



Minutes

JANUARY 13, 2020

Mayor Calabrese called the meeting to order at 7:01PM.

1. Approval of Agenda Items
Mayor Calabrese stated there were no additions to the published agenda.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
Mayor Calabrese led the Pledge of allegiance.
3. Roll Call
Municipal Manager Scott Andrejchak called the roll. Present were Mayor Calabrese, Deputy Mayor Sapp and Councilors Pettruci, Getsy and Pecora.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to approve minutes from Council meetings held on October 21, 2019, November 18, 2019, December 30, 2019 and January 6, 2020.

Deputy Mayor Sapp made the motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Petrucci seconded the motion to approve the minutes. Mayor Calabrese called for a vote. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:**
Bill Moutz, 1335 Maple Avenue. Mr. Moutz thanked Penn Hills and Councilman Petrucci on behalf of the Penn Hills Beautification Committee. Funds provided by the municipality helped mulch areas and beautify areas of Penn Hills. Mr. Moutz thanked the volunteers of the Beautification Committee. Mr. Moutz explained the budget of the Committee. Mr. Moutz explained the importance of beautification of gateways into Penn Hills.

Elder Arthur M. Balthrop III. Mr. Balthrop said he represented a church a 235 Eastgate Drive in Penn Hills. Mr. Balthrop said that he was present to get Eastgate Drive paved. He said that the City of Pittsburgh was committed to maintaining the road. He said that he met with an attorney at Reed Smith who would prepare documents, free of charge, in order to advance the church's project. He asked to have a meeting with the Municipal Manager or Deputy

Mayor. The Municipal Manager said he would like to meet, and provided Mr. Balthrop with his contact information.

OLD BUSINESS

6. Removal of Tyler Tomasino from Economic Development Committee effective January 13, 2020.

Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to remove Tyler Tomasino from the Economic Committee, effective January 13, 2020. Deputy Mayor Sapp made the motion. Councilman Pecora seconded the motion.

Mayor Calabrese called for public comment.

Sean Kerestus of 413 Crescent Gardens Drive addressed Council. The speaker asked the council to reconsider the motion. Mr. Kerestus said the motion sets a dangerous precedent. Kerestus said he received negative campaign materials from both mayoral candidates in the election cycle. Mr. Kerestus spoke in support of Mr. Tomasino.

Felix Catlin of 223 Datura Drive addressed Council. Mr. Catlin asked Council to consider the value of a new start. Mr. Catlin said he was enthused about the people working for and on behalf Penn Hills, and encouraged a fresh start.

Jerry Chiappinelli of 921 Cimarron Drive addressed Council. Mr. Chiappinelli said that to insult public officials in this public forum was terrible. Mr. Chiappinelli said he was insulted. Mr. Chiappinelli said the publication was an insult to mayor and council. Mr. Chiappinelli called for Mr. Tomasino to be removed from the committee. Mr. Chiappinelli said he was seeking legal action against Mr. Tomasino.

Becky Fenoglietto of 232 McAllister Drive addressed Council. Ms. Fenoglietto said she thought Mr. Tomasino should be given a chance. Ms. Fenoglietto said the publication was politics. Ms. Fenoglietto said she recently saw a comment Mr. Tomasino made about the county executive, and felt it was a problem. Ms. Fenoglietto said that for the head of the Economic Development Committee to insult the executive was a problem.

Alan Waldron of 342 Iris Drive addressed Council. Mr. Waldron asked if any attempts were made to mediate the situation. Mr. Waldron spoke in support of Mr. Tomasino. Mr. Waldron said he did not want to lose an asset to the committee. Mr. Waldron said he thought the mayor or manager should meet with Mr. Tomasino and set expectations for behavior. Mr. Waldron asked that the motion be tabled or voted down.

Mayor Calabrese called for comments from Council.

Councilman Petrucci read a statement in support of Mr. Tomasino, in opposition of the motion. Councilman called for a spirit of forgiveness. Councilman Petrucci said Penn Hills had many larger issues to address. Mr. Petrucci said

it was unclear if Mr. Tomasino created the publication. Mr. Petrucci said it was shared between two adults and one person chose to share it on social media. Mr. Petrucci said Mr. Tomasino received the publication from other individual. Mr. Petrucci said that Mr. Tomasino has volunteered on the Committee and reached out to other agencies for the purposes of economic development. Mr. Petrucci said that removals from Committees should be done fairly and not in a one side fashion.

