

MARCH 3, 2014 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The March 3, 2014 Council Meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor DeLuca – we will call this meeting to order. We are going to put the Appointments after the Resolutions, the rest of the Agenda will stand as presented, will you please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

**Mr. Underwood
Mayor DeLuca
Dr. Kincaid
Mr. Palumbo**

Also present were Manager Rayan, Secretary Sorce, Finance Director Schrecengost, Controller Futules and Solicitor Alexander.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mayor DeLuca – John Dugan.

John Dugan – 731 McFarlane Drive – I attended Municipal and School Board Meetings here for over 50 years. I was one of the original members of the Penn Hills Taxpayer’s League. A lot of people don’t know that. There were only about five or six of us and at the time they approached me I told them I would stay on as long as the politicians didn’t get involved. We were doing pretty good and then the politicians started to climb on board. Some of the old timers may be able to remember who they were and that is when I left. I also was a member of The Traffic Safety Committee and I got thrown off because a new Mayor came on and we were in a meeting and the janitor come up and told us we were all fired. So we left. I still keep

my credentials to this day. My subject matter is Allegheny County Sanitary Authority. You might be wondering why am I coming to you about this. I live in Penn Hills I don't want to deal with these people because they are not going to listen to the average taxpayer no matter what. I don't belong to any committee and I have waited this long because I wanted to wait until all the elections were out of the way and nobody could tie me into anything. The judiciary made a judgment against The Municipality of Penn Hills to make up grace for the sewer system and pay a Civil Authority to both the Federal and Commonwealth and perform a number of environmental projects. When Penn Hills completed this if the Judge had done the proper methods he would have removed the lien once everything was done but he didn't. It seemed like he had a grudge and he was going to show somebody that he was the boss which is unfair to the little taxpayer. ALCOSAN now comes out and is going to raise the rates. And if you take the rate increase that was in 2009 of 16% and add it to the rest of the rates that they are going to increase that comes to a 76% increase over five years. Now I know they break it down they say if you use so much water it is only going to cost you this and it is going to cost you that but my firm belief is no matter how thin you slice it it is still bologna. That is money that could be used on a small taxpayer. I don't make a six figure salary but on a small taxpayer that money could be used to pay bills, go to the local hardware store to buy improvements to your house, you could fill it in yourself. I don't have that much time to take and I don't want to bore you with details. I am quite disappointed with our Congressman because I have sent Casey and the rest of them letters over the years and it has proven to be nothing. You get a letter back and when you read their reply you know what they did they just handed it to somebody on their staff and they repeat to you everything that you told them. It is no coincidence that after connecting the collection systems into the sanitary authority that they raised the rates when they first started. The taxpayers of Penn Hills have been held hostage by a Consent Decree since 1998. Taxpayers who are innocent did nothing improper once again proving the little person gets stuck. There is no time off for good behavior. I think we just saw two people that are left out of jail this past week Luis and I forget the other man's name off the top of my head

Mayor DeLuca – Perzel

John Dugan – Perzel, yes I am sorry. The Government spent \$8 billion dollars to bail out those who lack common economic sense on Wall Street. No one aided the Pittsburgh area when the steel mills were closed. Steel had to be shipped up the river when we built two stadiums here. I have a lot more to say but I don't want to take up a whole lot of your time. The other authority that I have a complaint with is the Wilksburg Penn Joint. I don't know who is running the rodeo down there but when they failed to bill people that is one thing but then they made those people pay a fine which was ludicrous. Nobody down there had the responsibility or the gumption to stand up and say you know that we did something wrong here make some kind of an appeal to get the people to pay their bill and not fine them. There is a lady that lives on my street who has been in the hospital and she failed to pay her water bill so I went up there to pay my water bill and I was the tenth person in line and I waited for twenty-five minutes to pay our bills. What I am getting to is they had only one person at that counter to collect that money instead of having somebody else come over to speed up the process and collect that money. That is the way it should be done. If you go to Giant Eagle or any place and you got a basket full of food and you have to wait a half an hour to check out you are not going to go back to Giant Eagle but these Authorities answer to nobody. Now things have changed. I think Wilksburg Penn Joint should start getting into the 21st Century and realize that the taxpayer is the customer and not ignore them. That is all we are asking for is a fair shake and that is why I am upset with ALCOSAN. You might say why didn't you go to their board, it is a waste of my time plus I am not going to pay money to go down and park in the City of Pittsburgh and get the same dead face look that they are not going to reply to. But 76% over five years is a ton of money. In my closing remarks getting away from that is I wish somebody sometime could explain to me why we must cover the ten commandments. The American group of Al Qaeda if you mention God they want to run to the Supreme Court right away. I think what we see happening right now in Russia if we don't have God we are not going to have anything. That could have a big profound effect on all of our lives and I want to thank you for allowing me to come here and talk to you

because I have a lot of respect. I even wore a shirt and tie because I have a lot of respect for this Committee. I think Moe has done an outstanding job. Eddie will tell you I have been here with other Mangers, you talk about jokes. Moe has taken the bull by the hand and if there is an answer he will either get you the answer, very seldom do I find him without an answer, and my respects to you Mayor because you have added a lot of stability to this community. I remember the first meeting you had one night and I forget the ladies name and I wrote an article to the Progress defending you because she didn't even give you a chance. I think you know who I am talking about.

