is because for some reason it seems to be for whatever reason the public seems to think that it is Mayor and Council who seems to always be dragging their feet in this situation and I just wanted the public to be aware of the fact that once again we have been waiting for a long period of time on a document that has supposedly been to us months ago. So it is not Mayor and Council or the Administration that is holding this up. So I just wanted to make that clear. The other one that I wanted to make a report on is we did also receive that the Soccer Association did ask to use the Soccer Field at the Multi-Purpose Center and I was just wondering what the status was on that because I know they were looking everywhere to have their soccer field and I didn't know what the finalized situation was on that?

Mayor DeLuca – We have to meet with Mrs. Green. Her thing is I think it is \$1200.00 to join. She rents those baseball fields out for Softball Teams and she is concerned she will be losing out on \$1200.00 so that is what we have to verify and once we do that we can move forward with the Soccer Association because once we determine that then they will be able to get money from the National Soccer Association to redevelop those fields and then that will be their permanent home.

Mrs. Kuhn – because I know the Soccer Association has been looking everywhere for a field for their team so I just was wondering what the status was. I did want to make a mention on the DCED Grants and thank State Representative DeLuca's Office once again for bringing in \$15,000 worth of Grants and that is being distributed to the Baseball Association, Ice Hockey Grades 5 – 12, Youth Football Association, Eagle Track Club, Girl's Softball Association, Soccer Association, Jr. Wrestling, Extreme Sports Park, Senior Men's Softball and Woman's Softball 40 plus. So I am sure they are appreciative of it and I am certainly appreciative of State Representative DeLuca's Office for bringing in another Grant. And the last is on the Worker's Compensation on

the 5% reduction, a good job. I know that you said it is a good job to the Municipal Safety Committee Members, so I do want to thank them and also Moe to you and your staff for the hard work that you do. Any savings that comes in for the taxpayers needs to be noticed so thank you very much on that.

Mayor DeLuca – I just want to remind everyone that the Relay for Life is July 9 and will be in Penn Hills. So make sure you get your walking shoes out there and make sure you attend it. I think last year it was out in Monroeville. Mrs. Kuhn – yes it was in Monroeville last year and the year before it was in Penn Hills.

Mayor DeLuca – with that we will go into an Executive Session for Personnel Matters.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Deluca entertained motion to adjourn.

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAUREEN M. SORCE  
MANAGER'S SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE