

# ***MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK***

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Date:** May 9, 2016

**Time:** 7:30 P.M.

**Location:** Municipal Building

1. Roll Call

**Present:** Council Members Colella, Dixon, Gibbons, Hannan, Harrison, McLean and O'Brien

**Absent:** Council Members Moury and Pape

**Also Present:** Mayor Jack Allen; William J. Spagnol, Manager; Judith L. Miller, Assistant Manager; Solicitor Robert L. McTiernan; Gerard Duke, Director of Community Services, Chief Timothy O'Connor; Jean Statler, Municipal/Environmental Engineer; Joseph Vilella, Finance Director; Ashley Moore, Municipal Planner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Chair Announcement

An Executive Session of Council was conducted on Monday, April 25, 2016 and Monday, May 9, 2016 to discuss personnel issues.

At this time Mr. Hannan introduced Allegheny County Manager Willie McKain. Mr. McKain gave a presentation on the Corrigan Drive Update Project.

Mr. McKain said:

"Thank you. Mr. Hannan and members of Council. I'm going to ask, Andy Baechle is with me, he is our Allegheny County Parks Director, and Steve Shanley is our professional engineer and he's our Director of Public Works. He's going to hand out a visual on a project that we are working in South Park on Corrigan Drive and we thought it would be appropriate to come and share that information with the commission and also your public and your community. The good news is it's an exciting project. Corrigan Drive is on our roads program this year. It's in great need of repairs, so we are going to repave Corrigan Drive. That's the first communication I wanted to make to you. In addition to that, we

are going to, we have done some traffic counts there and just to share some counts with you, we collected some traffic counts in the fall of 2014 and again in the summer of 2015. Corrigan Drive during those data collection range from 7,200 vehicles up to 8,000 vehicles on average a day. It's actually built to be able to carry a lot more than that, we have a four-lane highway. Our project, while we repave the road is now going to convert it down, as you see the pictures there, to a three-lane road. Our project is going to include a lane that goes into the park and out of the park, depending on which way you are coming from the 88 side or even on the Brownsville Road side and it's going to have a single lane in the middle for turning. The engineers have studied that, we think it will add safety to your park and we're also going to add bike lanes. If you know on the side of the ice rink, and I know you are familiar with the park, there's actually part of the road that's very under-utilized, that will be a bike lane as you can see in the handout. It's going into the direction into the park, and then there's a bike lane coming on the other side. The specifications will have at least some painting. We're probably, based on some input actually from some of your community and other stake holders, probably have some light rumble sticks there for some safety. Not the candle sticks, but just some rumbling on the ground so it's a deterrent for any of the bicycle riders or the drivers. If you can envision the park now, the bicyclist are allowed to have access to the roadway but often they are on the side of the guiderail where parents have their children with strollers or walking. So, the vision would be the bicyclist will use these two lanes and then the turning lane would be in the middle of the park. I'm sure a concern is that that intersection on 88 and Baptist and South Park Road is probably one of the busiest ones in your community. However, again, it can actually handle a three-lane highway, can actually handle up to 18,000 to 20,000 vehicles per day. Corrigan Drive, on the high side on our two data collections, one in the summer and one in the fall, only hit 8,000. So we're confident it will not complicate that intersection and would not have an unpleasant experience with the traffic being backed up. Conversely, because you do have a traffic lane, when you get up to McConkey Road, Maple Springs, that actually now instead of waiting for someone to make that turn and you're waiting in what is now the second inside lane, actually someone will be there dedicated to turn, so that it actually should keep the flow of traffic going actually more smoothly based on our engineering studies. Another reason why we're doing this is that we actually talked to the County Police and we looked at some crash data, and over the five-year period that we looked at, if you can remember where the circle is, that is where most of the crashes occur. And if you're not familiar with the park and you have the two lanes coming around and you're unfamiliar, you sometimes make poor judgement. You might be on the inside lane and go to the outside and have a crash, or on the outside coming to the inside. So having it single all the way around actually will contribute again and reinforce the safety spirit of this project. So it is a change, we've done a lot of studying, we've been talking and looking at this for the last several years. We think that, quite frankly, that there's a lot of speeding in the park. We think that, you know, that police can't be everywhere at every time, we think that this traffic calming approach with the new roadway, you will have the repaved there, new lines, new stripes, a turning lane, and there will be bicycle lanes which we think will take some of the bicycles off of where they're driving now where the guiderail is. We think it will be a good experience for your community and all the

visitors that come to the park. Safety is paramount. We want them to come and enjoy our park. We believe that when they come to South Park and any of our nine parks, once we get them there, they'll love it and they'll come back again. So we wanted to take this opportunity and share it with you, Mr. Hannan, your public and your commission and that's the project that we wanted to communicate to you."

