

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 19, 2018 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL

**Council Members Present:** Richard Happel, President  
Neil McCauley, Vice President  
Robert Myers, Member  
David Blank Sr., Member  
Joseph Peterson, Mayor  
Mary Ann Cotter, Member  
Anthony Scioli, Member  
Austin Peterson, Member

**Staff & Professionals:** Theodore Roth, Chief of Police  
Aaron J. Durso, Borough Manager  
Terry Weiler, Solicitor  
Brian Boyer, Engineer

**Call to Order:** President Happel 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 Hearing – Liquor Licenses**

Solicitor Weiler opened the hearings for two separate liquor license transfer requests.

There was a public hearing on two separate Liquor Licenses that are being proposed to Council to transfer from separate municipalities to Birdsboro Borough.

The first hearing dealt with Turkey Hill Market transferring a liquor license to their store located in Birdsboro Borough. Minutes from the hearing will be provided to the Borough.

The second hearing dealt with a liquor license transfer for the opening of a restaurant that will be located in the Shops at St. Mark's Square. Minutes will be provided to the Borough.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve Resolution No. 2018-22 approving the transfer of the PLCB Liquor License No. R-12063 into the Borough of Birdsboro from Exeter Township. Motion carried 7-0.

The hearing was closed.

**Mayor Peterson's Presentation to the Birdsboro Union Fire Department**

Mayor Peterson presented a check in the amount of \$10,000.00 from J.P. Mascaro to the Birdsboro Union Fire Department. Mayor Peterson read correspondence from Fire Chief Kulp regarding the need for the new nozzles at the Fire Department.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

**Minutes – February 5, 2018**

A **motion** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the February 5, 2018 Council meeting minutes as amended. Amendments being adding

Councilwoman Cotter's and Councilman Myers' comments they made regarding the Christmas in Birdsboro ice sculptures and budget issues. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Bills List**

A **motion** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the Bills Lists dated February 19, 2018 and checks for ratification dated February 6, 2018 – February 18, 2018. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Myers asked Manager Durso about two checks, Manger Durso answered.

A **motion** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the Treasurer's Report dated February 19, 2018. Motion carried 6-1.

Councilwoman Cotter asked Manager Durso a question about the Christmas in Birdsboro line item. Manager Durso answered the question.

### **Manager's Report**

#### **Mock DUI Update**

Manager Durso provided an update of the Mock DUI proposed to take place on Water Street. The High School is still working out the details and will hold the event at the High School.

#### **March 8, 2018 Meeting at the AG Center**

Manager Durso noted the MS4 Steering Committee and Berks County Conservation District meeting to be held at the AG Center on March 8 with registration being at 4:30 p.m. and the program starts at 5:00 p.m.

#### **Trout Rodeo**

A **motion** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Blank to approve the use of the Rustic Park Pavilions #3 and #4 from May 3 to May 6 for the Birdsboro Sportmen's Club fish rodeo. Motion carried 7-0. It was recommended that event goers keep away from the pavilion construction site if construction is in progress.

### **Engineer's Report**

Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council. Engineer Boyer presented the bid tabulations for the Rustic Park Pavilions and reviewed the proposed shapes and sizes of the pavilions along with pictures. Vice President McCauley asked if all the pavilions are the same size. Councilman Myers asked what was budgeted for the project and the response was \$150,000. There was a brief discussion on electrical work that needed to be done as well as where the additional funds would come from. More information will be provided to Council. It was noted that the Borough will demolish the old pavilions and mill the old surface.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Peterson and seconded by Councilman Blank to approve the bid from Kinsley Construction for the Rustic Park Pavilion Project for the construction of four (4) pavilions including the concrete pads at a cost not to exceed \$159,286.24. Motion carried 6-1.

