

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2017 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL

Council Members Present: David Blank, President
Cindy McGee, Vice President
Robert Myers, Member
Richard Happel, Member
Joseph Peterson, Mayor
Neil McCauley, Member
Peter Uhniat, Member

Staff & Professionals: Theodore Roth, Chief of Police
Terry Weiler, Solicitor
Brian Boyer, Engineer

Call to Order: President Blank called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Opening prayer was led by Manager Durso.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Minutes – November 6, 2017

A **motion** was made by Councilman Uhniat and seconded by Councilman McCauley to approve the November 6, 2017 Budget Meeting and Council Meeting minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

Bills List

A **motion** was made by Councilman McCauley and seconded by Councilman Uhniat to approve the Bills Lists dated November 20, 2017 and checks for ratification dated November 7, 2017 – November 19, 2017. Motion carried 6-0.

A **motion** was made by Councilman McCauley and seconded by Councilman Happel to approve the Treasurer's Report dated November 20, 2017. Motion carried 6-0.

Manager's Report

Birdsboro Power Update

Manager Durso provided an update of the Birdsboro Power project.

Cable Franchise Public Meeting

Manager Durso noted that the Cable Franchise Public Meeting is scheduled for November 29, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at Borough Hall.

Feral Cat Program

Manager Durso provided an overview of the feral cat program and information from No Nonsense Neutering's Trap Neuter and Release Program. No action was taken.

Borough News

Manager Durso stated that he and Mayor Peterson met with a representative from the Borough News and provided Borough highlights and photos and the Borough will be featured in one of the 2018 editions of the Borough News.

DCNR Seminar

Manager Durso noted that he attended a DCNR Seminar about Parks and Recreation.

Burn Pile

Manager Durso noted that he received a letter from the PADEP regarding the burn pile on Armorcast Road which is on Birdsboro Municipal Authority property. Manager Durso will locate an alternate location for the burn pile.

2018 Proposed Budget

A **motion** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman McCauley to increase the administrative staff salaries by 3.4%. A roll call vote was taken.

Councilman Myers	- yes
Councilman Happel	- yes
Councilman McCauley	- yes
President Blank	- no
Vice President McGee	- no
Councilman Uhniat	- no

The vote was tied and broken by Mayor Peterson with a no vote. Motion did not carry.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Uhniat and seconded by Councilman Happel to advertise the 2018 proposed budget. The motion carried 4-2 with Councilmen Myers and McCauley voting no.

Engineer's Report

Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council. Engineer Boyer provided his opinion about the Rustic Park Pavilions and noted that Pavilion 3 is the worst, Pavilion 1 is the next worse and Pavilions 2 and 4 are showing rot and wear and tear.

Emergency Management

N/A

Fire Department

N/A

Mayor/Police Reports

Mayor Peterson read a thank you letter to Chief Roth and the Police Department received by a resident.

Chief Roth reviewed his report with Council. Chief Roth reviewed the suicide incident which happened behind the Reading Coffee Roasters building.

Municipal Services/Department Reports

Water Department: Report included in the Council packet

Wastewater Treatment Department: Report included in the Council packet

Public Works Department: Report included in the Council packet

Solicitor's Report

A **motion** was made by Councilman Uhniat and seconded by Vice President McGee to accept Steve Lusky's resignation effective November 20, 2017. The motion carried 6-0.

The council vacancy is to be posted on the website and digital sign and candidates may apply by submitting their resume to Borough Hall by November 30, 2017.

Councilman Myers asked about the Fire Escrow Law Ordinance and Marijuana Ordinance and Solicitor Weiler stated that the Fire Escrow Law Ordinance is advertised for adoption December 4, 2017 and the Marijuana Ordinance will be discussed in 2018. Councilman Myers asked when the documents relating to the trash hauler ordinance may be shared with the newly elected council members and Solicitor Weiler noted that information may be shared once they are sworn in.

Council Reports

Councilman Happel – Councilman Happel suggested local Representatives and Senators vote to allow the local Police Departments to use radar and noted that Chief Roth is in favor of radar.

Vice President McGee – Vice President McGee shared with everyone the Certificate of Appreciation from Mission Trip Birdsboro and noted that Christmas in Birdsboro is December 9, 2017.

President Blank – President Blank read a letter from local labor unions in favor of the Birdsboro Power Project.

Public Comment

Mary Ann Cotter, member elect, asked about clearances for those working with the children at the Santa station at Christmas in Birdsboro.

Don Wary, Borough resident, posed a question about the burn pile.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Durso
Borough Secretary