

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 20, 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 Pastor Devin Blankenbiller of Abundant Life Assembly of God

**PRESENTATION – LOVE LOUD – PASTOR DEVIN BLANKENBILLER**

- The Love Loud event will be held on September 15, 2018 at Main Bird Park. Speakers will be installed for this event and remain for Christmas.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman McCauley and seconded by Councilman Blank to hang the speakers in Main Bird Park for the Love Loud event and Christmas in Birdsboro. Motion carried 7-0.

**PRESENTATION – ST. PAUL’S UCC 2019 MISSION TRIP BIRDSBORO AND 5K**

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the date of April 27, 2019 for the St. Pauls’ UCC 2019 Mission Trip Birdsboro and 5K run as well as approval of the course for the run. Motion carried 7-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Terry Moonan, 128 Orange Street, cited issues with a company box truck parking on the street which is causing issues for trash trucks, restrictive parking in front of the garage and a dilapidated fence on the property line.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman McCauley to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2018 regular meeting, as amended, amendment being correct the vote regarding the Wednesday office closing to a 4-3 vote. Motion carried 7-0.

**BILLS LIST**

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman McCauley and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the Bills List dated August 20, 2018, and the Checks for Ratification dated July 17, 2018 through August 19, 2018, as presented. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Peterson and seconded by Councilman McCauley to approve the Treasurer’s Report dated August 20, 2018. Motion carried 7-0.

**MANAGER’S REPORT**

Fee Schedule

- Manager Durso distributed a proposed fee schedule noting the fee schedule has not been updated since 2011 and noted the proposed fee schedule is more comprehensive.

### UGI Request

- Manager Durso answered questions relating to compressors, noise and control of subcontractors regarding the UGI easement.

### Storm Damage Update

- Manager Durso provided an update of the storm damage.

### Repeal Wednesday Office Closure

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Peterson and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to repeal the ½ day office closure on Wednesdays. Motion carried 7-0.

### Dallas Data Grant Opportunity

- Manager Durso encouraged everyone to vote for the Dallas Data Commitment to Community grant opportunity.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Engineer Brian Boyer reviewed his report with Council.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve Payment No. 2 to Kinsley Construction in the amount of \$25,586.69 for the construction of the Rustic Park Pavilions. Motion carried 7-0.

### **MAYOR/POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

- Chief Roth reviewed his report with Council.

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** Reports provided in Council packets

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** No new report

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** No new report

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman McCauley to amend the Parking Ordinance to lift parking restrictions on the East side of Jefferson Street from First Street to Apple Street as a result of the closing of the Birdsboro Elementary Center. Motion carried 7-0

### **COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Councilman Myers noted he attended the Center for Excellence in Local Government program for September 20, 2018 is "Future of Berks County Fire Fighting". Also mentioned was the Reading Eagle article regarding the storm damage and Councilman Myers thanked the Borough workforce for the good job they did with the flooding. Councilman Myers distributed a quote from Fossil Industries for the "Interpretative Signs" for \$1,204.00.
- Councilman Peterson noted school starts August 27, 2018 and noted that this will be the first year in decades that there will be no students at the Birdsboro Elementary Center.
- Councilman McCauley noted the Pioneer Crossing Landfill Advisory Committee met and they discussed a minor permit application requesting an increase the hours of operation.
- Councilman Scioli complimented the Borough employees for their work regarding the flooding.
- Councilwoman Cotter noted the Wastewater and Water Treatment Plants were toured by Council And BMA members on August 18, 2018. Councilwoman Cotter requested that Manager Durso contact the

auditors to do the proper accounting to set up a loan for the Borough to pay itself back for the police vehicle. Councilwoman thanked everyone for their involvement with the flooding issues.

- Councilman Happel inquired about the fireworks ordinance and Solicitor Weiler noted he will review other communities' ordinances and prepare an ordinance for Council's review. Also noted was the completion of the storage closet.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Cindy McGee announced her resignation from the Parks and Recreation Board.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Peterson to accept with regret Cindy McGee's resignation from the Birdsboro Parks and Recreation Board. Motion carried 7-0.
- Don Wary, 511 Jefferson Street, asked for an update of the Chief of Police search and Solicitor Weiler responded.

Council recessed into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened the regular meeting at 10:15 p.m. Solicitor Weiler stated that personnel and litigation matters were discussed in Executive Session.

- Steve Lusky, 211 Caravan Drive, asked how much money the Borough spent on his Right to Know case and Solicitor Weiler noted the fees are approximately \$3,000.00. Councilman Myers stated that it is a shame on such a trivial matter.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

<b>Birdsboro Municipal Authority</b>	Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at 6:30 PM
<b>Borough Council</b>	Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at 7:00 PM
<b>Planning Commission</b>	Tuesday, August 28, 2018, at 7:00 PM ( <i>if needed</i> )

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Durso  
Borough Manager