

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Date: September 10, 2018

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Location: Municipal Building

1. Roll Call

Present: Council Members Consolmagno, Dixon, Gibbons Hannan, Harrison, McLean, Moury and O'Brien

Absent: Mayor Jack Allen

Also Present: Shawn Arbaugh, Manager;
Judith L. Miller, Assistant Manager;
Solicitor Robert L. McTiernan; Chief Timothy O'Connor;
Joseph Vilella, Finance Director

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Chair Announcement

An Executive Session of Council was conducted on Monday, August 27, 2018 to discuss contractual issues and personnel matters.

Reports of Officials

4. Library Director's Report

Library Director, Christine McIntosh, announced a few upcoming classes that the library will be hosting. Story Time is starting up aging for the fall session. Toddler Tuesdays every Tuesday at 9:30 and 10:30am for children two and three years old. Mother Goose on the Loose, Wednesdays at 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30am for children birth to two years of age. Baby Jam is every Thursday at 9:30 and 10:30am for age's birth to two years of age. Preschool Power is every Friday at 9:30 and 10:30am for ages four and five. The Library has 3D printing classes for adults on Tuesday, September 18 at 10am and Wednesday, September 19 at 6pm., Wise Walk started last week but you can still join. It is a ten-week walking program geared towards adults 50 and older. This group meets Thursdays at 9:30am at the Children's Playground parking lot in South Park.

September is Love your Library Month. The Library has a few fundraisers going on this month. The BP Fantastic Four Charities Golf Event that was scheduled for today was

postponed until October 1. There are still a few slots open for golfers, if you are not a golfer you can join us for a steak dinner at 5pm.

The Library is selling Sloth Prints, the print was created from an original painting that will be hanging in the library was made by a local artist. 16 x 20 prints are \$50 each. Proceeds benefit the library.

Ms. McIntosh announced that the Library is hosting a Pop-up book sale on Saturday, September 15 from 10am to 5pm and on Sunday, September 16 from 1pm to 4pm., Proceeds benefit the library.

Ms. McIntosh announced that the Library is open on Sunday from 1 – 5pm. The library is not open on Sundays during the Summer. On Saturday, September 29 the Library will open at noon due to the Community Day Parade.

5. Police Chief's Report

Chief O'Connor stated that the rain is moving out of the area. He hopes all is well with everyone's homes as we recover. Chief stated that the police had put information out on Sunday, September 9 on Facebook and Swiftreach.

Chief stated that school is back in session, please drive safely and watch out for school buses. Specifically when the buses are dropping off and picking up students.

Chief announced that Crime Watch is starting back up. The first meeting is on Monday, October 1 at 7pm at the Community Center.

Mr. Harrison asked what the rules are for when a school bus is stopped.

Chief stated that when a school bus stops, traffic must stop going both directions, when the stop sign is out you stay stopped and you do not proceed until the stop sign and lights are off. If you do not stop it is a three hundred dollar ticket plus other costs.

6. Fire Chief's Report

Deputy Fire Chief Bob Brown announced that the Bethel Park Volunteer fire company open house is October 14, from 11am-3pm at the Brightwood Road Station.

Deputy Chief Brown stated that just yesterday they had a total of 22 calls. They had 31 volunteer firefighters on standby starting at 11am. Station was staffed until 9pm. There were a total of 38 calls for the month of August.

Deputy Chief Brown stated that tomorrow is 9/11 please keep the victims and first responders in your thought and prayers.

7. Mayor's Report

In the Mayor's absence, Mr. Moury stated that the Municipality's clean up day is scheduled for Saturday, October 20. This is an opportunity for willing volunteers to help clean the

parks and roadways of Bethel Park and spruce up our community. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Janet at 412-831-6800 ext 211 or email jdavin@bethelpark.net.

8. Municipal Manager's Report

Municipal Manager, Shawn Arbaugh announced that the road-paving project is wrapping up for the year. Most roads have been completed except a few roads that were damaged in the flood.

Mr. Arbaugh stated that the Municipality mailed out 850 letters to residents who live along streams, asking them to remove any debris from waterways behind their homes as well as away from the stream banks to help prevent future flooding issues.

