

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 4, 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* Mary Ann Cotter, Member
Robert Myers, Member Anthony Scioli, Member

*Via telephone

Staff & Professionals: Terry Weiler, Solicitor
Todd E. Trupp, Chief of Police
Aaron J. Durso, Borough Manager

Jr. Council Member: Ashley Gieringer

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 UCC.

American Legion Post 626 Ballfield Update

- Funding for banners continues. There will be a ballfield prep day on March 16, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. with a rain date of March 19, 2019. The infield work is delayed to allow for the Spring season. The waterline that runs along the ballfield must be marked so it doesn't get hit.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: No public comment on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Scioli and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the February 18, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

BILLS LIST

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the Bills List dated March 4, 2019, and the Checks for Ratification dated February 19, 2019 through March 3, 2019. Motion carried 7-0. Explanation provided concerning HUD check.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Fish Rodeo – Use of Park and Pavilions

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the Sportsman's Club request to use Rustic Park and Pavilions May 2-4, 2019 for the annual Fish Rodeo. Motion carried 7-0.

MS-4 Rain Barrel Workshop

- Noted was the MS4 Rain Barrel Workshop on March 5, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at Borough Hall.

Excellence Auto Care Contract

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Peterson and seconded by Councilman Blank to approve the contract between Birdsboro Borough and Excellence Auto Care. Motion carried 7-0.

Executive Session

- Manager Durso requested an executive session for an employee matter and update.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- No new report.

MAYOR/POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the purchase of a new vehicle for the Police Department, a 2019 Chevy Tahoe from Fred Beans for \$51,347.26. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve Caernarvon Township's use of the Police Fire Range for a \$500.00 annual fee. Motion carried 7-0.
- Chief Trupp noted he still has to obtain the price for the police radio for the Evidence Technical Vehicle and Robeson Township and Birdsboro Borough will split the proceeds. Mayor Peterson asked if the Animal Rescue League would be interested and Chief Trupp noted he will contact them.
- Chief Trupp noted that Route 724 is open despite a down powerline.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES/DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Reports to be included in next Council packet

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: No new report

FIRE DEPARTMENT: No new report

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Ordinance No. 481- Chapter 89 "Animals" Amendment

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve Ordinance No. 481, amending Chapter 89 "Animals". Motion carried 7-0.
- Mayor Peterson stated a municipality put a notice in the Reading Eagle notifying residents if they find a stray animal to report it to the municipality first. Manager Durso to look for the ad and place on website.
- Solicitor Weiler is working on the VFW Way dedication and noted there are three different plots of land and three different deeds will need to be advertised.
- **MOTION** made by Councilman Peterson and seconded by Councilman Myers to advertise three ordinances which describe the tracks of land making the street for VFW Way. Motion carried 7-0.
- Solicitor Weiler noted that the agreement for the use of recreation fields will be e-mailed to Council.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilwoman Cotter thanked the employees for their hard work on the recent storms and thanked the public for their attending the Council meetings.
- Councilman Scioli noted that Rita's is open tonight.
- Councilman Blank provided an update of the lights at Texas Ballfield. Needed are new cross arms on the lights, new cord and hardware to run wiring and new bulbs should be installed while the other repairs are being made. A lift truck will be needed for the work and it will be a 7-day job with a total cost of \$12,268.00. Councilwoman Cotter asked if the ballfield is owned by the Birdsboro Municipal Authority. Councilman Blank noted the ballfield was built and maintained by the Borough, but the

property is owned by the Municipal Authority. Councilman Myers asked if Manager Durso could ask the Birdsboro Municipal Authority to help with the repairs for the Texas Ballfield.

- Councilman Myers provided an update on the Heritage Sign program noting the mercantile sign is complete and being shipped. The third sign is being funded by the American Legion Post 626 and will be at the New First Baptist Church. The fourth sign is going to be a sign identifying different neighborhoods.
- Vice President McCauley attended the Berks Regional Comprehensive Plan meeting and provided an overview of the meeting.
- Councilman Myers as if anyone as reached out to MB Investments about the trailhead and Manager Durso noted he will set up a meeting with them.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Don Wary, 511 Jefferson Street, asked for an update on the location for the Eagle Scout Project and President Happel said the Eagle Scout is looking at locations. Mr. Wary asked for an update regarding the train station and Mayor Peterson noted there is no update.
- David Snyder, 348 Drew Court, noted it was not clarified if the lights at Texas Ballfield were safe or not. It was stated it must be investigated further.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Borough Council	Monday, March 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Birdsboro Municipal Authority	Tuesday, March 12, 2018 at 6:30 PM
Planning Commission	Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM, if needed

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Borough Council recessed into Executive Session as 7:48 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss a Worker's Compensation settlement. No action required.

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Durso
Borough Secretary