

APRIL 1, 2013 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The April 1, 2013 Council Meeting was called to order at 7:37 P.M. in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building.

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?

ROLL CALL

Mrs. Kuhn
Mr. Palumbo
Mr. Underwood
Mayor DeLuca
Dr. Kincaid

Also present were Manager Rayan, Secretary Sorce, Gateway Engineer Minsterman, Solicitor Alexander, Finance Director Schrecengost, Director WPCD O’Grady and Controller Futules.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 18, 2013.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

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

EXPENDITURES

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve the Expenditures of April 1, 2013, C.D. Requisitions – 8 - \$17,828.37, Master 23994 – 24136 - \$1,381,914.62 making a grand total of \$1,399,742.99.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Mrs. Kuhn – Page One, Check No. 23997 AMCOACH, I am assuming that that is the billing that we send out Moe but my question is Moe I know probably sometime last year we had a meeting with CONNECT and at that time I had made the statement and asked if all the Municipalities and Communities could do something about the billing because of the fact that when we have our EMT’s go out for ambulance services for some reason even though the billing comes from the Municipality the insurance company sends the check directly to the person and it causes a lot of problems with our billings because a lot of times the people get the check and just assume for whatever

reason, I said even if they can't send it to the Municipality if they could at least put the Municipality's name and the person's name on it so it would have to be double signed and I don't think I got anywhere at all with CONNECT because of the fact they didn't seem to want to support the situation because of Blue Cross and Blue Shield was involved with CONNECT in some way. I noticed that we pay close to \$155,000.00 a month to Highmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield for our insurances for the Police and the other departments. I didn't know if being that we are such a big Community I know they probably have much bigger ones too but that is a pretty big account is there any way at all that we could contact them because of the fact that it is not only the Municipality but every Community is facing the same problem because of the fact that the checks go to the individuals and then they do not in turn pay the Municipality and that is why our Ambulance Service is always seeming to run in the red. Now I know that there were even statements made at that meeting that some people would say that some of the ambulance services that they would get great deal of calls in October and November because of the fact people were getting the checks and using them for Christmas. Like I said it is a problem even if they do not abuse the system I know my son himself got one and as versed as he is he calls me and says Mom I got a check from the insurance company for \$800.00 and I don't know what it is for because they don't really explain it to much when they send it. So it is not only sometimes abused but sometimes just the fact that it is ignorance that the people don't understand that it is suppose to go to the Municipality. I don't know if there is anything that we can do but I mean it just seems I don't know why it is such a problem for an insurance company to put two payees on it.

Moe Rayan – well certainly I can communicate with the insurance companies and see if we can get somewhere with them at least the people that we have contact with or have communication with like for example Highmark and so on they can listen to us and try to help us in that matter. Coincidentally I was talking to a friend today regarding the same thing they received a check of course they forwarded that check to the ambulance company unfortunately it wasn't ours but some people do what they need to do and others they have problems communicating and forwarding that check and they would rather keep it for themselves and that is where we have our downfall or shortfall in terms of our residents coming in for the patients that we transport, but I will certainly prepare something and send it to them.

Mrs. Kuhn – I mean if they would want to meet I have no problem meeting with them and like I said I did present the same scenario to CONNECT and said that being it was a large amount of Communities I thought it would be more of a voice if we all went together.

Moe Rayan – 83 of them.

Mrs. Kuhn – right but I know the other Communities wanted to do it it is just that CONNECT would not pick up on it for whatever reason. But it is just a shame because I know a lot of times at the end of the year our Ambulance Service is in the red and I think a lot of it is because of that.

Moe Rayan – Unpaid bills.

Mrs. Kuhn - It is a very poor system.

Moe Rayan – I will follow up on that and also as I mentioned at the last meeting I have a meeting with folks from CONNECT regarding other issues in terms of sewer, regionalization of the sewer and so on so I can bring that matter up to them also.

Mrs. Kuhn – thank you Moe and the other question is on Page Four, Check No. 24105 – it is stated as bullying classes. Now bullying is a very very large problem and a lot of people think it is a problem just in our schools, but it is not and it can cause so much of a problem for those whose are being bullied. I saw that this was on there so I am assuming is this like for the Police Department that they are taking classes in it or who exactly Moe is taking classes in that? Or am I off completely?

Mr. Rayan - no that was just a class that we prepared for some of our employees as part of housekeeping so that is basically what my office initiated and added that bullying class to our insurance company and some other people.

Mrs. Kuhn – o.k. because of the fact that as I tell everyone you don't just have to be an adolescent to be a bully there are many unfortunate incidences in work places and what have you that happens and it really isn't any place for that so I know that is a serious problem in our schools not just Penn Hills but all throughout and if you even listen to the newscast you will hear what problems some children have because of the fact that they are being bullied but I also know that adults can do the same thing. So I was glad to see that Moe it didn't say it just said bullying class and I didn't know who all was effected with that but that needs to be addressed because bullying shouldn't be anywhere for such conditions.

Mr. Rayan – we are just trying to be pro-active and eliminate that as you mentioned adults as well Mrs. Kuhn and it happens at the work place just as well.

Mrs. Kuhn – right and as I said you don't have to be an adolescent unfortunately to be a bully. On Page Six, Check No. 24108 it is Fiori's Auto and it is for alignment. Now do we not get the alignments done at our Contracted Mechanic or is that just an over flow on that? I think there were two of them for \$99.95.

Ed Schrecengost – These are for the ambulances.

Mrs. Kuhn – is that what it is for Ed, o.k. that is fine then.

Mr. Rayan – that is for the EMS division.

Mrs. Kuhn – and the last one is on Page 11, Check No. 24123 it is for handrails and grab rails. I know we have that program for people who need that and that is done, is that a Grant Moe?

Mr. Rayan – yes.

Mayor DeLuca – CDBG Program.

Mrs. Kuhn – because I know there are so many people who need that and I am very happy that we have that program. I didn't know is it still in the process or is this the finalization and if it is do we renew it in another year or how does that work Moe?

Mr. Rayan - well I believe that concludes the first \$10,000 that was allotted for that program and they are going to bid a new project for this year as well. I think they are going to continue the same program this year as well.

Mrs. Kuhn – and Moe how do we get it out to the Residents who can qualify and who can't?

Mr. Rayan – the senior center takes the lead on this, through Ron's office and all the folks that come to the senior center along with referral people it is for the people who are in need they somehow they put the word out for them to apply for it and of course it goes through the qualification process and it is a limited fund and basically it is first come first served.

Mrs. Kuhn – the reason why Moe I know that I had contacted you about four or five months ago because I get phone calls from residents asking me about the program and I need to know where I direct them as to how they can get on the program. So what I would tell them to do is not come to the Municipality but go to the Senior Center or just come through you?

Mr. Rayan – they can contact my office or the Planning Department or the Senior Center. Maybe this year we will try to do a better job of advertising. A lot of our seniors are now on line and of course all of our projects are on line. We will try to be more specific in trying to put the word out for them.

Mrs. Kuhn – o.k. thanks Moe.

Mr. Rayan – you are welcome.

Mrs. Kuhn – thank you Mayor.

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

Mrs. Kuhn abstained from Check No. 24120 to Don Kuhn Auto Body for \$600.00 for a rental and \$17.96 for a repair. Yes on all others.

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve **RESLUTION NO. 2013-016** A Resolution of the Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, awarding a Contract to Jeff Brooks Landscaping for grass cutting at various Municipal Facilities and Parks.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor DeLuca entertained a motion to adjourn.

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

DATE

MAUREEN M. SORCE
MANAGER'S SECRETARY