Mr. Arbaugh announced that the Municipality received 23 calls for Sundays Flood Event. A total of 7 inches of rain fell.

Mr. Arbaugh stated that the Municipality instituted a non-emergency line that will be activated for residents to report damage. Instead of inundating the Fire and Police Departments with calls, residents will be able to report minor issues to the non-emergency line. This will be launched on our Facebook page, website and Savvy Citizen App. The municipality can take reports at any time on our Citizens Action Line, there is a flood form available for residents to fill out.

Mr. Arbaugh stated we are expecting more wet weather over the next week. A couple things homeowners can do to help us out. Staff will be out looking at culverts, storm basins, walking streams looking for any issues, but if you see debris on your storm basin please brush it off or give us a call. We have over 6,000 basins in the municipality so it is tough to take care of each one. If you see something in a stream behind your house please remove it. If you need assistance removing anything, we will have a group of volunteers assisting with the removal of debris, please give us a call and we will get you in touch with the volunteers.

9. Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2018

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2018. Motion Carried 8-0.

10. Bills and Payrolls

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Bills and Payrolls for the Municipality per Bill List #091018 in the amount of \$1,410,105.08. Motion Carried 8-0.

11. Residents' Comments (non-agenda items only)

John DeLallo, 1565 Lucille Drive, Bethel Park, stated that a preliminary proposal to place 85 homes on the 40 acres of land call the "Guttman Property", the coal tailings pile from Mine number 3, which ceased operation in 1936, has been discussed with members of the community. The proposal comes from a young couple from Bethel Park. They held an open meeting to gauge the nearby resident' reaction to such an undertaking. The developer and financial source were at the meeting. Residents expressed our opposition, not for personal or petty reasons, but looking back to the reports from PA's Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Land Recycling and Waste Management December 12, 1998 and also DEP's District Mining Operations November 12, 1998 and their observations and objections. The issues are many, but some of the more important reasons to forbid disturbance of the tailing pile include, but are not limited to: storm water runoff, sewage system overload, acidic discharge into the Saw Mill Run Watershed, traffic impact, mine subsidence, multi-jurisdictional impact, Bethel Park as well as Castle Shannon. Resident stated that he understands that Council must entertain due process, but if a proposal is presented to Planning regardless of an affirmative recommendation of Planning, Council should vote unanimously to prevent development of that tract for the same reasons that development was refused in 1999 and again in 2016. Mine 3 at its shallowest point, is only 240 feet underground and 340 feet and its deepest. The property has remained undisturbed since 1936. One doesn't need to ask why this property has remained untouched all these year.

Rich Pahler, 1119 Logan Road, Bethel Park, stated that he is here tonight to clarify something he said at the last meeting, it's based on the article in the Almanac last month. He never told the news that Municipality should buy all the homes in the flood prone areas like Shawn Arbaugh told them. That is just stupid and it was not said that way. What he said was that the Municipality needed to buy the homes like his, where the problems start at and use the property to save some other homes downstream. I am only talking about a handful of homes; his home is not on the creek side of the street in the flood zone. It's not a cost prohibitive its common sense, something he does not believe people have anymore. The municipality spends more of taxpayer money trying not to do what's needed because Bethel Park refuses to buy people's homes. That's a close minded statement he believes that's why the Municipality cant come up with a plan because they are closeminded and refuse to entertain the idea that the Municipality should buy people's houses. He does not understand what the Municipality has done with the taxes they have collected over the years. Bethel Park and Allegheny county let these homes be built and taxed the homeowners. He believes that the Municipality is to blame because they allowed the homes to be built on a stream. He was told by the past manager to sell his house, his neighbor was told the other day by one of the municipal engineers to sell their property and cut their losses. He does not believe passing the problem along to other families is the right thing to do. He believes the municipality is dodging their responsibility. He thanked Mark O'Brien for all his help over the years.

