

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF WHITE OAK BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2017 AT 8:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Massung, President of Council, called the Regular Meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

ROLL CALL

Attending were Council members: Edward Babyak, Charles Davis, Ronald Massung, Joseph Nagy, David Pasternak and Kenneth Robb. Also attending were, Solicitor Krisha DiMascio, Engineer Michael Glistler, Borough Secretary Nancy Greenland and Ass't Borough Secretary Michelle Gessner.

Mayor Ina Marton and Borough Manager John Palyo were absent.

MINUTES

Regular Meeting – November 16, 2015

Workshop Meeting – March 16, 2017

Regular Meeting – March 16, 2017

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Babyak, to approve the Minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. DiMascio stated a brief Executive Session was held before this meeting at which time personnel matters were discussed as well as the April 5, 2017 Workshop at which time litigation and personnel issues were discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – comments limited to 3 minutes

Fred Haynes – 98 Carmella Drive

Mr. Haynes expressed concern that the Borough imposed a real estate tax increase for 2017. He stated that back in February 2013 the former Borough Manager was let go in order to save the salary of \$65,000 plus benefits for over \$100,000 in savings. Now Council has hired a new

manager with a salary of \$80,000. He asked where the \$400,000 saved over the last four years has gone. He noted Council allowed Mr. Petro (former manager) to draw up his own contract which was approved by Council. He protected himself and after being let go received \$5,700 per month for the next six (6) months.

Mr. Haynes indicated he believed the Council was a steward of the taxpayers' money, but felt it was doing a horrible job.

Mr. Hayes asked if the officials were aware the police contract expired at the end of the year.

Ms. DiMascio stated the officials were aware.

Mr. Haynes was advised his time was up.

John Brown – 1928 Dearborn Drive

Mr. Brown noted he moved to Dearborn Drive six (6) months ago from Oliver Drive. He asked why there was such a large increase in the millage rate. He stated he could not afford to pay the tax at one time and asked if it could be paid quarterly or semi-annually.

Mr. Brown expressed concern that the hill coming up to Dearborn was not well maintained during the winter. He noted it has been an issue for years.

Ms. Pitchford advised Mr. Brown he may be eligible for the homestead rebate, which involves the county and school taxes. He further advised that under Act 77 seniors can also get a discount, but there is an income eligibility limit.

Ray Cornell – 1927 Dearborn Drive

Mr. Cornell noted the taxpayers have received a two (2) mil increase over the last two (2) years. He stated this was a pretty hefty increase. He stated he believed the officials need to tighten the belt and save money.

Laverne Dobos – 1915 Dearborn Drive

Ms. Dobos indicated she could not afford to pay this large increase as she is on a fixed income and budgets for these types of expenses throughout the year. She stated she did not believe Council didn't have the foresight to make adjustment over a number of years, so that the taxpayers weren't hit with a whammy in one year. The taxpayers weren't given any warning.

Ms. DiMascio stated the Borough is required to advertise in a newspaper of general circulation within its municipality. Unfortunately, since the Daily News closed up the only available circulation is the Post-Gazette. The 2017 budget and tax levy were properly advertised, but no one appeared before Council expressing concern.

Ms. Dobos suggested the Borough send out letters in the future. She asked if this would affect the other real estate taxes.

Ms. Pitchford noted the borough is on a calendar year (January to December) and the school district is on a fiscal year (July to June). The school district has not set its budget as yet for the upcoming year (2017-2018) it is still working on the current budget period of 2016-2017.

Laura Cornell – 1927 Dearborn

Ms. Cornell stated seniors have not had an increase in social security for the last few years. Council has no consideration for the taxpayers, who are seniors. Council need to do something about this. She commented she heard there were two (2) employees (secretary/manager) holding the same position and doing the same job.

Ms. DiMascio stated those positions have two totally different job descriptions/responsibilities.

Andy Mauro – 2222 Pleasant Drive

Mr. Mauro indicated he has several questions he wanted answered after reviewing the information given for the recent tax increase.

Ms. DiMascio noted this was a comment session. The officials have the option as to whether or not to answer the questions.

Mr. Massung stated he would be more than glad to meet with anyone after the meeting was over to address their questions.

