

NOVEMBER 13, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Kuhn - Good Evening it being 7:32 I am going to call the November 13th, 2017 Council Meeting to order. I do have an Amendment to the Agenda to add Appointments. So the approval agenda items will stand as presented with an addition to Appointments. Before we say the Pledge of Allegiance the Municipality's Family lost a young man last Friday a week ago Friday way to soon. He was 52 years old and he had been our Insurance Broker for many years and born and raised in Penn Hills and still lived in Penn Hills and was preparing his insurance for the upcoming year with the Manager and presenting the figures to Mayor & Council and he unfortunately had a major heart attack and passed away. We knew him very well as I said he was a Penn Hill's resident and remained in Penn Hills and it was a very sad time for our Municipal Family and I do want to extend again our sympathy to his Mother, Lois Fedele and his brother Jeff and his wife and children. With that being said if we could stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Kuhn - The Agenda had an Amendment for Appointments. I will be adding two Appointments to The Traffic Safety Committee, the rest of the Agenda will stand as presented.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Brodnicki
Mrs. Sapp
Mr. Underwood
Dr. Kincaid
Mayor Kuhn

Also attending were Rayan, Manager, Sorce, Manager's Secretary, Schrecengost, Finance Director, Alexander, Solicitor, Blackwell, Planning Director and Minsterman, Engineer.

Mayor Kuhn - First on The Agenda is always a pleasant and an opportunity for Mayor & Council and for us to be very proud of a young man and his name is Noah Houghtelin and I am going to present him tonight, my privilege for Recognition for EAGLE SCOUTS. I have a nephew who became an EAGLE SCOUT so I know how much work it takes, how much dedication it takes and you know yourself and should be very proud and so should your Mother and Dad. It is without a doubt a privilege to present you with this Certificate of Recognition for all the hard work you have done and

it is not easy and you are one of few who accomplish it so if I can read this and then if your Mom and Dad want to come up as I present it to you with you and then if you want any photos taken that would be fine too. The Certificate of Recognition is from not just the Mayor but from Mayor & Council and each and every one of us are so proud of you. So do you want to come up to the podium. Mayor introduced Noah to Council Members, Finance Director, Manager's Secretary, Planning Director, Engineer from Gateway and also Solicitor. The Boy Scouts of America was founded on February 10, 1910, and has grown to be a vital force in the development of our youth, serving many thousands of people through a wide variety of activities designed to complement and implement the youth programs offered by civic organizations, churches and our schools systems; and the major objectives of the Scouting Programs are to develop citizenship through Community involvement, character and personal fitness; and the greatest achievement of youth within the Scouting Program is the attainment of the rank of EAGLE SCOUT and such rank requires endless hours of service to the Community and Scouting Program, as well as a great deal of pride, enthusiasm, dedication and hard work and the achievement of the rank of EAGLE SCOUT is an honor realized by only a small percentage of all Scouts; and, a striking example of the pride, enthusiasm, dedication and hard work has been brought to our attention by the achievements of Noah Houghtelin, Boy Scout Troop 891, in the Eagle Project. As part of his Eagle Service Project, Noah built a Bus Stop Shelter with a Solar Panel and put lighting in it for nights at the Zion Lutheran Church. He received his Eagle on October 23, 2017; and most notably, the Attainment of the Rank of EAGLE SCOUT by Noah Houghtelin; and, I Sara J. Kuhn, Mayor of the Municipality of Penn Hills on behalf of the Council and all our residents do hereby recognize and commend Noah Houghtelin on the attainment of the rank of EAGLE SCOUT, congratulate and commend his parents Bob and Megan on their persistence, love and guidance over the years, and urge all residents to be cognizant of the vital role Scouting plays in our Community and the honor of earning this prestigious rank. Honey, I am so very proud of you and you make your Mom & Dad so very proud. Thank you so much.

MINUTES

Mr. Underwood made a Motion to approve the **Minutes of October 16, 2017**, Council Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Brodnicki seconded the Motion.

There being no further discussion the Motion was passed by a 5-0 vote.

EXPENDITURES

Dr. Kincaid made a Motion to approve the **Expenditures of November 13, 2017**, Journal Vouchers 0, \$0.00, CD Requisitions 10, \$33,485.56, Checks 38959 - 39195 - \$1,888,344.52 making a Grand Total of \$1,921,830.08.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Mayor Kuhn - I abstain on Check #39162 and Check #39107 to Don Kuhn Auto Body. One is for Rental for \$600.00 and one for Sign Lettering for \$235.00 and yes on all others.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Brodnicki made a Motion to approve **Resolution No. 2017- 073** – approving the option to extend The Contract with Vigliotti Landscaping & Construction, Inc., for Grass Cutting at Municipal Facilities for 2018.