Elizabeth Podlock, 3554 South Park Rd, Bethel Park stated that she and her husband have lived in Bethel for the past six years. The past owners did not disclose to them that their house flooded. They like the community, but are having horrible problems with flooding at their house. She sees people around her suffering and nothing is being done. She stated that they are doing everything they can do as homeowners. She said ditto to what the gentleman before her said. She isn't going to be dishonest to sell her house. She would like to see the Municipality do their part.

Ken Crowley, 2020 Millennium Court, Bethel Park, stated he is here to speak about the ongoing saga with developer Terry Bove that has been going on for almost three years with the Millennium Woods development. He stated that residents have been trying to work with Terry and the Municipality to rectify the issues for almost three years and there are still unresolved issues. He stated that they have had no contact with Terry and that the Municipality has not been able to reach Terry either. He stated that Terry refuses to call the HOA back as well as Mr. Arbaugh phone calls. He stated he is here tonight because he does not understand why the Municipality cannot get a developer to return a call or attend a meeting and require that the things that still need to be done are completed. Its become very frustrating trying to get these things completed over the past three years. He stated the Municipality has been great but if residents can be cited for various things in their own yards, why can't the developer be cited for the development. He stated there has been ongoing issues with grass cutting; they filed complaints through the Citizens Action Line, all summer long from March until recently. It took up until the past week for Jeff Donatelli to file a citation against Terry Bove. No grass was cut all summer since March. The land Terry Bove's owns is ugly and does not comply with code. The municipality would not tolerate it with a homeowner so he isn't sure why a developer gets away with it. Sidewalks still need to be repaired. There is spring issue that is not being addressed. There are numerous items the developer needs to address. Is it possible to compel the developer to have a meeting with us? He also stated that there is a concert at Spoonwood and was hoping that something would be done about the parking on the street in front of Spoonwood making it impossible to leave their development.

GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE

12. Citizens' Comments – General Policy and Finance Items

None

13. General Policy and Finance Items

Appointment – Second Ward Council Seat

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to appoint Dr. Timothy Campbell to the vacant Second Ward Council Seat, who shall serve as Councilman of the Second Ward until the next election in November 2019 and certification of the results by Allegheny County Elections Division. Motion Carried 8– 0.

Mr. Moury stated that they had four very good candidates and it was a very tough decision.

Mr. O'Brien stated that this was a very difficult decision for council to make a decision. All four candidates were very impressive.

Mr. Dixon stated that he was very impressed by Dr. Campbell and he encourages the other three who interviewed to stay involved and apply to an opening in one of the Boards and Commissions.

Mr. McLean said:

“We have no other agenda items but I have one additional item. I just want to remind folks that the upcoming election is on November 6, we have the four questions that will be on the ballot. Changes to the Home Rule Charter, two of those are important but are pretty straightforward of wanting to correct a typo that is in the current Home Rule Charter it is straightforward. The other is to make clear that the Home Rule Charter is gender neutral the references to the male gender include also the female gender. Then we have two other proposed changes that relate to the Intuitive and Referendum provisions of the Home Rule Charter. One is to ensure that if this council was to adopt an ordinance that set a tax rate that was an increase or decrease from the existing tax rate that the referendum process if it were implemented would apply only to the increase or decrease. Right now, what the Home Rule Charter provides is that if there is a petition submitted for a referendum it has the effect of suspending the whole ordinance. Therefore, the effect of that would be not just suspension of the increase or decrease but the whole ordinance and we could be left without the ability to collect even the prior tax amount and that could impact negatively the ability of the Municipality to function. So one change is to correct that and make it clear if there is an increase or decrease and a challenge to it, that’s all that gets suspended and that what will be on the ballot for the vote by the voters. The other is to change the Charter it currently provides that if a petition is presented and the way it works is if someone is going to challenge an ordinance, they have to tell the municipality within thirty days that they want to do that. Then they have sixty days to go get signatures. The Charter currently says even after that sixty days if they submit the petition and the Municipality says it is insufficient, like it doesn’t have enough signatures, you can go back out and try for another twenty days to get signatures. It’s been determined in practice that isn’t necessary to have that extra period of time, it slows down the process even more. So this last change will be to get rid of what we call the second bite at the apple. If you want to submit a petition referendum and you can get the signatures in sixty days then it goes on the ballot, if you don’t have the signatures within sixty days then that ends the process. It’s just a clearer process. So I just wanted to remind folks there is information about these changes that will be on the website, so folks can view it before the election, but those four questions will be on the ballot on November 6.”

