



FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH

MINUTES

FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

PRESENT: Harrison S. Lauer, Vice-President; Frederick C. Leech, Thomas Karet, Elizabeth Monroe, Sarah Hanna, Bradley D. Harrison, Councilmembers; Walter A. Scott, III, Mayor; A. Bruce Bowden, Solicitor; Michael J. Stevens, Chief of Police; Larry Kurpakus, Public Works Director; Jeanine A. Mancuso, Treasurer; Shawn M. Peterson, Borough Secretary

ALSO

PRESENT: Austin Henry, EAC Chairperson; Wesley Posvar, Park Commission Chairperson; Logan Dressman, Avery Litwin, Ethan Kolek, Junior Councilmembers; Michael Pohl, Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department; Bartley Griffith, Jr., President of Shady Side Academy; Jonathan Kamin, Past Chair for the Board of Trustees for Shady Side Academy; Amanda DeGregory, Office of US Congressman Chris Deluzio; Kimberly Forrest, Resident; and five other attendees

VIA ZOOM: Gary J. Koehler, Borough Manager; one other attendee

ABSENT: Andrew C. Bennett, Council President

Mr. Lauer called the meeting to order at 5:58 PM.

JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON PLEDGE

Amanda DeGregory, from US Congressman Chris Deluzio's office, was in attendance to congratulate Avery Litwin and Ethan Kolek on their appointment to the Borough of Fox Chapel's Junior Council Person Program. She gave both Miss Litwin and Mr. Kolek letters from Mr. Deluzio.

Mayor Alex Scott administered the Junior Council Person Pledge to Miss Litwin and Mr. Kolek.

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Mr. Karet moved that the August 21, 2023, meeting minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed by a unanimous vote.

RESIDENT COMMENTS

Kimberly Forrest, 1090 Fox Chapel Road, stated she was largely happy with Vogel Disposal Service but thinks the Borough needs to reconsider the e-waste and Hazardous Household Waste (HHW) collection due to the cost of the program. Ms. Forrest was also disappointed that Vogel would only take five fluorescent tubes. Mr. Lauer thanked Ms. Forrest for her comments.

PARK COMMISSION

Wesley Posvar, chairperson for the Park Commission, summarized the meeting on Monday, September 11, 2023, as contained in the minutes from the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Austin Henry, Chairperson for the EAC, summarized Environmental Disturbance Application 23-18, 202 Glenhaven Lane, addition, patio, and garage expansion.

Mr. Henry stated the EAC recommended approval of Environmental Disturbance Application 23-18 as submitted, with contingencies related to the redesign of the sump to increase the capacity of the existing sump footprint, presumably by increasing the size of the pipes to be able to receive the stormwater discharge from the entire property, and upon the infiltration study calculations such that the calculations of the facility comply with the ordinance. The applicant was able

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to submit the redesigns and infiltration study, and LSSE reviewed this information and stated the items complied with the EAC's recommendations.

Ms. Hanna moved to approve Environmental Disturbance Application 23-18, with a waiver of the geotechnical requirements and contingent upon the applicant's compliance with the standard requirements outlined in the LSSE letter dated September 6, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Karet and passed by a unanimous vote.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Stevens stated the Police Department has some exciting community relations events planned. The Touch-a-Truck event on Saturday, October 7, 2023, from 11 AM to 2 PM will be at the Borough's Public Works Facility, and the Paint Pumpkins with Police event on Saturday, October 21, 2023, from 11 AM to 2 PM will be behind the Borough Building.

Mr. Lauer stated Police overtime in August was consistent with previous months. Still, Chief Stevens is saying this will begin to trend downward with the addition of the twelfth officer (Zachary Luffy) and because vacations are coming to an end.

Chief Stevens stated that anytime an overtime shift comes up, he plans on filling the shift to prevent more overtime. He stated he was excited to see where things go in the next few months.

FIRE REPORT

Michael Pohl, Lieutenant for the Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department, stated the Fire Department applied for a grant in the amount of \$19,931 from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner's Fire Company & Emergency Medical Service Grant Program. If awarded, this grant would pay for a new Hurst hydraulic ram rescue tool and two ground monitors for 2 1/2" hose lines.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Mr. Kurpakus stated that paving on Hillcrest Road has been completed, and restoration work for Hillcrest has begun this week.

Painted crosswalks were included in this year's paving contract. Once Shields Paving has completed utility patching in the Borough, they will begin painting the crosswalks.

Mr. Lauer congratulated Mr. Kurpakus on the great work the Public Works Department did this year on completing the roadwork early.

