



FOX CHAPEL
BOROUGH

MINUTES

FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING HELD APRIL 15, 2024

PRESENT: Andrew C. Bennett, Council President; Harrison S. Lauer, Vice-President; Frederick C. Leech, Sarah Hanna, Betsy Monroe, Jonathan Colton, Councilmembers; A. Bruce Bowden, Solicitor; Michael J. Stevens, Chief of Police; Gary J. Koehler, Borough Manager; Larry Kurpakus, Public Works Director; Jeanine A. Mancuso, Treasurer; Shawn M. Peterson, Borough Secretary

ALSO

PRESENT: Austin Henry, Chairperson for the EAC; Michael Pohl, Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department; Logan Dressman, Avery Litwin, Ethan Kolek, Junior Councilmember; Albert Bouwer, Deputy Chief for Foxwall EMS; Jerry Nist, Hampton Technical Associates Inc.; Eva Malecki, resident; Jonathan Kamin, attorney representing Karl Calandra and Stephanie Rizzo; three Fox Chapel Area High School AP Government students; one Shady Side Academy student

VIA ZOOM: Walter A. Scott, III, Mayor

ABSENT: Bradley D. Harrison, Councilmember

Mr. Bennett called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

MINUTES

Mr. Lauer moved that the March 18, 2024, meeting minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed by a unanimous vote.

RESIDENT COMMENTS

NONE

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chairperson Austin Henry summarized Environmental Disturbance Application 24-05, 112 Haverford Road, proposed construction of an addition and pool area.

Mr. Henry stated the EAC recommends approval of Environmental Disturbance Application 24-05 as submitted, including a waiver for a level spreader and contingent upon the following:

- The engineers reposition the tank and spreader outlet to pull it back as far as possible to give the greatest distance between the level spreader and the downslope property line.
- Confirmation that the flow calculations for the facility are adequate for the 8,250 sq. ft. of total impervious surface the system is handling.
- Confirmation of the design to be a five-barrel as opposed to a four-barrel infiltration tank as the stormwater management report calculates.
- Swapping out at least eight (8) of the named trees in the replanting plan with deciduous, longer-life hardwoods.
- Compliance with the other standard requirements set forth in the LSSE letter dated March 8, 2024.

Mr. Henry stated that all contingencies have been met by the applicant as of April 15, 2024, with the exception of the standards set forth in the LSSE letter dated March 8, 2024.

Mr. Leech moved to approve Environmental Disturbance Application 24-05, as submitted, subject to the items set forth in the EAC's recommendations, including the waiver for a level spreader. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lauer and passed by a unanimous vote.

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CONTRACT AWARDS

SHACOG Purchasing Alliance Spring Commodities (bid tab attached)

SHACOG received bids for spring and summer commodities. Council was informed that the contracts are recommended to be awarded to the low bidder in most cases. The primary exceptions are where the low bidder cannot manufacture to our specifications, material quality, and availability or where the added travel time to the low bidder's site would more than offset any cost savings.

Ms. Monroe moved that Borough staff be authorized to enter into contractual agreements for commodities the Borough requires with the vendors who can provide them. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed by a unanimous vote. *It is understood that the Borough is not compelled to purchase its requirements for these commodities from these vendors so long as alternative purchases meet legal requirements.*

Roadway Aggregates Contract 24-RA1

Mr. Lauer moved to award the Roadway Aggregates contract to Allegheny Mineral Corp. and Vigliotti Landscaping and Construction as the two low bidders (depending on the material availability), as highlighted in the bid tabulation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed by a unanimous vote.

	ALLEGHENY MINERAL CORP. PO BOX 1022 KITANNING, PA 16201	VIGLIOTTI LANDSCAPING PO BOX 10645 PITTSBURGH, PA 15235
No. 2A Limestone	\$25.90	\$37.00
No. 57 Limestone	\$29.40	\$29.00
No. 1 Limestone	\$29.40	\$29.00
R-8 RipRap	\$40.00	\$39.00
AASHTO No. 8 Limestone	\$36.40	\$35.00
AASHTO No. 57 Gravel	\$29.00	\$34.00
No. 8 Pea Gravel	\$26.50	\$26.00
Fine Mason Sand	\$26.00	\$25.05
Fill Sand	\$23.00	\$29.00

FOXWALL EMS

Albert Bouwer, Deputy Chief for Foxwall EMS, shared the March 2024 report with the Council. He also stated that on Sunday, April 28, 2024, at 9 a.m., Foxwall EMS will hold its annual Run for the Hill of It in Aspinwall Borough. Anyone interested in attending the event should visit Foxwall's website or the station located on Hemlock Hollow Road.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Mr. Kurpakus stated that the Park Commission held its annual Fox Chapel Clean Up Day event on Saturday, April 13, 2024, and with the help of 19 volunteers, they were able to collect twenty-five full bags of litter and flood debris from Borough Parks. Mr. Kurpakus thanked the Park Commission and volunteers for their help with the clean-up event.