Mr. Harrison said:

“I think that Mr. McLean is subject to that fake news. At the last meeting, I recommended and I continue to recommend that people vote against the changes to the Home Rule Charter. Now the Home Rule Charter has served us very well for thirty some odd years and there should be no haste to try and change it. Mr. McLean bridged into my reaction to my comments by saying that I had said I favored the changes and now I am not favoring the changes and that’s not what I did. What I asked the people to do is vote against these changes, we can put them on the November ballot legally and what I am suggesting is that my fellow council members that were present the night we passed the ordinance to put the question on the primary ballot for the dedicated tax for the fire company. It was said I reminded them that an affirmative vote for that ordinance was a violation of the Bethel Park Constitution, The Home Rule Charter because the ordinance specified that the question ought to go on the primary ballot. The Home Rule Charter says that an ordinance is not effective until thirty days after council enacts it. Solicitor sits there and didn’t comment on that. Then he is complicit in the violation by taking the ordinance which is twenty seven days short of being valid to the election bureau to put the question on the ballot. So I am just saying that whole scheme of things was done illegally and I think people ought to convey to the council that they expect council members to live within the rules. I

will make one other point that is. One of the questions that ought to be on the ballot is who can sign the petition. I think council is trying to discourage people from challenging this governing body from taking certain actions. Generally speaking that's so ok let's increase the taxes, increases the taxes. Quite a bit of time was spent in the Caucus room discussing who is eligible to sign the petitions. There was no agreement on that and I think when people address the changes with the Home Rule Charter it ought to be clarified as to who is eligible to sign a petition. So like I said, I reiterated my recommendation. If you vote no on the question this time than this governing body ought to put together a legal procedure and to consider defining in fact I think they must define who is eligible to sign the petition if people start a petitioning campaign. Thank you"

Mr. McLean said:

"Just two points. One the comments I made last month at this meeting were to the effect that Mr. Harrison in March, when we first discussed these proposed changes. He did indicate that he agreed and you can read his words. The words I read last month were verbatim reading of words that Mr. Harrison spoke at the March meeting. They are there for everybody to see, there's videos you can watch if you want to see them. All I wanted, all I was interested in was to make sure the public wasn't being confused that there are proposals that will be on the ballot in November. That are a very limited and legitimate basis for dealing with things the Charter needs to change. They are not about Mr. Harrison's agenda about something that happened five years ago. That is not on the ballot. So I wanted to make sure the public wasn't being confused and they understood that Mr. Harrison himself agreed with these changes in March. You can read his words, but he is now saying that he's telling you to vote no. He's attempting to confuse you cause he has some other agenda. I just want to make sure people aren't confused. You can look at the questions yourself, you can make a judgement for yourself, as to whether or not you want to vote for it, but please don't be confused by someone telling you that it's fake news or something like that. Verify for yourself the steps to be made. This does not take away the citizens rights to bring a referendum if there is a tax increase. We aren't getting anywhere near that, that's not what's being done here. What we were doing is simply clarifying that when that happens and the right to do so is fully preserved it will only put on the ballot the amount of increase or decrease. The tax rate that is currently in effect will stay in place. As far as who can sign the petition it's stated in the Charter right now. We are making no changes about that at all right now and in fact as Mr. Harrison likes to point out six times in the history of this municipality people have brought referendum provisions. So they have figured out who needs to sign and how to get the signatures. We aren't dealing with any of that at all so please this is what I am asking you don't be distracted by this. Focus on the issues that will be on the ballot, understand why they are being proposed, understand why they are for your benefit as citizens and please don't be distracted. Thank you."