Councilman Getsy spoke support of Mr. Tomasino. Mr. Getsy spoke in opposition of the motion. Mr. Getsy said Mr. Tomasino did not intend for the publication to be public. Mr. Getsy said Mr. Tomasino was very competent. Mr. Getsy said that Mr. Tomasino was a benefit to Penn Hills. Mr. Getsy said that the publication offended members of council. Mr. Getsy said that prior councils offended public who attended meetings. Mr. Getsy asked the issue be set aside.

Mayor Calabrese spoke in favor of the motion. Mayor Calabrese said the removal was not for campaign materials. Mayor Calabrese said she was not offended at all by the publication. Mayor Calabrese said that the publication showed a lack of maturity and judgment. Mayor Calabrese said the publication was meant to be publicly disseminated and create a negative depiction. Mayor Calabrese said there were consequences to speech. Mayor Calabrese said that letters from Mr. Tomasino were defensive. Mayor Calabrese said that that comments made by Mr. Tomasino about the county executive contributed to her decision. Mayor Calabrese said the publication reflected a lack of maturity and judgment.

Mayor Calabrese called for a vote. Councilors Getsy and Petrucci voted no. Mayor Calabrese, Deputy Mayor Sapp and Councilman Pecora voted yes. The motion carried 3-2.

Items #7 - #13.

Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to table Items #7 through #13 under Old Business.

[Appoint Karen Lantz to the Economic Development Committee for a term beginning January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2023.]

[Appoint Mark Lantz to the Planning Commission for a term beginning January 13, 2020 – December 31, 2021.]

[Appoint Linda Bluemle to Library Advisory Board for a term beginning January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2023.]

[Appoint Donielle Owens to the Economic Development Commission for a term beginning January 1, 2020- December 31, 2023.]

[Appoint Lindsey Hayakawa to Penn Hills Arts Council for a term beginning January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2023].

[Appoint Dawn Williams to the Penn Hills Economic Development Committee for a term beginning January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2023.]

[Appoint Adeshewa Metzger to the Penn Hills Recreation Advisory Board for a term beginning January 14, 2020 – December 31, 2020.]

Deputy Mayor Sapp made a motion to table Items #7 - #13 under Old Business. Councilman Pecora seconded the motion. The solicitor advised that there is no discussion under a motion to table and said that the motion to table should advance to a vote. A vote to table was called. Councilors Getsy and Petrucci voted no on the motion to table items #7-#13. Deputy Mayor Sapp, Councilman Pecora and Mayor Calabrese voted yes on the motion. The motion to table carried 3-2.

NEW BUSINESS

- 14(a) Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 2657 of 2020** – An Ordinance of The Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Stop Sign located at Marshall Drive and Pennview Drive.

Deputy Mayor Sapp made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2657 of 2020. Councilman Pecora seconded the motion. Mayor Calabrese called for public comment. Mayor Calabrese called for comments from Council. Mayor Calabrese called for a vote. A vote was called. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 14(b) Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 2663** – An Ordinance of The Municipality of Penn Hills County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, No Parking on Glenfield Drive.

Deputy Mayor Sapp made a motion to Approve Ordinance No. 2663. Councilman Petrucci seconded the motion. Mayor Calabrese called for comments from the public. Mayor Calabrese called for comments from Council.

Deputy Mayor Sapp asked Chris Blackwell to give further explanation of the ordinance. Mr. Blackwell explained that the ordinance was recommended by the traffic safety committee. Mr. Blackwell explained that the no parking restriction applied to the even numbered side of the street, from to house #150 to house #346. Mayor Calabrese asked if this ordinance was the recommendation of the traffic safety committee and Mr. Blackwell answered in the affirmative and said the committee had physically gone to the location and had a meeting about it.

Mayor Calabrese allowed further public comment. Resident Jean Meyer, 167 Crescent Hills Road addressed Council. Ms. Meyer asked if the restriction was only on one side. Mr. Blackwell answered in the affirmative.

Deputy Mayor Sapp asked how the parking restriction would impact on-street parking on the opposite side of the street. Mr. Blackwell explained that the lots in the area were sixty (60) feet and could accommodate parking.