It was noted that the electrical work is estimated at \$30,000. Council needs a breakdown of the work to see what work can be done by Borough employees.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Scioli and seconded by Councilman Peterson to authorize Engineer Boyer to bid out the electrical work if necessary. Motion carried 7-0.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Vice President McCauley to authorize the advertising of the proposed ordinance for the Borough to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with other municipalities to participate in the Berks County MS4 Steering Committee for the purpose of collaboratively meeting the educational requirements of the 2018-2023 MS4 NPDES Permit to be considered for approval at the March 5 Council meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Mayor/Police Reports**

Mayor Peterson read a letter thanking Officer Borz for helping locate a lost child. Mayor Peterson noted that the Birdsboro Rotary Club made a donation for the computer in the Birdsboro Police Department.

Chief Roth reviewed his report with Council. Chief Roth noted the recent State Police audit and noted that the State Police commended the Birdsboro Police Department.

### **Police Department Standard Operating Procedures**

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the new Police Department Standard Operating Procedures for Computer Use and Disposal of Physical and Digital Media as presented by Chief Roth. Motion carried 7-0.

### **2018 Chevrolet Tahoe for Police Department**

There was discussion regarding the loan proposals for the 2018 Chevrolet Tahoe for the Police Department.

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded Councilman Myers to purchase the 2018 2018 Chevrolet Tahoe Police pursuit vehicle from Hondrus Chevrolet in Manheim for \$37,000. Motion carried 7-0.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Scioli to authorize Manager Durso to execute the loan documents with Tompkins Vist Bank for a 5-year loan at 3:6% for the \$37,000 loan for the 2018 Chevrolet Tahoe Police pursuit vehicle subject to Manager Durso checking other loan establishments for other rates just to ensure the Borough is getting the best rate possible. Motion carried 7-0.

A **motion** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve Radio Maintenance, Inc. (RMI) to transfer the communications equipment, flash light and some emergency lights from the 2005 Chevrolet Tahoe to the 2018 Chevrolet Tahoe, and the purchase and installation of emergency lights and sirens, control box, AR-15 rifle rack and prisoner compartment for costs not to exceed \$11,000. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Municipal Services/Department Reports**

Water Department: Report is in the packet

Wastewater Treatment Department: Report is in the packet

Public Works Department: Report is in the packet

### **Emergency Management**

Ken Imes noted the annual reviews for the Emergency Action Plans are approved and gave an update of the grant for cameras that are awaiting the State budget.

### **Fire Department**

The Fire Department reports were distributed to Council and Vice President McCauley asked a question about good intent calls and Chief Kulp responded. Mayor Peterson asked a question about the fire scene on Furnace Street and Manager Durso responded.

### **Solicitor's Report**

Solicitor Weiler reviewed his report with Council. Solicitor Weiler noted that he, Chief Roth, and Manager Durso attended a rental inspection hearing.

Solicitor Weiler noted that Chief Roth provided him with details that three streets are missing from the codified version of the parking ordinance and Monroe, Hopewell and Robeson Streets need to be added to the codification. Terry will have an update at the March 5 Council meeting.

Solicitor Weiler reminded Council that they need to make a decision on the Turkey Hill liquor license.

### **Council Reports**

**Councilman Myers** asked a question about the Water Department Report regarding the tank filling at Birdsboro Power and Manager Durso responded.

**Councilwoman Cotter** noted she read the Borough News article featuring Birdsboro Borough and thanked Manager Durso and Mayor Peterson for their assisting Borough News with the article. Councilwoman Cotter thanked the Borough employees for the snow removal.

Councilwoman Cotter stated she would like to institute a Junior Councilman Program and suggested either herself or Councilman Peterson could mentor the Junior Councilperson and the program could be opened up to all schools that Borough students attend.

Councilwoman Cotter noted the Borough Awards Recognition (year of service)

- Councilman Happel has several years of service
- Mayor Peterson has 35 years of service
- Vice President McCauley has 18 years of service

### **Public Comment**

David Snyder, 348 Drew Court, likes the proposed Rustic Park improvements but is disappointed the price is 25% over budget.

Jonathan Barnes, 310 W. 1st Street, noted that Kinsley Construction does good work.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Durso  
Borough Secretary