

March 15, 2023

Kristina Burek
krisburek@verizon.net

RE: Advisory Opinion on Accounts Payable/Money Transfers

Dear Kristina:

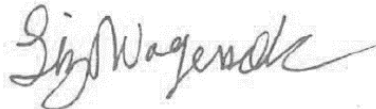
The Office of Open Records (“OOR”) received your request for an advisory opinion on March 8, 2023. The OOR may issue advisory opinions pursuant to Section 1310 of the Right-to-Know Law (“RTKL”), 65 P.S. § 67.1310(a)(2). Your request for an advisory opinion is respectfully **DENIED**, but we note, as follows:

The request for an advisory opinion explains that two copies of Accounts Payable/Money Transfers are put out for public review immediately prior to monthly Council meetings. However, the Borough has informed the public that they cannot keep these copies and that if they wish to obtain a copy, they will need to file a RTKL request. The request for an advisory opinion asks if the Borough may require the public to file a RTKL requests.

The RTKL governs written requests for accessing government records. 65 P.S. §§ 67.701-703. While agencies are free to provide access to records outside of a RTKL request, agencies are also not prohibited from directing requesters to file a RTKL request. With respect to your concern that filing a RTKL request is costly, labor costs cannot be imposed, and electronic records may be provided electronically at no cost.

This response to your Advisory Opinion request will be posted on the OOR’s website at <https://www.openrecords.pa.gov/RTKL/AdvisoryOpinions.cfm>.

Respectfully,



Liz Wagenseller
Executive Director