

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2019 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* Anthony Scioli, Member
Robert Myers, Member Mary Ann Cotter, Member

*Via telephone

Jr. Council Member Present: Ashley Gieringer

Staff & Professionals: Todd E. Trupp, 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 Councilwoman Cotter.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

- Nancy Kauffman, 7 Mansion Court E, asked Engineer Boyer about bike racks at Boyer's Market and Engineer Boyer responded that bike racks were in the plan but it is up to Boyer's Market to install them. .

BRAD FREER – EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

- Brad Freer, Scout Troop 595, is working on his Eagle Scout project and would like to do a Little Free Library at Rustic Park, noting the Boone Area Library supports the project. A brochure of the project was distributed.
- Councilman Blank asked about the construction of the little library, Councilman Myers asked about the instructions for use. Mayor Peterson asked if the little library will be along the trail. Councilman Myers asked about Vest Pocket and Lincoln Park being suitable locations and Scout Freer responded. Councilman Peterson noted that it is a good idea to consider other locations.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve Scout Freer's Eagle Scout Project, the Little Free Library. Motion carried 7-0.

BIRDSBORO AMERICAN LEGION POST 626–BASEBALL FIELD IMPROVEMENTS

- Representative for Birdsboro American Legion Post 626 distributed field upgrade information for the ballfield and provided an overview of the project and timeline.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Scioli to authorize the Daniel Boone Athletic Association, Daniel Boone School District, and American Legion Post 626 to proceed with the ballfield improvement. Motion carried 7-0.
- Sponsor options were discussed. Councilman Myers stated he liked the temporary ballfield sign and noted Council needs to pursue a Facility Application.

- Mayor Peterson asked if Engineer Boyer should look at Texas Field. Councilman Blank noted that Met-Ed might check the poles at Texas Field if we ask them.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2019 council meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

BILLS LIST

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the Bills List dated February 18, 2019, and the Checks for Ratification dated February 5, 2019 through February 17, 2019. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the Treasurer's Report dated February 18, 2019. Motion carried 7-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

MS-4

- Manager Durso provided an overview of the MS-4 program, noted best ways and places to wash vehicles and provided information about the Rain Barrel Workshop.

UGI Easement

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve and authorize signature of the UGI Easement Agreement. Motion carried 7-0.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council. There was discussion regarding the old train station, Manager Durso to check the status with owner's contractor and the Berks Redevelopment Authority.
- Councilman Myers asked a question about E. Main Street and Chestnut Street, Engineer Boyer responded.

MAYOR/POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

- Chief Trupp noted that Uncle Jacks' hosted a first responders' dinner. He also noting that Red the Tailor has been bought out by Gall's and the police uniforms will have a different color grey.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Water Department: Report provided in Council packet
2. Sewer Department: Report provided in Council packet
3. Streets Department: Report provided in Council packet.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Manager Durso stated that Mr. Imes was continuing to work on his yearly updates for PEMA.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: report provided in Council packet.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the following ordinances Ordinance No. 478 amending Ordinance No. 385, "Borough of Birdsboro Burning Ordinance" Motion carried 7-0
- **Motion** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve Ordinance No. 479 amending Ordinance No. 374, "Providing for the Establishment of a Program for the Collection of Municipal Solid Waste and Refuse and Recyclable Materials into the Conventional Municipal Solid Waste Disposal System" Motion carried 7-0
- **Motion** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve Ordinance No. 480 amending Ordinance No. 318, "Solid Waste" motion carried 7-0
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Myers to advertise the Chapter 89 proposed ordinance. Motion carried 7-0.
- Solicitor Weiler is continuing work on the VFW Way deed.

Appeals Board

Solicitor Weiler explained the need for Council to form an Appeals Board.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilman Scioli asked if anyone heard from CLEG about the Animal Rescue League.
- Councilwoman Cotter asked Chief Trupp if he would be interested in participating in the Coffee with Cops program. National Night Out was discussed and Chief Trupp responded.
- Councilwoman Cotter requested more extensive summaries in the minutes and Solicitor Weiler explained the purpose of the minutes, they are a summary of the actions taken. Councilwoman Cotter would like to see a bit more summarized and explained in future minutes.
- Councilwoman Cotter asked why the Birdsboro Power steam alert was not put on Berks Alert and Manger Durso responded that it was not an emergency, so Berks DES did not send it out. Berks DES will send out automated calls for emergencies and health and safety issues. This did not fit the criteria.
- Councilman Blank asked the status of the 117-119 N. Furnace Street parking lot and Solicitor Weiler noted the needs to be an appraisal and then an auction.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Don Wary, of 511 Jefferson Street, said the traffic light at Jackson Street is blinking and also asked a question about the train station property
- Suzanne Lander, 534 Silverbrook Drive, noted code issues at a property on W. 3rd Street.

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Durso
Borough Manager