Mr. Harrison said:

"Yeah, I have a curiosity question. I'm looking at what you passed out here. The bike lanes are one way. It just seems to me that the lane allocated for the bike lane is rather large compared to the space for the car lane and I don't know if there is some standard..."

Mr. McKain said:

"It's up above, is the grid, it's six foot. So the bike lanes are six, and if you can see the vehicle lanes are ten. I don't know if that helps you with the scale."

Mr. Harrison said:

"It's sort of curiosity question whether a bike lane needs that much space since it's one way. It's not as if you have traffic going towards each other. I don't know whether you need the space or not."

Mr. McKain said:

"I think that in talking to our engineers, and the safety that six is appropriate and it still allows for enough space for the vehicles to come by, and again, if there's something going on, I think that additional space allows the timing to avoid any type of accidents."

Mr. Harrison said:

"Thank you."

Mr. Colella said:

"Sir, when is the project plan on starting and how long will it take and when do you anticipate it to finish"

Mr. McKain said:

"That's a good question. We have the bids, anticipate awarding by the end of May. Once I have the specific notice to proceed, I will send it to Bill Spagnol to share with you. If it's done by, if I issue a notice to proceed in the next several weeks, it's about 60 days, so that would be mid-July it would be done if everything goes well."

Mr. O'Brien said:

"Mr. McKain, the last question from me. We talked about how far in from the Corrigan Drive, Baptist, 88 corridor will this start?"

Mr. McKain said:

"One hundred and fifty feet, and that exists today. Correct?"

Mr. Baechle said:

"Yeah, we'll start the project a hundred and fifty feet in and a thousand feet down from Brownsville Road."

Mr. Hannan said:

"Thank you gentlemen, we do appreciate you coming in."

Mr. McKain said:

"Thank you and honestly, Bethel Park's been a great partner with all our activities in the park. I think when this is done and everyone gives it a chance, I think it will enhance the experience for your community. Thanks so much."

### **Reports of Officials**

#### **4. Library Director's Report**

Library Director, Christine McIntosh, stated that the Bethel Park Public Library provides services to inform, inspire and enrich the community.

Ms. McIntosh talked about fundraising. The annual Book Sale was held at the end of April and raised \$2,750. The Youth Services Department hosted an Art Gala fundraiser on April 29<sup>th</sup> and raised nearly \$1,000.

Ms. McIntosh announced the following programs. Memory Lab will be held on Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> all day. Appointment is needed. You can use Library equipment to document your family's history and store your history on an online database hosted by the State Library for all family members to enjoy.

A weight Loss program will be held on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. by Dr. Tim Campbell.

3D Printer Class will be held on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Learn about the Library's Flash Forge Creator Pro 3D Printer. Registration is required as space is limited.

Pre-School Block Party will take place on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and again at 6:00 p.m. This is an hour long free play session for pre-school children and their caregivers. Registration is required.

Pajama Storytime and Stuffed Animal Sleepover. On Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., children can bring in their favorite stuffed animal and leave them for a special sleepover. Super-secret cameras will catch them as they check out all the fun things in the Library, then pick up your animals along with a photo of their escapades after 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Low Back Pain class with Dr. Shannon Cohen will take place on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. There will be a brief explanation of common causes of low back pain and exercises you can do at home to help.

Ms. McIntosh announced that the Library will be closed on Sunday and Monday, May 29 and 30. The Library will be closed on Sundays through Labor Day.

For more information on these and the many other programs and services offered by the Library, visit the Library's web site at [bethelparklibrary.org](http://bethelparklibrary.org). You can also follow the Library on Facebook or Twitter.

#### 5. Police Chief's Report

Chief O'Connor said that there will be a Candlelight Ceremony outside the Police entrance of the Municipal Building at the memorial on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. This will be in conjunction with Police Memorial Week. All are invited to attend.

Chief said that the next Crime Watch Meeting will be held at the Community Center on Monday, June 6, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. This is the last meeting until September.

The annual Rabies Clinic will take place at the Public Works Garage on Slater Road on Saturday, June 4, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

You can following the Police Department news on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

#### 6. Fire Chief's Report

Chief David Gerber gave the fire report for the month of April.

