

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 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 Manager Durso.

BIRDSBORO POWER – VFW WAY

- Solicitor Mark Koch, attorney for Birdsboro Power, provided an update of VFW Way. Solicitor Weiler gave advertising dates for a vote by Council on April 15, 2019. Solicitor Koch gave an update on the subdivision plans and VFW Way is part of that.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

- No public comment on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2019 council meeting. 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 18, 2019, and the Checks for Ratification dated March 5, 2019 through March 17, 2019. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Vice President and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the Treasurer's Report dated March 18, 2019. Motion carried 7-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

VFW Harms Request

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the VFW's Request for a \$1,500.00 donation to be paid from the Harms Benefit Fund. Motion carried 7-0.

Daniel Boone Relay for Life Harms Request

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve a \$100.00 donation from the Harms Benefit Fund to the Daniel Relay for Life American Cancer Society. Motion carried 7-0.

Berks County Solid Waste Authority Annual Donation

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Peterson and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve a \$250.00 donation from the Harms Benefit Fund to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority. Motion carried 7-0.

PUC Fine Update

- Manager Durso noted that at the recent PUC hearing the fine against the Borough was lifted.

Easter Egg Hunt

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the use of Main Bird Park for an Easter Egg Hunt on April 6, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. with a rain date of April 7, 2019 for Tri County Chiropractic for a fundraiser for childhood cancer.

Mock DUI

- There was discussion why the Mock DUI was not approved last year.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Peterson and seconded by Councilman Blank to approve the Daniel Boone Area School SAAD to host a mock accident on April 24, 2019 from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. pending final approval. Motion carried 6-1.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council. Councilman Blank asked a question about ADA ramps and patching. Boyer responded yes that they have to be patched. Councilman Blank asked about fill around the storm sewer pipes. Boyer explained that the backfill and where the stone and old fill may be placed.
- Engineer Boyer noted making bioswales for MS-4 credits.
- Councilman Myers asked about the IDDI ordinance and Engineer Boyer explained it is the Illicit Discharge Ordinance for the Borough's MS-4 program.

MAYOR/POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

- Chief Trupp reviewed his report with Council. Chief Trupp noted that Officer Reinhart is back on duty and he attended to two major calls this weekend. Chief Trupp provided an update on the emergency truck shared with Robeson Township and he is waiting for Robeson's financial numbers. Also noted was a speed detail on Friday and 8 citations were issued. Don Wary, 511 Jefferson Street, asked the time of the speed detail and Chief Trupp said 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Chief Trupp noted the new police vehicle has been ordered. Chief Trupp is following up with Boyer's Market regarding 'coffee with a cop'.

- Mayor Peterson noted that Boyer's Market and Mission Birdsboro donated food for first responders.

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: Report provided in Council packet.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Report provided in Council packet.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the new agreement with Service Electric. Motion carried 7-0
- The ballfield agreement was provided to Council.
- Solicitor Weiler is continuing work on the VFW Way deed.
- Councilman Blank asked a question regarding eliminating the Recreation Board completely and Solicitor Weiler noted the ballfield agreement is between the ballfield users and the Borough. Councilman Blank asked if Council is going to form a new Recreation Board. Vice President McCauley stated that people were not interested. Councilman Peterson noted that new members have not been solicited. The number of members was discussed. Councilman Myers noted the past deficiency in the number of members and asked if the open Recreation Board positions were advertised. Manager Durso said yes. President Happel asked Solicitor Weiler to prepare a draft Recreation Board ordinance with a minimum of five members and a maximum of nine members. Mayor Peterson asked if the Recreation Board positions should be advertised and Solicitor Weiler noted to wait for the draft ordinance.
- Councilwoman Cotter asked a question about VFW Way and Armorcast Road not being a thru road. Manager Durso responded. Armorcast Rd. is actually owned by MB Investments by the Matthew Brooke Building. That means it technically is not a thru street. VFW Way when dedicated will give a distinct thru street for the Land Development Plan.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilman Scioli asked about grants for the parks and Manager Durso noted that grants are competitive and noted the grant process. Manager Durso provided an update of Texas Ballfield light issue. He spoke with BMA and they asked him to get quotes for new lighting to compare the costs.
- Councilwoman Cotter thanked the police and emergency personnel for their work this weekend and thanked Evan Corondi, Engineer Boyer and Manager Durso for the rain barrel workshop. Don Wary, 511 Jefferson Street, expressed disappointed with the community attendance. Councilwoman Cotter asked if there has been anything new brought before the Planning Commission and Mayor Peterson responded there has been nothing new.

- Councilwoman Cotter noted that Uncle Jack's is one of the top 10 breakfast places in the County. Councilwoman Cotter thanked the residents for attending the Council meetings.
- Vice President McCauley asked for project updates and Manager Durso provided a Birdsboro Power Project update. Completion date is still on track for mid-May.
- Councilman Peterson noted that Maple Springs Pool is hosting a 5K run and he will provide a date for the event at the next Council meeting, also noted there is new membership pricing for the Maple Springs Pool.
- Councilman Blank noted the individual that was injured at the plant is doing well and will be returning to work.
- Councilman Myers asked Manager Durso for an update of the heritage sign and a report on the easements. Manager Durso provided an update. The Heritage Sign will be installed once the One Calls are marked out. Manager Durso stated that he heard from the JP Mascaro municipal liaison in regards to the easement for the trailhead. JP Mascaro is in favor of the easement. Solicitor Rauch is working on both easements. Councilman Myers asked Manager Durso to follow up with Bob Folwell. Manager Durso will follow up with Mr. Folwell.
- Councilman Peterson noted he spoke with Eagle Scout Brad Freer and Scout Freer indicated his Eagle Scout project will be in Vest Pocket Park.
- President Happel noted the old minutes books are rebound and back at Borough Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- No public comment

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Durso
Borough Manager