Mr. O'Brien said:

"For one to suggest that this council would try and take away a right of the people is not correct and absurd. We do not wish to take the right away of protest. We do not wish to take the right of challenge. That's what we live for. That's what we are in the country and to suggest that is simply wrong. Thank you"

Mr. Consolmagno said:

“Mr. Harrison you do not speak for me or for anyone else on council. This council is not discouraging anyone any of the people or the residents of Bethel Park from exercising their rights to a petition. I worked with Mr. Jim McLean on the Home Rule Charter Commission along with other individuals and we did our best to make sure that the Home Rule Charter was brought up to date, 2018. Thank you”

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

14. Citizens’ Comments – Planning and Zoning Items

Tammy Kelly, 5979 Limrick Lane, Bethel Park stated that she grew up with chickens. She said it is a great idea to have a permit fee. People will pay that fee, take care of their chickens and keep everything clean.

George Gerty, 3602 Valley Drive, Bethel Park thanked council and everyone. He stated that this has been a learning process for him and his wife. They had never gone through the planning and zoning process prior to this. He stated that he is very much in favor of chickens. He has a fourteen year old son that is a gamer he is extremely talented in playing video games, electronics, but not so much socially. He stated that taking care of the chickens is going to be something his family will do together. Chickens are allowed in surrounding communities. He stated that he has never turned on the news and saw a chicken terrorizing anyone.

Jen Wittkopp, 6177 Boxer Dr, Bethel Park, she stated she is just going to repeat many of the comments that have been said before. She is very pleased that they have been able to bring this up, discuss it and now vote on it. She stated she is very excited. There are a number of reasons she supports chickens for numerous reasons. Health, family and getting back to basics. She stated it is important for children to know where the food they are eating and where it comes from.

Mr. O’Brien said:

“Many people here tonight are eggcited about this ordinance. This issue has been cooped up for many years. Let us not scramble this issue. We must look on the sunny side. That is fresh eggs. We must not count our chickens before their hatched. However its hopeful that this ordinance will pass over easy. This ordinance does not put all our eggs in one basket it has provisions that protect others and mirrors our neighborhood community’s ordinances, which have been in place for years. For all involved I believe this ordinance will provide the best of both worlds. To simply say it winner, winner, chicken dinner.”

Mr. Consolmagno stated that he will be voting in favor of this ordinance because of the passion the residents have displayed not only tonight but at the Public Hearing that was held in August. He wants to caution residents that are new to having chickens. Anyone new to chickens should consult with experts. He cautions people this is not a novelty, chickens are a lot of work.

Mr. Dixon stated that he has heard very intelligent arguments on both sides of the issue. He stated that he understands a number of people will take care of their chickens and coops and be responsible chicken owners. He stated there are a number of issues that trouble him

and issues he has heard from people that he has talked to. Mr. Dixon stated that disposal of chicken waste will be an issue. He stated that chickens attract predators. He stated that chicken waste will most likely be flushed into our sewer system. Mr. Dixon stated that chickens don't fit in with Bethel Park and he is voting against it.

Mr. Harrison said:

“As a follow-up to Mr. O'Brien's comments. If any council member who votes against this we can say they chickened out.”

Mr. Mclean stated that he appreciated Mr. Dixons comments. He stated that we should take note of them. He stated that we should give people the benefit of the doubt. He stated if neighbors encounter problems that the Municipality will hear about them. Mr. McLean stated if that means that something needs to be adjusted in the program then it will be considered at that time. He stated that he is prepared to let the program go forward.

Mr. Moury stated that his brother has chickens. Mr. Moury stated his niece did it for a science experiment. He stated it's not like buying a cat or dog. He stated that his brother probably spent around a thousand dollars on his chicken pen because he stated he was paying fifty-two dollars per egg. Mr. Moury stated that he saw his niece get involved at eleven years old and take the responsibility. Mr. Moury stated that people have been very passionate about having chickens. It is a big investment, you have to get a permit, pay a fee, build a pen and have a manure management plan. It isn't something everyone is going to go out and do. Mr. Moury stated that the Municipality would be reviewing this ordinance next October to see if anything needs to be changed. He stated that he would be supporting this ordinance tonight.

15. Planning and Zoning Items

Ordinance No. 9-10-18 – Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance- Chickens to be raised in residential districts

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. Hannan to Ordinance No. 9-10-18 amending the zoning ordinance establishing regulations allowing chickens to be raised in residential districts. Motion Carried 7– 1. Dissenting vote was by Mr.Dixon.