The first mailing of the fundraising went out a few weeks ago. He said he hopes that everyone continues to be generous. You can mail a check to the fire company or you can donate online at their website at [www.bethelparkvfc.com](http://www.bethelparkvfc.com)

He mentioned that the Grand Opening Ceremony of the new Fire Station on Brightwood Road will take place on Saturday, June 18, beginning at 10:00 a.m. and will last all day. Tours of the new facility will begin at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Colella asked Chief Gerber to explain what a “good intent” call is.

Chief Gerber replied by saying that it is a call that the fire company where someone smells smoke and it turns out to be nothing.

7. Mayor’s Report

Mayor Allen reminded everyone that the Parks Improvement questionnaire is currently on the Bethel Park website as well as in the new edition of the Chronicles. So far, 200 replies have been received. The deadline for submitting questionnaires is June 1. The first informational meeting will take place on May 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Mayor then announced that the Farmers’ Market began last Tuesday and will continue every Tuesday until October from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. at St. Thomas More Church. There are fifteen new vendors this year.

He then reminded everyone about the Rabies Clinic on Saturday, June 4, 2016. This includes cat license and dog license information.

Mayor Allen read an official Proclamation honoring Tri Community South EMS. National EMS week is May 15th through 21<sup>st</sup> with the theme “*EMS STRONG: Called to Care*”. Director Nora Helfrich and John Bower were present to accept the proclamation.

Mr. Bower said that this year, EMS is emphasizing Hands Only CPR. It takes two minutes to learn and it doubles your chances to save a life. You can view the video on the Tri Community South’s website. Mr. Bower said that donations are down this year and is asking for community support to subscribe to the system to help with their operating budget. He said that they just received their CAD Certification. TCSEMS is one of only 100 or so ambulance services in the United States, the Virgin Island and Canada who received this certification.

Mayor Allen presented a special recognition award to Pam Kwiatkoski, mother of Nick Kwiatkoski, 2011 graduate of Bethel Park High School. Nick was recently drafted into the NFL by the Chicago Bears in the fourth round. Nick’s grandparents and brother were also in attendance.

8. Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2016.

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2016. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

9. Bills and Payrolls

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Bills and Payrolls for the Municipality per Bill List #050916 in the amount of \$1,012,722.23. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

## 10. Residents' Comments (non-agenda items only)

None

**GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE**

## 11. Citizens' Comments – General Policy and Finance Items

None

## 12. General Policy and Finance Items

Resolution – Amending the Project List for the 2013 Bethel Park Municipal Authority Bond Issue

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the resolution amending the Project List for the 2013 Bethel Park Municipal Bond Issue, in accordance with Section 5.02 of the Bond Issue Agreement. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

Mr. McLean said that in 2013, the Municipality had a bond issue in connection with the sewer facility and we are required to identify the project which the bond money can be used for. A digester lid replacement project, which was unknown at the time of the bond issue, is an unforeseen expense that requires the need for this resolution.

Mr. Harrison said:

“I expressed my concern about our nation from the federal level to the local government level going on a downward slope not being very responsible to its citizens. And there are two items in Bethel Park here that bother me that I want to speak to. One is there is a system called Swift Reach which is we pay an annual fee to use the system and we can send out phone messages to the whole community or to a selected subset of the community about items. This month, (unintelligible) suggested (unintelligible), it was suggested previously (unintelligible) a policy to regulate that and I agree (unintelligible) about this policy but once it was presented to Council, basically, in my opinion restricted the useful use of that system and no matter how much we use it, it doesn't cost any more than the annual fee that we pay. One of the things it was complained about is that I, in a message that went out (unintelligible) a small segment (unintelligible) so I immediately took that out but that didn't seem to appease anybody. So hopefully we could come up with guidelines that will not be so

restrictive (unintelligible) that Mr. Dixon decided (unintelligible) and skip the suggestion of activism. We should provide the information and let the residents do with it as they will. (Unintelligible). I assume (unintelligible) attendance at the meeting that we talked about, provides an opportunity to assure the neighborhood's interest were well represented. Well, I personally think the more we can encourage people to get involved in what's going on at their local government that in fact (unintelligible) maybe come to the meeting and speak to the issues and that seem to (unintelligible) Mr. Dixon. So I just wanted to comment on the fact that I think that we continue to burden the people with unnecessary items in my opinion is not very responsible to the citizens. Thank you very much."