On behalf of the Borough Council, Mr. Bennett thanked the nineteen volunteers who came out to help with Fox Chapel Clean Up Day, including the Park Commission and Chairperson Wesly Posvar.

Mr. Kurpakus stated that the PWD had been working on storm damage cleanup around the Borough after heavy rains fell last week and this week. He said that a portion of the trail at Salamander Park is closed until a tree could be removed.

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ENGINEER REPORT

Mr. Koehler stated that O'Hara Township and Sharpsburg Borough have approved the joint paving contract with Youngblood Paving, Inc. A pre-construction meeting will take place in the next week or two, and paving should begin next month.

TREASURER REPORT

Ms. Mancuso stated that the Liquid Fuels allocation was received in the amount of \$225,000 and was deposited into the Highway Aid Fund. This money will continue to accumulate over the next few years when the Borough will spend it on a PennDOT-approved paving project.

Ratification of Payments – March 2024

Mr. Lauer moved to ratify the payment of bills for March 2024 General Fund Vouchers 4673 - 4762 in the amount of \$348,435.95. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 728 – Amending Section 338.13A Stop Intersections Established of the Borough of Fox Chapel Code

Ms. Monroe moved to enact Ordinance No. 728, amending Section 338.13A Stop Intersections Established in the Borough of Fox Chapel Code by adding stop signs on Guyasuta Road at Fieldvue Lane in east and west directions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Colton and passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL

2024 Banner Community Recognition

Mr. Bennett acknowledged the Borough's award from Allegheny County as a 2024 Banner Community. The Borough of Fox Chapel and other municipalities and authorities are recognized with this award because of their commitment to professional development, prudent fiscal management, transparency, accountability, and proactive communications that engage community residents and stakeholders.

Joint Comprehensive Plan Update

Mr. Lauer provided an update on the Joint Comprehensive Plan the Borough has been working on with O'Hara Township. He stated that the Borough began working on the traditional model for the Plan in 2020. The first phase of the plan was Community Engagement, when Pashek +MTR (consultant for the Joint Comprehensive Plan) sent out a questionnaire for residents from the two municipalities to complete. The second phase was to identify the issues brought forth by the questionnaire and the creation of a plan by narrowing down the issues researching each one, and creating a roadmap of how to address the issues. The last part of the plan will be implementation.

Mr. Lauer said Pashek +MTR is now nearing the end of phase two and has earmarked chapters for each of the five main issues addressed in the plan. The five chapters to be addressed are:

- Greenways and Stormwater – this topic was heavily supported by residents. The plan will work to improve stormwater management and find ways to set aside land for more green space.
- Recreation & Facilities – expansion of parks, trails, and playgrounds as well as shared facilities like the library and community center. Also, purchasing vacant land, fundraising, and expanding the number of dog trails.
- Traffic Management – this topic was the highest identified issue and works on traffic calming techniques
- Development & Redevelopment – Mainly deals with O'Hara Township's commercial areas
- Active Transportation – connecting Fox Chapel and O'Hara Township with other communities with walking paths and bike paths

Once the drafts of the chapters have been completed, they will be reviewed by the Joint Comprehensive Committee, and they will be subject to a forty-five-day public agency review period viewable on the Joint Comprehensive Plan's website. Public hearings regarding the plan will be held, and then it can be approved by the Borough of Fox Chapel Council and O'Hara Township Supervisors.

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Mr. Lauer shared the introduction of the Plan, titled “A Culture of Belonging,” which reads, “Fox Chapel Borough and O’Hara Township provide public facilities and services that are accessible and inclusive to ensure that everyone - regardless of ability, ethnicity, faith, gender, race, socioeconomic position or other identity status or characteristic – has access to the resources and opportunities needed to thrive. We strive to cultivate a welcoming environment that honors and uplifts diverse experiences and perspectives, recognizing that such differences enrich, enliven, and strengthen our social fabric.”

Garlic Mustard Pull Event

Ms. Monroe reminded everyone that on Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 10 a.m., the Park Commission will host its annual Garlic Mustard Pull event. Information is available on the Borough’s event calendar on its website and in the spring 2024 newsletter.

With no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

SHAWN MARIE PETERSON
Borough Secretary