

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 18, 2018 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL

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

Staff & Professionals: Theodore Roth, Chief of Police Terry Weiler, Solicitor
Aaron J. Durso, Manager 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 Aaron Cassagrande.

PRESENTATION – HISTORIC INTERPRETIVE SIGNS – COUNCILMAN MYERS

- Councilman Myers met with the Hoffman’s (Borough historians) and they will aid in providing information and photos for the interpretive signs, the Bird Mansion (Birdsboro Community Memorial Center) will be the first building to get a sign, handouts were provided.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None offered

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2018 regular meeting, as presented was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Vice President McCauley. Motion carried 7-0.

BILLS LIST

- **MOTION** to approve the Bills List dated June 18, 2018, and the Checks for Ratification dated May 22, 2018 through June 17, 2018, as presented was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter. Motion carried 7-0.
- Councilman Myers inquired about Rustic Park rentals and Manager Durso responded.
- **MOTION** to approve the Treasurer’s Report dated June 18, 2018, as presented was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Resolution No. 2018-28 – Agreement with PADOT for TA Set Aside Funds

- **MOTION** to approve Resolution No. 2018-28 authorizing the execution of an agreement with the PA Department of Transportation for acceptance of TA Set Aside Funds was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

RAWA Line Update

- Vice President McCauley noted issues with Route 724.

Spotted Lantern Fly

- Manager Durso provided Spotted Lantern Fly update.

MS4

- Manager Durso provided MS4 Program update.

Police Vehicle

- **MOTION** to approve the Police Department 2005 Chevy Tahoe to be donated to the Birdsboro Union Fire Department was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Myers. Motion carried 7-0.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Borough Engineer Brian Boyer reviewed his written report, a copy of which is kept on file in the Borough Office.
- Engineer Boyer noted a Change Order for Pavilion #2 at Rustic Park resulting in a \$13,500 credit.
- **MOTION** to approve a credit to Kinsley Construction, contractor of the Rustic Park pavilions, for 15 days due to rain was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Vice President McCauley. Motion carried 7-0.
- Engineer Boyer provided an update of the Auto Museum project, the permit has been approved for work on the foundation.
- Engineer Boyer noted that framing and electrical work is in progress at the Angry Anvil restaurant.

MAYOR/POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

- Mayor Peterson noted the passing of Jack Detweiler, local businessman who supported youth sports.
- Mayor Peterson read Chief Roth's retirement letter whose last day with the Borough will be November 2, 2018.
- **MOTION** to accept Chief Roth's retirement effective November 2, 2018 was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter. Motion carried 7-0.
- Councilman Myers noted as former Mayor that it was his privilege to work with Chief Roth and the officers, noting their professionalism.
- Chief Roth reviewed his report with Council, noting a \$1,000 donation from the Woman's Club of Birdsboro, reviewed a computer fraud alert, noting the waterline contractors hit a gas line and all protocols were followed.
- Mayor Peterson noted that a search committee for the new Police Chief to be established including himself, Solicitor Weiler, Manager Durso, Councilman Myers, Councilwoman Cotter, President Happel and Chief Roth.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- Councilwoman Cotter inquired about the donation of mulch to Maple Springs Pool.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: No new report

FIRE DEPARTMENT: No new report

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Solicitor Weiler requested an Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilman Myers noted the Berks Municipal Cooperative has upcoming workshops: 1) PA Economy League Report, August 29, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. 2) Firefighting in PA and Berks County, September 20, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
- Councilman Blank suggested sending a letter or resolution to the local electrical union for their donated time for the Rustic Park pavilions.
- Councilman Peterson noted the new pavilions at Rustic Park look nice and Mayor Peterson concurred.
- Councilwoman Cotter noted a meeting with Birdsboro Municipal Authority and Councilman McCauley stated that the meeting went well. They are to schedule a time to tour the sewer and water plants.
- Councilwoman Cotter thanked the Mayor, Police Chief, and Borough Manager for the Birdsboro Elementary Center send off and thanked the residents for their attendance and input at Council meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Don Wary, 511 Jefferson Street, noted there are two road construction signs at his house.
- Connie Ewing, Birdsboro Beverage owner, expressed concern for the Turkey Hill liquor license and stated that the Borough is already over its quota.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Birdsboro Municipal Authority	Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at 6:30 PM
Borough Council	Monday, July 16, 2018, at 7:00 PM
Planning Commission	Tuesday, June 26, 2018, at 7:00 PM (<i>if needed</i>)

EXECUTIVE SESSION & ADJOURNMENT

- Council recessed into executive session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss a legal matter concerning a liquor license, a Right-to-Know matter, and a personnel matter. Regular meeting reconvened at 9:10 p.m.
- **MOTION** to approve Borough Hall be closed to walk in traffic on Wednesdays starting July 1, 2018 on a 6-month trial basis was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Peterson. Councilman Myers and Councilwoman Cotter agreed a half-day to be more suitable with Councilman Peterson expressing that a whole day would allow staff to set up appointments with residents. Roll call vote:
 - President Happel – yes
 - Councilman Peterson – yes
 - Councilman Blank - yes
 - Vice President McCauley- no
 - Councilman Myers - no
 - Councilman Scioli - no
 - Councilwoman Cotter - no

Motion failed 3-4.

- **MOTION** to approve Borough Hall be closed to walk in traffic on Wednesdays for half-day starting July 1, 2018 on a 6-month trials basis was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** to approve Resolution 2018-29 for the transfer of the Restaurant Liquor License No. R-9342 into the Borough of Birdsboro from Wyomissing Borough- Turkey Hill was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Scioli. Roll call vote:
 - President Happel – yes
 - Councilman Peterson – yes
 - Councilman Blank - yes
 - Vice President McCauley- no
 - Councilman Myers - no
 - Councilman Scioli - yes
 - Councilwoman Cotter - no

Motion carried 4-3.

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. The next regular meeting of Birdsboro Borough Council will be held on Monday, July 16, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Durso
Borough Manager