### **PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS**

13. Citizens' Comments – Planning and Zoning Items

None

14. Planning and Zoning Items

Resolution – Application 2016-0127 – Transfer of Liquor License, 301 South Hills Village

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. Colella to adopt the resolution approving the request of Emporio Village, LLC for the transfer of liquor license R-18262 from the Municipality of Monroeville to be used at facilities located at 301 South Hills Village, Bethel Park, PA. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

### **HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE ITEMS**

15. No Items

Mr. O'Brien said that Election Day is an opportunity for elected officials to meet with constituents, find out problems and get them resolved, but also to find out things that are not pleasant. He said he lost two friends. Mr. Gothi who lived on Irishtown Road, Mr. Gothi was a steamfitter and involved with the Fire Department. Also, we lost John Rodgers who spoke at many Council Meetings and who Mr. O'Brien often referred to as the unofficial official Mayor of Logan Road.

This month is Merchant Marine Month and Mr. O'Brien spoke about Merchant Marines who are no longer with us. Auggie Pace, Bill Hosa and Brooks Bebout. They would be so proud to see all the Merchant Marine flags flying for the month of May.

He announced that the Memorial Day Ceremony will take place on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:50 a.m. Guest speaker will be Lt. Peter Edwards, B51 Pilot WWII and owner of Brookside Lumber.

Mr. O'Brien spoke about the ongoing quest for information on Joseph Chmelynski. With the help of Devlin Robinson of Senator Tim Murphy's office, and Ms. Johns from St. Louis, Missouri, additional information is forthcoming. He thanked Paul Henney Funeral Home for their private donation to help with the cost of the paver. He thanked Bill Spagnol, Judy Miller, Michelle Baynham, Cathy Lordi, Council Members Moury, Hannan and McLean and Chief O'Connor for their help. He said that many of Joseph Chmelynski's family members are travelling here to attend the ceremony.

Mr. Dixon asked Chief O'Connor to announce again the date, time and location of the Police Memorial Service.

Chief O'Connor said the Candlelight Ceremony will take place at the memorial outside the Police entrance of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Dixon said that it is National Police week and it is a special time to honor our men and women in uniform for what they do to protect us and he knows from personal experience that it is a dangerous job. He said never be afraid to thank an officer and shake their hand for the work they do.

Mr. Harrison said that Mr. O'Brien referred to this past Primary day as Primary Election. He said he likes to remind people that the Primary is a party nomination process, not an election. He also pointed out that even the news media now refer to it as a Primary and not Primary Election. He said that Bethel Park has a little to-do about what the Home Rule Charter says about the Primary.

## **PUBLIC WORKS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

### 16. Citizens' Comments – Public Works and Maintenance Items

None

### 17. Public Works and Maintenance Items

Resolution – RAAC Application for the Municipal Building Renovation Project

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. Colella to adopt the resolution authorizing the filing of an application to RAAC for the Municipal Building Renovation Project. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Moury and Pape absent.

Mr. Harrison asked that our engineer tell everyone what RAAC means.

Ms. Statler said it is the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County.  
Ms. Statler said:

“The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires the Municipality of Bethel Park to manage stormwater discharge from the storm sewer system as part of its MS4 stormwater permit. The DEP has notified Bethel Park that the Brush Run Watershed has additional requirements regarding storm water discharges related to sediment and nutrient levels. Bethel Park is required to submit a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Strategy Plan for the Brush Run Watershed. The Strategy Plan will outline the steps to be taken to reduce sediment, phosphorus and nitrogen levels into Brush Run. The discharges to be removed may include dirt, leaves, garbage, litter, fertilizer, pet waste pesticides, motor oil and other dangerous chemicals.

The DEP requires public participation in the preparation of the TMDL plan by advertising the plan in a newspaper of general circulation and at a regularly scheduled Municipal meeting. The TMDL plan was advertised in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette accepting public comments for a period of 30 days. A copy of the TMDL Plan is also available at the Bethel Park Library for review and comment from the public.

Council is to formally accept public comment for the TMDL plan tonight. Any comments will be put into public record. All public comments will be submitted with the TMDL Strategy Plan to the DEP. Any additional public comments received prior to May 16, 2016 will also be transmitted along with the Municipality’s final submittal. The Municipality will be submitting the final plan to DEP by May 31, 2016.

This is similar to what we did with the Saw Mill Run Watershed last year. But the DEP now has determined Brush Run Watershed has to follow the same rules from the TMDL Plan.”

Mr. Hannan questioned who else besides Bethel Park is in the Brush Run Watershed.

Ms. Statler said it includes Bethel Park, Upper St. Clair and Peters Township.

Mr. Hannan asked if we are submitting a coordinated plan.

Ms. Statler replied that everybody is on their own.

18. Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 8:15 P.M.

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Manager