Mr. Underwood seconded the Motion.

Mr. Brodnicki - Just to make sure there has been no issues with this Vendor as far as timeliness or anything.

Moe Rayan - no he has been performing the work as expected in accordance with the Contract.

Mr. Brodnicki - thank you.

Mayor Kuhn - just for the public's information this proposal that was submitted is the same price as the original proposal in 2015 so we have had no increase in the cost.

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

Mr. Underwood made a Motion to approve **Resolution No. 2017- 074** - authorizing The Manager to sign a Contract with Snyder Brothers to provide the best Natural Gas Rates and Reduce Energy Costs to The Municipality.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the Motion.

Mayor Kuhn - what we have done here is the Municipalities go out to see what is the best price rates for our energy cost. We requested proposals from various natural gas suppliers through Consultant Energy Savers at no cost to the Municipality. Energy Savers received three proposals and it has been determined that Snyder Brothers would provide the best rate.

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

Mr. Brodnicki made a Motion to approve **Resolution No. 2017- 075** - approving a Minor Budget Amendment to The Community Development Block Grant Budget for Year 41.

Mr. Underwood seconded the Motion.

Mrs. Sapp - I would just like clarification please can you tell me what is the emergency at 105 Archer Street? That would be found in the back of that Resolution.

Chris Blackwell - the property may of had a fire and so we are now trying to demolish what remains of the property. That is typically what happens when we have an emergency demo. There has been some sort of failing of the structure and now it needs to come down.

Mrs. Sapp - o.k.

Chris Blackwell - does that answer your question? So it is not in our normal round of demolitions but it is something that needs to be taken care of before it damages other properties in the vicinity.

Mrs. Sapp - thank you Chris.

Moe Rayan - basically the removal of an unsafe structure once the catastrophe happened and the structure is standing but it is unsupported so it would be considered as an emergency removal.

Mrs. Sapp - thank you.

Mayor Kuhn - what we basically are doing is taking I believe it is five thousand dollars from the 2017 Budget from Senior Service Center improvements and placing it in Town Wide Demolition and that is so that the question was answered by Chris to Cathy Sapp providing the information on why we are taking it and what it is needed for and Citizens Participation Plan allows for minor amendments to approved projects within a 30 day public comment period which is required for substantial amendments that exceeds fifty percent of the original Budget. The original Budget of \$25,000.00 or more that is in a project with an original Budget under \$25,000.00 so based on that we are permitted to make the transfers.

Chris Blackwell - I would like to point out Mayor also at the bottom of my memo it says that you may anticipate more of these, however, you signed the Agreements and our money is coming in now, we have it now and so and I would like to continue with this. I left this on the Agenda but we will be notifying the food pantries that the money is here and we should receive release of funds for all of our projects shortly.

Mayor Kuhn - o.k. and with that being said then Chris any monies that we took from one project to go into another because of the fact the funds didn't come in now they will be replenished, is that correct?

Chris Blackwell - yes, I think we could also do it like this came from Lincoln Park Community Center, Senior Center I apologize we would of course if like they are working on a generator improvement, we would easily move funds so we might not put it right back right away but wait until those contracts are bid out and we know what the amounts are and put it back then.

Mayor Kuhn - o.k. to explain to the residents the funding for certain projects was held up by the Federal Government so what we as a Municipality did is we took some funding from one project to put into another so that people got paid and then once we got the funding from the Government we will replenish it which Chris said finally did come in.

Moe Rayan - Mayor just wanted to add to those comments. Those projects that we supplied the funding to them they were projects that needed to be done during the Summer and Fall time of the year such as the Paving Program and the roof at the Service Center and so on so those projects needed to be done within that time limit so we don't lose the season of construction.

Mayor Kuhn - right, so that is why we had to make those decisions because of the time element.

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

Mrs. Sapp made a Motion to approve **Resolution No. 2017 - 076** - approving The Acquisition and Subsequent Disposition of Vacant Property located at 134 Shenandoah Drive, 0448-S-00058-0000-00 in accordance with The Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program and providing Assurance that Acquisition is consistent with The Penn Hills Comprehensive Plan.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the Motion.

Mayor Kuhn - for those who aren't familiar this is a program the Municipality is jointly involved with the County and what it does is under the program the Municipality is able to submit certain properties to the County for consideration and tonight's is 134 Shenandoah Drive and that allows the County to sell the property and then the people who purchase it usually revamp them and it is a win win situation because of the fact not only do the properties come back on the tax revenue for the Municipality and the School District and the County but it also makes the area that might be run down it adds to the property value of not only the property owner but those houses around them that are in the area. So it is a very good program and we are all very happy that the County has enacted it.