Mr. Mauro asked what the largest part of the budget was.

Ms. DiMascio stated it was the police department.

Robert Baron – 1920 Dearborn Drive

Mr. Baron asked if the borough had looked into grants for assisting in funding any of the special projects. He noted there are two abandoned house on Guice Street, which the code department doesn't seem to be doing anything about, but when someone puts replaces their driveway; the code department is right there.

John Konik – 438 Oliver Drive

Mr. Konik noted the material mentioned some reasons for the tax increase (i.e.) two officers on workers comp., new vehicle, a major road issue. He stated he felt these items were ordinary expenses. Two years ago there was an increase of \$50.00 in his tax, this year the increase is \$150.00 which is 3 times last year's increase.

Ms. DiMascio noted the cost of medical coverage for employees increased by 25%.

Mr. Konik suggested the Borough have employee contribute more money toward their coverage.

Ms. DiMascio stated the Borough had been using a surplus for a number of years to cover these annual increase, but that surplus has dwindled.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Massung had nothing to report at this time.

MAYOR’S REPORT

In the absence of Mayor Marton Mr. Babyak gave the March 2017 Stat Report for the Police Department.

Arrests: 15 (13 adult/2 juvenile)

Aggravated Assault (also charged with retail theft/resisting arrest)	1
Criminal Trespass (also charged with loitering/prowling at night/disorderly conduct	1
Corruption of Minors	1
Drug Offenses, Violation of Title 35, (also charged 2 violations of uniformed firearms act	1
Disorderly Conduct	1
DUI	4
Theft & Related Offenses (receiving stolen property/bad checks)	6
Summary Traffic Violations	48
TOTAL INCIDENTS:	671

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Pasternak, Chairperson, stated he had several motions to present.

Treasurer’s Report – March 2017

Fund Name	GL #	Beg Balance	Revenues	Expenditures	End Balance
General Fund-PNC	102000	1,213,845.42	280,809.02	391,680.22	1,102,974.22
-S&T	109000	352,481.31	2.70		352,484.01
-	116000	3,027.44	0.23		3,027.67
PNC(escrow)					
Fire Fund – PNC (RVFC)	100010	1,533.81		974.19	559.62
PNC (RVFC)	101000	142,763.62	49.48		142,813.10
PNC (WO#1)	102002	14,303.78	3.75	25.00	14,282.53
Post Retirement - PNC	100000	15,999.79	1.21		16,001.00
1 st	103001	660,879.33	84.19		660,963.52

Comm					
Solid Waste – PNC	102003	552,703.90	185,734.58	46,760.43	691,678.05
Pool – PNC	100008	117,336.93	0.00	225.56	117,111.37
Capital Projects – PNC	102004	272,760.15	148,521.75	360.75	420,921.15
Liquid Fuels – PNC	102005	138,642.90	253,282.92	22,765.46	369,160.36
Construction Fund – 1 st Comm	103000	92.27	0.00	0.00	92.27

A motion was made by Mr. Pasternak, seconded by Mr. Davis, to approve checks register, totaling \$167,244.70 for the month of March, 2017 covering check range 201509-201646 and \$1,657.24 covering check range 108805-108808.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Pasternak, seconded by Mr. Robb, to approve the EFT Transactions for the month of March, 2017 totaling \$224,137.21.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Pasternak, seconded by Mr. Robb, authorizing the following inter-fund transfers:

Inter-fund Transfers – March 2017

From	To	Amount
Capital Projects	General Fund	828.00
Liquid Fuels	General Fund	11,109.28
Solid Waste	General Fund	43,776.57
Fire Fund (WO#1)	General Fund	0.00
Fire Fund (Rainbow)	General Fund	152.00
Post Retirement	General Fund	0.00
Escrow	General Fund	0.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Health & Environment

Mr. Nagy announced the annual clean-up day is set for Saturday, May 6th. Volunteers should report to the pavilion at Heritage Hill Park by 9:30 p.m.

Mr. Nagy reported the annual Rabies Clinic will be held Saturday, May 20th from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at the Municipal Garage. Fee is \$5.00 per pet for residents and \$10.00 per pet for non-residents.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Mr. Robb, Chairperson, indicated he had a motion to introduce.