16. Resolution No. R9-10-18 – Residential Chicken Permit Fee

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. McLean to adopt Resolution No. R9-10-18 establishing fees for raising chickens in residential zoning districts. Motion Carried 8– 0.

17. Appointment – Shade Tree Commission

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to appoint James Jenkins to the Shade Tree Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2023. Motion Carried 8– 0.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE ITEMS

18. Citizens' Comments – Health, Safety and Welfare Items

19. Health, Safety and Welfare Items

Appointment – Position of Permanent Police Officer

Motion by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons I move that the permanent employment of Matthew Poling be ratified as per the recommendation of Chief Timothy O'Connor. Motion Carried 8– 0.

Mr. Moury stated that all police officers have a one-year probation period. This will classify him as full time status.

20. Promotion – Police Sergeant

Motion by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to promote Ian P. McGuire to the position of Sergeant for the Bethel Park Police Department, with a start date agreeable to Police Chief Timothy O'Connor. Motion Carried 8– 0.

PUBLIC WORKS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

21. Citizens' Comments – Public Works and Maintenance Items

None

22. Public Works and Maintenance Items

SHACOG Joint Bid for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services Waste Management Contract 2019-2023

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. Hannan to award the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Contract, through the SHACOG Joint Bid for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services for the years 2019-2023 to Waste Management of Pennsylvania, Inc. for automated curbside garbage collection, manual bi-weekly recycling, curbside leaf collection, and a special collection vehicle for yard waste collection for a price calculated at a tonnage rate for garbage and recycling, unit rate for leaf collection, and per trip rate for the special collection vehicle, and to authorize Council President to execute the required contract document. Motion Carried 8– 0.

Mr. Hannon said:

“This is a perfect example of what we discussed earlier in the meeting, when we were talking about the Home Rule Charter amendments as proposed. What we have in front of us is an 11.6 million dollar contract. That over a five year period is equivalent to one years' worth of our general expenditures and general fund. We have this contract, we sign it today, we raise taxes two years from now. As our current Home Rule Charter is if our amendments aren't in place. This puts that situation in jeopardy we have an obligation to a contract to spend over a million dollars a year but we can't collect taxes the way the situation is currently constituted because we have this petition out there. How do we run the municipality? That is the reason we are changing, proposing to change it. So we can run the place, at least collect something, so we can maintain services for the public. This is

large part of our budget is this contract. Has been over the past few years. There are a lot of communities around us that charge separate fees for garbage collection. Be thankful it's in your tax rates. It's a savings to you that's extreme cause it's a lot of money. Thank you."

Mr. Moury asked Mr. Arbaugh to give a brief overview of the new garbage contract.

Mr. Arbaugh said:

"There are some major changes with this contract compared to how we currently do business. First off our provider would change from Republic to Waste Management. One of the biggest things is we go from manual garbage collection to automated garbage collection. So what that means is you will receive a container to put trash into. So there won't be bags laying on curbside any longer. Everything will go inside the container and be going to curb. For the company it saves them some manual labor expense because now they have a machine with one person controlling that. Instead of two people getting out at every stop to maneuver that. That is one of the biggest changes is the automation. Secondly with recycling we are going to continue manual recycling. One of the big reasons is due to the contamination issues that have been identified by SHACOG. Throughout the country a lot of folks have heard about it. Essentially recycling is drastically changing starting in January for Bethel Park. We will only be recycling about five items. Those specific items will be types 1 and 2 plastic, HDPE and PEHD, newspaper, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, dry aluminum cans and tin cans. So that will be essentially the only things we will be recycling. Glass will no longer be recycled it will be a waste product. Also plastics 3-7 will also be trash and no longer recycled. One of the big issues has been with recycling market in China. Whereas United States has sent a large number of contaminated materials to China and essentially has changed drastically how China accepts recycling materials. This could change throughout the contract year based upon legal agreement. This does affect at least the nineteen SHACOG communities that are part of this SHACOG contract. The third large change that you'll see is we are discontinuing manual yard waste collection, six times a year. So currently on the third Saturday of the month through the spring and summer months, you can put out yard waste and it will be collected. We find it is a waste of money, most people don't take advantage of it. So we essentially have a trash vehicle driving up and down every single street of Bethel Park. Searching out for yard waste. So in lieu of that we are going to have a collection vehicle at our Public Works facility so folks can come there on a specified date during the month to drop off their yard waste. We will still do leaf collection in fact we increased leaf collection by one due to the inconvenience of transport materials. So now we will go to eight leaf collections per year. So those are the changes we are going to see. On year two of the contract, we actually start getting penalized for contamination of recycling. Another reason why we are sticking with manual recycling. Any questions?"