Councilman Petrucci asked if the item was brought to Council because of difficulty with snow plowing. Mr. Blackwell said he was not sure if that was a reason.

Councilman Getsy said that he spoke to residents on the street. Mr. Getsy said the residents were not aware of the ordinance, and recommended that residents be polled and the motion be tabled. Mr. Getsy said the ordinance would cause problems.

A resident of 192 Glenfield Drive spoke in favor the motion. The resident said that the current parking was a problem and difficult for vehicles to travel the road. The resident said she would really like to see no parking at all on the street.

Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to table the ordinance, in light of Councilman Getsy's comments. Councilman Petrucci made the motion to table the ordinance. Councilman Getsy seconded the motion. A vote was called. The motion to table Ordinance No. 2663 was approved unanimously.

- 14(c) Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 2664** – An Ordinance of The Municipality of Penn Hills, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania amending Ordinance 2491 of 2016 and revising the schedule of fees for permits, sewer charges, and development application review, public hearing charges, printing charges and other municipal fees.

Councilman Petrucci made a motion to approve Ordinance No.2664. Councilman Pecora seconded the motion. Mayor Calabrese called for public comment.

Faith Milazzo of 121 Castle Drive addressed Council. Ms. Milazzo questioned what the fees were for. Mr. Blackwell explained what fees applied to what activities. Mr. Blackwell explained the peddler's license and juke box fees to Ms. Milazzo. Ms. Milazzo questioned fireworks fees. Mr. Blackwell explained who is subject to fees associated with fireworks. Mr. Blackwell explained the changes to fees in the ordinance. Solicitor Craig Alexander said that the fees were based on the administrative costs associated with providing certain services.

Bill Moutz of 1335 Maple Avenue addressed Council. Bill Moutz questioned if there were police who went around looking for signs that are not being paid for.

Chris Blackwell said it was only referring to business signs.

Bill Moutz said there was a 4' x 8' sign corner of Sandy Creek Road and Allegheny River Boulevard in front of used car lot promoting religion and thought that could ruffle some resident's feathers.

Chris Blackwell responded it is for permanently mounted signs. It should not be allowed to be put there.

Mayor Calabrese called for comments from Council. Mayor Calabrese called for a vote to approve Ordinance No. 2664. The motion to approve Ordinance No. 2664 was unanimous.

15. **RESOLUTIONS:**

Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2020 – 001** – granting a Modification of the bulk and area regulations of The Conditional Use Approval granted to CMS Housing for the construction of a 52 Unit Apartment Building for senior housing at 5785 Saltsburg Road, (Lot Block #447-P-182). Deputy Mayor Sapp made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-1. Councilman Petrucci seconded the motion.

Mayor Calabrese called for comments from the public.

Bill Moutz of 1335 Maple Avenue addressed Council. Mr. Moutz recommended shielded lighting in the parking lot and make sure building has a fire suppression system in every room in building. Chris Blackwell responded that the application goes before Planning Commission and it will be addressed and the fire suppression system is required by Penn Hills zoning ordinances.

Christine Miller of 109 Garlow Drive addressed Council. Ms. Miller said she visited houses in Plum of Mr. Rodriguez. Ms. Miller said that she and Mr. Getsy visited a resident who was unhappy with lack of safety features in a property owned by Mr. Rodriguez. She said she would be very cautious of the developer and see that code is followed. Ms. Miller said that the property developer is shaky.

Mr. Blackwell said that the property developer, Victor Rodriguez, was in the audience and asked him to comment. Mr. Blackwell said that the conditional use was already approved. Mr. Blackwell said the item on the agenda was for a minor modification for the building's footprint.

Mayor Calabrese called for comments from Council.

Mr. Getsy responded that he and Ms. Miller visited a resident of the developer's housing, Mr. Ziegler, last year. Mr. Getsy said that he heard the management was poor and asked that the management conditions be monitored by the municipality. Mr. Getsy said a resident of the property had water damage in his kitchen, and it took seven months for the building owner to make the repairs.

Victor Rodriguez responded that Mr. Ziegler caused a fire on the fourth floor of the building and it is has a full sprinkler system. Mr. Rodriguez said that the water damage was because of a fire caused by the tenant. Mr. Rodriguez said he did not appreciate his reputation being damaged by the story.