Chris Blackwell - I would like to add Mayor that typically when you do these when Mayor & Council approves these it is a vacant lot next door to somebody and it is for expansion of their yard but in this case this is a house on Shenandoah if you come up Shenandoah coming up it is on the left hand side so I think that residents of Shenandoah will be pleased to know that this is actually a house that a contractor intends on renovating. If you look at the amount they think it is going to cost to renovate I think it is a little low. Code Enforcement will be watching them closely but still it is a house and I think that is important it is putting a house back on the market.

Mayor Kuhn - and often too it might be someone who is buying a vacant lot next to them, but it is a very good program and it seems to be working very well.

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

Mr. Underwood made a Motion to approve **Resolution No. 2017 - 077** - adopting The Municipality of Penn Hills Cafeteria Plan.

Mr. Brodnicki seconded the Motion.

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

Mr. Brodnicki made a Motion to approve **Resolution No. 2017 - 078** - authorizing The Municipal Manager to enter into a Lease/Purchase Agreement with PNC Equipment Finance, LLC for a Combination Sewer Cleaner Truck for The Department of Water Pollution Control for a Total Cost of \$443,912.15.

Mr. Underwood seconded the Motion.

Mayor Kuhn - being that the total cost is such a high figure I just wanted to ask the Manager if he could just briefly explain what this equipment will do for the Municipality, Moe?

Moe Rayan - basically Mayor this piece of equipment is the replacement of an existing piece and had a combination vac and a jet as well. The one that we have it is about I want to say about fifteen years old and we are starting to experience a lot of problems with it. Deterioration in the tank. Wear and tear on the equipment necessitated the purchase or the discussion about purchasing a new vehicle. The reason that we are going with it this year is just to make sure that we are receiving the discount or savings of 3% and we are trying to avoid the increase of 3% if we wait until next year. The piece of equipment is going to be built and delivered to the Municipality next year and the first payment is not due until 2018 and that number has been put in The Proposed Budget for you to approve it. This is to enter into a Lease so that the Financial Institution can get the funds secured and ready to go when the equipment is ready to be delivered to us. But it is a life line for our sewer department. They use that

piece of equipment every day. Fifteen years that is a long time but on a big piece of equipment a Capital Expenditure like that it is worth every penny of it. It assists the residents, it assists our crews in cleaning the sewer lines. It saves the Municipality money from calling out contractors to come in and do the work for us. If we call a contractor out to come in and clean a segment of a pipe for us that will cost us about \$400.00 an hour. That is why we have this piece of equipment. Again it is a life line for our sewer department.

Mayor Kuhn - thank you.

(inaudible)

Moe Rayan - the interest rate and as everything else around us goes up so if we receive a bid of a hundred and some thousand dollars today anything for next year you can almost be guaranteed that it is going to be anywhere between 3 - 5% increase just a way of cost of doing business. It has its own price this year and next year just like buying a car. You buy it for \$20,000.00 this year you go buy it next year it is \$21,000.00.

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

Mayor Kuhn - I am going to make two Appointments tonight. They are both for The Traffic Safety Committee. The first one is Richard Grove who has served on The Traffic Safety Committee. His term is being up and he has sent in that he would like to be reappointed and we know Richard Grove very well and he worked very hard with our residents and so I am putting his name up for an Appointment to The Penn Hills Traffic Safety Committee.

Dr. Kincaid made a Motion to appoint Richard Grove to The Traffic Safety Committee.

Mrs. Sapp made a second Motion.

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

Mayor Kuhn - my second Appointment is also for The Traffic Safety Committee. It is Joseph Opsitnick. He has also served and he is interested in continuing his service on The Traffic Safety Committee. So do I have a Motion to appoint Mr. Joseph Opsitnick to The Traffic Safety Committee?

Mr. Brodnicki made a Motion to appoint Joseph Opsitnick to The Traffic Safety Committee.

Mr. Underwood seconded the Motion.

There being no further discussion the Motion was approved by a 5-0 Vote.