Mayor DeLuca – I know.

John Dugan – but since you have been on here, we may not always agree but my wife and I never agree to everything either but I have to give you credit where credit is due and I thank you for your time.

Mayor Deluca and Moe Rayan – thank you.

Mayor DeLuca – Mr. Dugan since we have two board members at Wilksburg Penn we can talk to them about the service and make sure they put two people at the window.

John Dugan – the sad part of it is those people where paying water bills by month, now they come out I got a phone call after I paid my bill they are going to be coming out monthly but they got to have a better set up than that little card that gets thrown in with The Progress and everything else and you lose them. It can happen.

Mayor DeLuca – just a reminder when you get your new bill you will get your quarterly bill if you haven't already received it and then probably about five days later you are going to get the first monthly bill which will be about 15 days on it and it will have the quarterly bill on there just so you know.

John Dugan – you can rest assure I run a tight budget, I will figure it out. Thank you though.

Mayor DeLuca – Patricia Gledhill (not present) – moving on do I have a motion for the Approval of Minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 3, 2014.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

EXPENDITURES

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve as dated March 3, 2014 and we will go through February 17 later. These are the warrants for March 3, 2014, Journal Vouchers – 0 - \$0.00, C.D. Requisitions – 2 - \$2,066.32, Master 27042-27171 - \$889,926.41 making a grand total of \$891,992.73. Ratifying the warrants of February 17, 2014 which have been voted upon and approved these warrants are dated February 17, 2014, Journal Vouchers – 1 - \$144,175.63, C.D. Requisitions – 9 - \$17,466.19 – Master 26880-27041 - \$1,425,131.10 making a grand total of \$1,586,772.92.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

Mr. Carnahan – 201 Jefferson Road – One question on the 17th warrants on Check No. 26913 the Maher Duessel Audit is that audit complete?

Ed Schrecengost – no.

Mr. Carnahan – how much more is it going to cost?

Ed Schrecengost – I think the Contract is \$40,000.

Mr. Carnahan – when will it be completed?

Ed Schrecengost – probably not until about April 15, 2014.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-008 – a Resolution of The Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing The Municipality of Penn Hills to enter into a Lease Agreement with The Municipality of Penn Hills, as Lessor, and Penn Hills Youth Football Association, as Lessee for Concession Stand #2 located in Turner-Friendship Park.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-009 – a Resolution of the Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing The Municipality of Penn Hills to enter into a Lease Agreement with The Municipality of Penn Hills, as Lessor, and Penn Hills Girls' Softball Association, as Lessee for Concession located at Penn Hills Park.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-010 – a Resolution of the Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing The Municipality of Penn Hills to enter into a Lease Agreement with The Municipality of Penn Hills as Lessor, and Penn Hills Baseball Association, as Lessee for Concession Stand #1 located in Turner-Friendship Park.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-011 – a Resolution of The Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, recinding Resolution No. 070 of 2005 and providing for the renaming of The Penn Hills Library.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by 4-0 vote.

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-012 – a Resolution of The Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving the 2014 through 2016 Labor Agreement between The Municipality of Penn Hills and Municipal Employees Organization representing Building & Office Employees and authorizing The Proper Municipal Officials to Execute Same.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2014-013 – a Resolution of The Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, awarding a Contract to Nasoco, LLS for The Multi-Purpose Center Interior Improvements Project in the Total Amount of \$8,400.00.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

Mr. Carnahan – I would like to know what kind of activities are going on down there.

Mayor DeLuca – they run a day care out of there.

Mr. Carnahan – do they have a day care? What else?

Mayor DeLuca – yes, they also have a food pantry. I know in the summer time they run a softball team. Once the basketball courts are done they will be running a basketball league also.

Mr. Carnahan – thank you.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor DeLuca – I would like to make a motion to appoint P.J. Tassari for the Personnel Board.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Mayor DeLuca – I would also like to make a motion to appoint Cynthia Blackwell to the Arts Council.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor DeLuca – entertain motion to adjourn.

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

DATE

**MAUREEN M. SORCE
MANAGER'S SECRETARY**