Mr. Harrison asked the council to direct the solicitor for an opinion on any options that are available to help resolve the problems at Millennium Woods.

Mr. Moury stated that this is in regards to the resident that spoke Ken Crowley. Mr. Moury stated that the manager will be working with the solicitor tomorrow. There will be a meeting in the near future.

Mr. Moury said:

“The garbage is a big change, big dollar, big ticket item. Our goal is its not going to happen overnight, we get it. We are going to supply you with cans. Our strategy is to make the change with carriers or suppliers on January 1st. As far as the new cans we’ll probably at the end of first quarter, there is a lot of things we have to do. We are going to have the manager put a detailed schedule together, get it back to us on implementation, how we are going to do it. Our goal is to have information available potentially at Community Day, at the end of the month, we will have something in the chronicles, it won’t be an overnight change, it will be slower, but rest assured we will communicate the best we can. We will let everyone know as we implement these changes. If we were to stay where we are, our rates would probably go up twenty to twenty five percent. One of the things that Shawn mentioned going to the automated for the cans. We really don’t have a choice, because people don’t want to do it and if you do its going to be extremely expensive and we still have the same that people have an option to have multiple cans. So we have not unlimited pickup but you won’t be restricted to one can. If you want to buy a second can it would be available. You will have to purchase it but if you need to you have it. All these things we are going to work out. We will be talking about it each month for the next six months. We will be getting information out as much as we can.”

Mr. O’Brien stated that change is difficult but sometimes necessary. He stated that the savings was very attractive. Mr. O’Brien stated that this plan, new direction and new operation will save the residents considerably. He stated that council doesn’t take change easily but the opportunity rose to save a considerable amount of money.

Mr. McLean stated there will be change, there will be change with what can be recycled. Mr. McLean stated that we aren’t changing what you can put at the curb. Residents will have the same style bin. Mr. McLean stated from what he understood from meeting with Waste Management is everyone is not limited to the bin, they can still throw out things that don’t fit in the bin. If you can put it at the curb now you will be able to put it at the curb under the new contract. Mr. McLean stated that from his perspective as a resident that was key.

Mrs. Gibbons announced that Community Day is Saturday, September 29 from 10am-3pm at Bethel Park High School. The parade starts at 9am, car show is 1-7pm.

Mr. O’Brien stated that last week Bethel Park said goodbye to one of its own, Scott Benyon. Owner of Beynons Auto. Mr. O’Brien stated that Scott Benyon was a mountain of a man, principles built on what made family business great in this country. Mr. O’Brien stated that he was honored to call Scott Benyon his friend. Let us never forget this man, let us learn from his actions and treatment of others that is everyone is truly important no matter what the day might bring.

Mr. Consolmagno stated he was a friend of Scott Beynon too. Scott graduated from Bethel Park Highschool in 1978. Mr. Consolmagno stated if you ever had the pleasure of meeting Scott you would know you met a special person. Scott loved the Steelers and loved his sons and family. You would walk in his store as a customer and left as Scott’s friend. Mr. Consolmagno stated that he had the pleasure of crossing paths with Scott Beynon and Scott was a true friend to him. He made Bethel Park a better place.

Mr. Dixon stated that he wanted to wish the proponents of the chicken ordinance congratulations. He hope he didn’t run a fowl, he is really pooped after the discussion.

23. Adjournment
Motion and second to adjourn at 8:47 P.M.



Manager