Deputy Mayor Sapp asked Mr. Rodriguez about the information about three complaints leading to eviction. Mr. Rodriguez replied that evictions are based on lease violations and the state laws for residential evictions.

Mayor Calabrese said that she likes to deal with facts and she heard that Mr. Rodriguez has good properties in other areas and he does a fine job with management. Mr. Rodriguez thanked the Mayor and appreciated her response.

Mayor Calabrese called for a vote. Deputy Mayor Sapp, Mayor Calabrese and Councilors Pecora and Petrucci voted to approve the resolution. Mr. Getsy abstained.

Mayor Calabrese asked Mr. Getsy if he abstained because of a conflict of interest. Mr. Getsy said he abstained because he was not sure if the development should occur, unless Mr. Ziegler's situation was addressed. Mr. Getsy said he had no financial conflict of interest. Mr. Getsy asked if there was an issue with his abstention.

Solicitor Craig Alexander said there is a difference of opinion on abstentions.

Mayor Calabrese motion carried.

Mr. Petrucci made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2020-002** - Authorizing the Municipal Manager to be the designated official to sign and complete all documents and agreements with **the** Commonwealth Financing Authority for the H2O grant program.

Deputy Mayor Sapp seconded the motion.

Mayor Calabrese asked for roll call and it was 5-0 vote.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Councilman Petrucci got a complaint on January 1, 2020 about pornographic graffiti on a fence at 1803 Leechburg Road. Councilman Petrucci called Code Enforcement and Mr. Andrejchak and they took care of this matter immediately. Would like to get a Resolution for Residential Properties.

Mr. Getsy, Mayor Calabrese and Mr. Petrucci went to a Rotary Club Meeting back in October, around October 17 and discussed Vacant Homes being liened. Chris Blackwell said we have a Vacant Property Program and also a Smart Sheriff Sales which is with a developer and a Tax Collector.

Councilman Petrucci said the Manager makes all the decisions. Councilman Petrucci has come up with a list of 16 items which he hopes will help us in the near future. Some will be RFP's and some are small but every little bit helps. The Manager will have to advise on these.

Manager Scott Andrejchak addressed Mayor and Council and Residents to go over data for cost savings going into 2021.

Councilman Getsy addressed Mayor & Council and Residents and said when he was running as a candidate he wanted the public to speak first at the public meetings and glad to see that it has changed. Also would like to know if by Robert's Rules do they need to be raised with Council or can it be addressed directly to residents or need to be addressed at an executive session to be discussed.

Solicitor Craig Alexander said executive sessions were for personnel matters. Councilman Getsy's matters were for a public forum. Councilman Getsy gave an example could the public be given a portable microphone at the meetings instead of coming up to the podium. Some people are intimidated by that.

Mayor Calabrese said that could be something to talk about at the Training Sessions since they are there all day.

Councilman Getsy disagreed that was something that would be at the training session.

Manager Scott Andrejchak said we would have to look into it if technology issues aren't a problem it could be discussed.

Councilman Getsy has another question pertaining to Budget Hearings. If residents do not get their questions answered at the budget hearings is that a done deal or can they talk to someone afterwards.

Manager Scott Andrejchak said they can come and talk to him and/or Finance Director and they are available from 8:00AM to 4:30PM, Monday-Friday.

17. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, ETC.**

18. **REPORTS** – Mayor, Council

Mayor Calabrese had a brief report. She was sworn in on January 6th but she said she actually beforehand went with women to the White House. It was awesome to be at The White House. They had us in small groups. I was there for two days and there were Mayors from all over the Country there. Talked to Cabinet Members and Secretary of Transportation and very happy that they are willing to work with us. Councilman Pecora and Mayor Calabrese have been attending training sessions Saturday was about Police, Firemen and EMS and next week will be about infrastructure. She will be attending additional programs and be in State College in March. Mayor Calabrese stated she has an open door policy and will meet face to face, e-mail and/or phone. She would love to hear from all of you.

19. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Calabrese called for a motion to Adjourn. Councilman Petrucci made a motion to adjournment and Deputy Mayor Sapp seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approve unanimously.

The meeting ended at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Sorce
Administrative Assistant