

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 3, 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- Absent

**Staff & Professionals:** Terry Weiler, Solicitor  
Todd E. Trupp, Chief of Police  
Bonnie L. Frisco, Administrative Assistant

**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 Joe Motz of St. Paul's United Church of Christ.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

- No public comment on agenda items.

**Animal Rescue League**

- Presentation was given by Tom Hubric, Executive Director, regarding the Animal Rescue League (ARL) 2019 Animal Control Services Contracts. Mr. Hubric provided highlights of animal intakes and costs. The ARL cannot function without the donations of local communities and bequests. The deadline for contract submission has been extended. A fee for service contract is being formulated in addition to the per capita option. The contract options will be provided to the communities. No action was taken by Council.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the November 19, 2018 budget meeting minutes. Motion carried 6-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the amended version of the November 19, 2018 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

**BILLS LIST**

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the Bills List dated December 3, 2018, and the Checks for Ratification dated November 20, 2018 through December 2, 2018. Motion carried 6-0.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Resolution No. 2018-31 – Adopt the Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan Update**

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve Resolution No. 2018-31 to adopt the Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan Update. Motion carried 6-0. It was requested that Manager Durso provide Councilwoman Cotter with the four facilities that are vulnerable to flooding and suggested that Birdsboro Power site be added to the vulnerability list. Councilwoman Cotter asked if there were emergency cameras located in the Borough.

### 2019 Holiday Schedule

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the 2019 Holiday Schedule for the non-contract employees with the addition of Veteran's Day. Motion carried 6-0. It was confirmed that all contract employees receive the Veteran's Day holiday.

### 2019 Council Meeting Schedule

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the 2019 Council Meeting schedule as presented. Borough Council meetings will be held the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. except for the months of June, July and August where there will be one meeting a month which will be held on the third Monday. Meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. and Budget meetings will be held the first and third Monday for the months of September, October and November. Meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

### Reappointments

- Council was provided with a list of individuals eligible for reappointment in 2019. Reappointments will be voted on in January.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council. Engineer Boyer noted the grant application for signs at 1st and Furnace Streets. Engineer Boyer noted a meeting with PADOT regarding the Motta property and the potential of road widening and traffic signaling changes. Councilman Blank noted that the Borough should not be incurring costs for this matter and Mayor Peterson noted that costs will be addressed with the application to the County.

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

- Chief Trupp noted that the evidence vehicle will not be of value and recommended it be sold. Chief Trupp noted he received correspondence from Jesse L. Pleet of Leisawitz Heller offering to provide a presentation to Borough employees for discounted homeowner's and car insurances. Chief Trupp noted he is formulating a new evidence procedure for disposition items for auction
- Mayor Peterson noted that counterfeit monies passed through Boyer's Market resulting in a false arrest but the actual offender was apprehended and is now incarcerated. Charges will be filed against this individual by 3-4 jurisdictions.
- Councilman Blank asked how many times Chief Trupp has needed to consult with former Chief Roth and Chief Trupp responded that he texts Mr. Roth on occasion.

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

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** No new report

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** No new report

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- Solicitor Weiler noted he will resend the snow ordinance to Council for review. Solicitor Weiler noted inquires from Council members regarding the breakout of the \$35,000 found in the agreement between the Borough and former Chief Roth which is as follows: \$7,197.12 (unused vacation time),

\$5,972.61 (unused compensatory time), \$399.84 (wildcard Friday) and the remaining \$21,430.43 (consulting fee) was broken out into three payments.

### **COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Councilwoman Cotter said “Thank you to every member of every church and organization and to every individual who worked together to organize Birdsboro Hometown Christmas, when we were let down by the members of our Rec Board who resigned when the planning for a Christmas celebration should have been underway. The people who cooperated and made this event possible are the ones who are truly concerned about and committed to our Borough. They exemplify the true spirit of Christmas”.
- Vice President McCauley noted the Southern Berks Comprehensive Plan Committee met last Wednesday and reviewed the Economy section covering employee rates by municipality and school and municipal tax rates. The Committee meets every month but December.
- Councilman Myers noted that UGI has provided clearance for the placement of the Bird Mansion interpretative sign and the text for which was written by historian Bruce Hoffman. The Interpretative Sign Committee will meet this Wednesday to discuss the placement location of the M&T Bank (mercantile building) sign to be located near town clock.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Cindy McGee, 101 N. Spruce Street, noted that she took exception to Councilwoman Cotter’s statement about the Rec Board.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

<b>Birdsboro Municipal Authority</b>	Tuesday, December 11, 2018, at 6:30 PM
<b>Borough Council</b>	Monday, December 17, 2018, at 7:00 PM

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco  
Administrative Assistant/Acting Secretary