REPORTS

Mayor Kuhn - before I ask Mayor & Council for any of their reports, I do want to bring up to the podium Richard Grove. He is a Fireman for Penn Hills Municipality and has been for many many years and he is the President for The State Fire Association. He was instrumental in bringing the yearly Fire Association Convention to Penn Hills which I believe is the first time it ever happened. I don't want anybody to get nervous and think Richard is coming after me with an axe because that is not the case. He was very instrumental and he worked very hard to bring the Convention into Penn Hills. I was fortunate enough with our Manager and Chuck Miller, our Fire Marshal, Senator Jay Costa, State Representative Anthony DeLuca to attend the ceremony and I have to say that there were so many people from so many different areas in Pennsylvania and our volunteer fire departments made us proud. They had so many functions and so many of the people who came from all over the State said that it was the best Convention that they had ever attended. Most of the activities are generally just in where they stay, hotel, motel or whatever it is, but we had a golf outing one day, we had the Presentation the next day and then that night Thad Stevens had a luncheon for all of them. The following night we had a wonderful picnic atmosphere down at the park with food and activities and music and then it ended with a large parade on Saturday and as I said with all that our volunteer firemen do this was not an easy task and they certainly once again made Penn Hills proud. So besides the recognition that Rich got he also got something that every household needs. You can go from there Richard.

Richard Grove - as President of The State of course it was my extreme honor to serve and I am still in the office until the end of the year and as part I was given this ax and it is heavy and it is solid brass. If anybody would like to well here I will bring it to you.

Mayor Kuhn - now be very careful Richard.

Mayor Kuhn - thank you Richard. I also would like to state that our Budget Meetings are coming up which I know everybody is aware of or should be aware of they are December 4th at 7:00, December 18th at 7:00 and then the passing of the Budget which still would have input from the audience is December 29th at 3:00 P.M. Now I believe if I am not mistaken the Budgets have gone out but I do want to announce that we have in the audience Councilman elect John Petrucci and I know that Mayor & Council had specifically asked the Manager and our Finance Director to make sure that John you had received a copy of the Budget. I am sorry John the Manager has it right here so he will present it to you and the reason why is because of the fact you will not be voting on it at the end of December but this is the Budget that you are going to be working with so we wanted to make sure that you received it so you could go over it thoroughly and when we have our Budget Hearings that you can give the same input as

Mayor & Council. Anyone who comes to the meetings has that opportunity. You present your comments to Mayor & Council. The first meeting which is on the 4th that meeting Mayor and Council do not speak or present anything. The Budget that we received and that the public received is the Budget that the Manager has presented to Mayor & Council. The first meeting Mayor & Council takes all the input from the audience then what we do is we go over what the Manager has presented, what the residents have commented on and then at the next meeting is when we again take any input but that is when we give our input. So if you come to the first meeting I don't want you to think oh my goodness those Council people didn't even make one comment on the Budget. It is because of the fact that is not our time that is your time. Like I said being that Mr. Petrucci is Council person elect he won't be voting on it but he will be using that Budget and he will be working on it so I want to make sure that he has the opportunity to give any input, suggestions or what have you on the Budget also. So we do invite everyone and ask your neighbors or whoever wants to come and see exactly what the Budget is and if you have any suggestions on it that is your night to shine. The only other comment I wanted to make is Light Up Night will be November 30th at the Municipality here. It is always a wonderful time and it is really a great way to start the holidays and we just get larger and larger every year that we have it and our Planning Department work very hard on preparing everything and especially Meg. So please tell her we know it will be a success again this year and we cannot thank her for the efforts that she puts in.

Chris Blackwell - I will tell her.

Mayor Kuhn - o.k. I don't usually speak first but I wanted to let Rich get in and out before it got too late.

Mrs. Sapp - Mayor Kuhn - you already hit on this a little bit but I just wanted to reiterate the sudden passing of Chris Fedele passing away on 10-27 it really saddened my heart to hear that news but I just wanted to say that it is not too late for you to send cards or your condolences. Fedele Insurance has been a reputable business in Penn Hills Community for a long time and a part of our Community so if it is on your heart please offer your condolences and send a card down to the office. He was very reputable and worked very hard and he was Penn Hills Pride so again it saddened my heart and just keep the family in your prayers. It was sudden that that happened. The other thing was the Litter Posters. I just want to commend all the local businesses for posting those posters and supporting the cause. It just makes my heart so happy that every time I go into one of the businesses and I see those posters on the door or in the window it just makes me smile that our local businesses took it that serious and they are supporting the cause. So I just want to commend our local businesses for hanging those posters and supporting the cause. They look good in the windows and good on the doors.

Mayor Kuhn - and the young people who made them are so bright and once again they make Penn Hills proud of our children.

Mayor Kuhn - we will be holding an Executive Session after the meeting regarding Personnel Matters and with that I ask for a Motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Kincaid entertained a Motion to adjourn.

Mr. Underwood seconded the Motion.

Mayor Kuhn - Meeting is adjourned. Thank you for attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

DATE

MAUREEN M. SORCE
MANAGER'S SECRETARY