TREASURER REPORT

Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMOs)

Mr. Karet moved to approve the three pension plans – MMO of \$0 for the Police Plan, \$0 for the Non-Uniform Defined Benefits Plan, and \$43,726 for the Defined Contributions Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and passed unanimously.

Ratification of Payments – August 2023

Ms. Monroe moved that the payment of bills for August 2023 (General Fund Vouchers 4054 - 4139, \$534,593.90) be ratified. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 687

Mr. Karet moved to adopt Resolution No. 687 to confirm the Borough of Fox Chapel has formally requested a grant from the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County (RAAC) for the Dorseyville Fire Station Improvements project for \$500,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed unanimously.

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Civil Service Commission Reappointment

Mr. Karet moved to reappoint David B. Mitchell to the Civil Service Commission for a 6-year term expiring on December 31, 2029. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

Ms. Hanna asked if it can be announced at Council meetings when openings are available on the different committees, commissions, authorities, and councils to ensure residents know of the openings.

A discussion on possible limits to the number of terms a volunteer can serve was had. Mr. Bowden stated term limits would need to be developed by ordinance.

Shady Side Academy School Resource Officer (SRO) Agreement

Jonathan Kamin, Past Chair of the Board of Trustees for Shady Side Academy (SSA), stated that SSA is appreciative of having an SRO on campus. Bartley Griffith, President of SSA, echoed Mr. Kamin's expression of gratitude.

Chief Stevens stated that the Fox Chapel Police Department will hire another officer to the department and supply an officer to SSA as an SRO.

Mr. Lauer said the Agreement is for three years, from October 1, 2023, until September 30, 2026, and can be extended. Shady Side Academy will absorb all the costs associated with the SRO.

Mr. Henry asked if the officer would be enforcing local, State, and Federal laws as opposed to school rules and regulations. Mr. Kamin stated that school rules and regulations will continue to be handled by the administration, and the chain of command with respect to the officer will remain with the Chief of Police of Fox Chapel.

Mr. Leech moved to approve the Agreement between the Borough of Fox Chapel Police Department and Shady Side Academy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and passed unanimously.

CONTRACT AWARDS

2023 Chevrolet Tahoe for Shady Side Academy School Resource Officer

Ms. Hanna moved to approve the contract for a 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe 4WD Police Vehicle to Jim Shorkey Auto Group at the cost of \$48,567.21 via CoStars Contract No. 013-E22-270. This amount will be reimbursed by Shady Side Academy for the SRO program. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed unanimously.

Upfit Package for 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the contract for the vehicle upfit package for the 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe to IBIS Emergency Vehicles at the cost of \$21,415 via CoStars Contract No. 012-E23-318. This amount will be reimbursed by Shady Side Academy for the SRO program. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed unanimously.

2023 – 2024 Contract for Lining Sewer Mains

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the 2023 - 2024 Contract for lining sewer mains to Insight Pipe Contracting at the cost of:

- \$45.00 LF (8"), \$50.00 LF (10"), and \$65.00 LF (12") for a standard Styrene Lining
- \$50.00 LF (8"), \$54.00 LF (10"), and \$70.00 LF (12") for Styrene Barrier Lining

The motion was seconded by Mr. Karet and passed unanimously.

2023 – 2024 Contract for CCTV and Cleaning

Ms. Hanna moved to approve the 2023 – 2024 Contract for CCTV and Cleaning to State Pipe Services, Inc. at the cost of:

- \$1.43 LF (8" and 10") and \$1.53 LF (12") for CCTV
- \$1.02 LF (8", 10", and 12") for Light Cleaning and Jetting

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- \$1.53 LF (8", 10", 12") for Heavy Cleaning and Root Removal via North Hills COG Contract.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and passed unanimously.

Garbage Collection Contract – Option Years

Mr. Leech moved to award the option years under the current garbage contract for unlimited garage door collection of trash and recyclables with Vogel Disposal Service, Inc.

COLLECTION SERVICE	UNIT COST PER MONTH	UNITS	TOTAL COST PER MONTH	TOTAL COST PER YEAR
3/1/24 – 2/28/25	\$38.49	1946	\$74,901.54	\$898,818.48
3/1/25 – 2/28/26	\$39.64	1946	\$77,139.44	\$925,673.28

The motion was seconded by Mr. Karet and passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Koehler and Ms. Peterson recommended that a subcommittee of Council be formed to assist with bid specifications due to anticipated higher costs and potential collection changes. Council agreed that a subcommittee should be formed. This item will continue to be discussed at the October 16, 2023, Council meeting.

With no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.

SHAWN MARIE PETERSON
Borough Secretary