

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 2, 2018 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL

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

**Staff & Professionals:** Aaron J. Durso, Manager  
Terry Weiler, Solicitor

**Absent:** Theodore Roth, Chief of Police

**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 Pastor Devin Blankenbiller of Abundant Life Church.

**Presentation by Pastor Devin Blankenbiller – Love Loud Event**

Pastor Devin Blankenbiller of Abundant Life Church provided a presentation regarding the upcoming Love Loud Event to be held September 15, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Scioli and seconded by Councilman Myers to authorize the closing of Water Street for the September 15 Love Loud Event. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comment of Agenda Items**

Steve Lusky, 211 Caravan Drive, asked if the Council meeting was being recorded and it was noted that the meeting was being recorded.

**Minutes– March 19, 2018 Council Meeting**

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the March 19, 2018 Council Meeting minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

**Bills List**

A **motion** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the Bills List dated April 2, 2018 and Checks for Ratification dated March 20, 2018 – April 1, 2018. Motion carried 6-0-1 with Councilman Myers abstaining for the approval of Check #1207 as he is the Finance Officer for the American Legion Post 626. Councilman Scioli asked a question about the Lewis Environmental bill.

**Treasurer's Report**

A **motion** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the March 19, 2018 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried 7-0. Herbein and Company, the Borough's auditor, will be at Borough Hall April 17, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. to answer audit questions that Council may have.

**Manager's Report**

**Southern Berks Regional EMS Annual Report**

Manager Durso noted that Council has been provided with the Southern Berks Regional EMS Annual Report.

**Birdsboro Power Update**

Manager Durso provided an update of the Birdsboro Power project.

**Total Recycle Earth Day Celebration**

Manager Durso noted that Total Recycle will hold an Earth Day celebration on Friday April 20, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and those attending are to RSVP no later than April 13, 2018. A copy of the invitation was included in the Council packet for reference.

**Berks County Municipal Officials Breakfast**

Manager Durso noted that the Berks County Municipal Officials Breakfast will be held on Friday April 27, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. and those attending are to RSVP no later than April 18, 2018. A copy of the invitation was included in the Council packet for reference.

**Rustic Park Pavilions Update**

Manager Durso provided an update of the status of the replacement of the pavilions at Rustic Park and noted that a preconstruction meeting has been held.

**No Nonsense Neutering Information for Review**

Manager Durso provided information for Council's review regarding No Nonsense Neutering. There was a question if the Animal Rescue League does spaying and neutering.

**Liquid Fuels 2018**

Manager Durso noted that the State Liquid Fuels distribution payment for 2018 is \$153,121.54.

**Duck Race – May 12**

A **motion** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the closing of Water Street for the May 12, 2018 Duck Race. Motion carried 7-0.

**Engineer's Report**

No new report.

**Mayor/Police Reports**

**Emergency Management**

No new report.

**Fire Department**

No new report

### **Parks and Recreation**

Cindy McGee, Birdsboro Parks and Recreation, provided an update on upcoming events and noted that Parks and Recreation have been discussing sponsors regarding the Music in the Park event.

### **Solicitor's Report**

Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. and reconvened the Council meeting at 8:22 p.m. Solicitor Weiler noted the purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss the Turkey Hill liquor license transfer appeal.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Vice President McCauley to authorize Solicitor Weiler to prepare a resolution stating that Borough Council denied the transfer of the liquor license from Wyomissing to Birdsboro Borough for applicant, Turkey Hill LP. Motion carried 7-0.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to authorize Solicitor Weiler to meet with Turkey Hill's attorney and Attorney Matthew Cream to discuss conditions with Turkey Hill, LP. Motion carried 7-0.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve Ordinance No. 475 – Parking Ordinance Amendments. Motion carried 7-0.

An update was provided regarding the new Police Vehicle financing.

### **Council/Committee Reports**

**Councilwoman Cotter** provided a Junior Councilperson program update. Councilman Myers asked the criteria for the position of Junior Councilperson and Councilwoman Cotter responded.

**Councilman Blank** suggested an ordinance be considered to require those with driveways to park their vehicles in their driveway during snow emergencies.

Councilman Blank asked if the American Legion Post 626 donated \$3,000 to the Community Center and President Happel stated that they did and the funds came from the Home Association.

**Vice President McCauley** noted that the Pioneer Crossing Landfill Advisory Committee did not meet in March but the next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

**Councilman Happel** noted those on the Furnace Street Revitalization Committee include Councilmen Peterson and Myers, Manager Durso and Engineer Boyer.

### **Public Comment**

Nancy Kauffman, 7 Mansion Court East, noted that she supports the Junior Councilperson program.

Steve Lusky, 211 Caravan Drive, asked how much has been raised for the Wall that Heals and how much is needed. Mr. Lusky asked President Happel if he sent a letter to Council and discussion ensued between Mr. Lusky and Council.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Durso  
Borough Secretary