A motion was made by Mr. Robb, seconded by Mr. Davis, to enter into the 2017 annual agreement with B & R Pools to conduct the biweekly water quality test at Heritage Hill Pool. Cost of the first sample is \$25.50 and the second sample is \$20.50 per week.

Motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING, ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Davis, Chairperson, noted the monthly code/permit report was available for review during normal business hours.

Mr. Davis stated there is no Zoning Hearing Board meeting scheduled for April.

Mr. Davis noted the Planning Commission will not be meeting on April 6, a tentative date, of April 18 for the next meeting is being considered. Items on the agenda Stanchik Inverse Subdivision (300 & 350 Twin Springs Road, which is a private road). It is proposed to reduce three parcels to two parcel. The Commission will also be reviewing/discussing oil/gas drilling and medical marijuana ordinances.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Babyak, Chairperson, had nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Bryce, Chairperson, noted the monthly activity report was available for review during normal business hours.

A motion was made by Mr. Bryce, seconded by Mr. Davis, to participate in the SHACOG Purchasing Alliance for the possible purchase of the following Spring Commodities:

Road Aggregates:	Amerikohl Aggregates, Lehigh Hanson
Liquid Asphalt:	Russel Standard
Bituminous Surfacing Materials:	Lehigh Hanson
Traffic Signs/Posts:	Walsh Equipment, U.S. Municipal, Chemung Supply
Frames, Rings, Grates:	Culverts, Inc. E.J. USA Inc.
Precast Concrete Inlets & Risers:	Culverts, Inc., Hampton Concrete
Plastic Pipe:	Advanced Drainage Systems, Walsh Equipment

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bryce noted a lot of work is being done. He noted the Borough is continuing to update/maintain the fleet. The Borough is currently look at roof issues at several buildings and

an HVAC issue at this building. He further noted instead of purchasing a new pickup truck the borough replaced some of the body parts and save approx. \$40,000.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Current Real Estate

Lisa Pitchford, Current Tax Collector, did not submit a report at this time.

Delinquent/Liened Real Estate

Keystone Collections Group, Delinquent/Liened Real Estate Tax Collector, turned in \$10,676.68 in taxes and costs for the collection period of February 26, 2017 to March 25, 2017.

Commission due	- \$	272.27
Costs	- \$	252.50
Total Due	- \$	524.77

Earned Income Tax Collector

Current/Delinquent Earned Income Tax Collector(s), turned in \$99,864.91 in current and delinquent Earned Income Tax for the collection period of March 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017.

Commission due	- \$	1,455.47
Costs	- \$	43.92 (refunds/postage and/or costs)
TCC Annual Fee	- \$	0.00
Total Due	- \$	1,499.39

Mercantile/Business Privilege and Local Service Tax Collector

Keystone Collections Group, Current Act 511 Tax Collector, turned in \$90.00 in Local Service Tax for the collection period of March 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017.

Commission due	- \$	0.00
Costs	- \$	0.30 (postage and/or costs)
Total Due	- \$	0.30

Keystone Collections Group, Current Business Privilege and Mercantile Tax Collector, turned in \$14,536.82 in Business Privilege and \$2,534.00 in Mercantile Tax collections plus costs for the collection period February 26, 2017 – March 25, 2017.

Commission due	- \$	512.12
Costs	- \$	0.00
Total Due	- \$	512.12

Keystone Collections Group, Delinquent Act 511 Tax Collector, turned in \$2,708.88 in delinquent Business Privilege Tax and \$447.24 in delinquent Mercantile Tax for the collection

period of February 26, 2017 – March 25, 2017.

Commission due	- \$	366.95
Costs	- \$	0.00
Total Due	- \$	366.95

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Nagy, to accept the Tax Collectors' Reports and pay the fees due.

Motion carried unanimously.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Glister indicated he had presented his report to Council during the Workshop Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Babyak, seconded by Mr. Robb, to accept the Engineer's Report and pay the fees due for Services Rendered through April 8, 2017, on Invoices 241312, 241313, 241314, 241315 and 241316, dated April 14, 2017, totaling \$3,149.25.

Motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. DiMascio noted she gave the majority of her report in workshop. She advised she would review a new motor vehicle pursuit policy submitted by the Chief and indicated it should be ready for adoption at the next workshop meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Babyak, seconded by Mr. Robb, to accept the Solicitor's Report and pay the fees due to Dodaro, Matta & Cambest for services rendered in March, Invoice #15325, dated April 17, 2017, in the amount of \$1,976.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS' REPORTS

Mr. Nagy read Animal Control and Wildlife Officer's Reports for the month of November.

Dave Collura – Wildlife Control, February 2017

	Live Trap	Road Kill
Bats	0	0
Birds/Fowl/Turkey	0	0
Chipmunk	0	0
Groundhogs	3	2
Opossums	2	1

Rabbits	0	2
Raccoons	8	5
Skunks	1	0
Squirrels	0	3
Snakes	0	0
Turtles	0	0
Total Due	\$350.00	\$140.00

Grand Total: \$490.00

A motion was made by Mr. Nagy, seconded by Mr. Babyak, to accept the Wildlife Control officer's report for the months of March and pay the fees due of \$490.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

Gaydos-Behanna Kennel - Animal Control, March 2017

Number of Animals Humanely Disposed of	0
Number of Animals Turned over to WOASH	0
Number of Dogs Returned to Owners	0
Number of Calls Answered from Residents	0
Number of Calls Answered from Municipal Officers	0
Dead Animal Pickup	0
Number of Persons Information Signed Against	0
Number of Citations Issued	0
Number of Claims to State for Housing	0
After Hour Call(s)	
Monthly Fee	<u>\$ 75.00</u>
Total Due	\$ 75.00

A motion was made by Mr. Nagy, seconded by Mr. Babyak, to accept the Animal Control officer's reports for the month of March and paying the fees due of \$75.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Ms. DiMascio read Resolution 2017-4 by short-title for consideration to be adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Nagy, seconded by Mr. Robb, to adopt Resolution No. 2017-4 as just read by short-title by Ms. DiMascio.

**2017-4 SUPPORTING REQUEST TO INCREASE SMALL GAMES OF CHANGE
AGGREGATE PRIZE LIMIT FROM \$25,000 TO \$35,000 BY AMENDING
CURRENT LEGISLATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.**

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Massung declared Resolution No. 2017-4 adopted.

Ms. DiMascio read Resolution 2017-4 by short-title for consideration to be adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Babyak, seconded by Mr. Nagy, to adopt Resolution No. 2017-5 as just read by short-title by Ms. DiMascio.

**2017-5 SUPPORTING REQUEST TO PERMIT LOCAL POLICE DEPARMENTS
USING RADAR (Radar-microwave devices) EQUIPMENT TO
ENFORCEMENT LOCAL SPEED LIMITS, BY AMENDING
CURRENT LEGISLATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.**

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Massung declared Resolution No. 2017-5 adopted.

Ms. DiMascio read Resolution 2017-6 by short-title for consideration to be adopted.

A motion was made by Mr. Babyak, seconded by Mr. Pasternak, to adopt Resolution No. 2017-6 as just read by short-title by Ms. DiMascio.

**2017-6 REQUESTING SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING BY THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT**

Mr. Pasternak stated over the years funding for this program grant program has decreased. The proposed budget would eliminate all funding. A number of municipalities use this grant funding for parks/recreation as well as infrastructure improvement. The Borough has been using this type of funding over a number of years to demolish dilapidated houses. If eliminated the Borough would need to fund this type of activity in the future.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Massung declared Resolution No. 2017-6 adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Massung thanked Ms. Pitchford for her input during the Public Comment portion of the meeting and assisting the taxpayers.

Mr. Massung noted retired Chief Hoffman has been working on the memorial for the McKeesport 23. This is honoring military personnel who fell in Viet Nam. He suggested that everyone attend.

Mr. Bryce asked those in attendance if the Borough put out a flyer at various stores if that would be helpful.

Ms. DiMascio stated another one of her municipal clients had tried this but it was very expensive.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Babyak, seconded by Mr. Robb, to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

5/15/2017
Date Approved

N.J.Greenland
Borough Secretary