

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 1, 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

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.

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 March 18, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

BILLS LIST

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the Bills List dated April 1, 2019, and the Checks for Ratification dated March 19, 2019 through March 31, 2019. Motion carried 7-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

ADA Ramp Project Update

- Manager Durso provided an update of the ADA Ramp Project.

Storm Sewer Pipe Replacement Update

- Manager Durso provided an update of the Storm Sewer Pipe Replacement Project.

MS-4

- Manager Durso provided an update of MS-4 activities.

American Legion Request

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve a \$1,500.00 donation from Harms Benefit Fund to American Legion Post 626. Motion carried 6-0-1 with Councilman Myers abstaining due to his position of Financial Officer with the American Legion.

Boone Area Library

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Blank to appoint Chrissy Mittura to the Boone Area Library Board of Trustees. Motion carried 7-0.

Spring Clean Up

- The Pioneer Crossing Landfill Spring Clean Up is Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: No new report.

MAYOR/POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

- Chief Trupp noted that Coffee with a Cop will be hosted by the Rotary Club at the Birdsboro Community Center.
- Chief Trupp noted that he is having difficulty finding a gray color that matches the old police uniforms and asked to move to black vests for cover as the gray does not match. Council was amenable to the black vests.
- Chief Trupp noted a new law in Pennsylvania that the Police Department is to take firearms turned into the Police Department from anyone who has a PFA and it was noted it could become a storage issue. The Berks County Sheriff's Department is looking into being able to store the firearms for local departments.

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

Service Electric Agreement Resolution

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve Resolution No. 2019-20 for adoption of the Service Electric Agreement. Motion carried 7-0.
- Solicitor Weiler noted the ordinance for the proposed VFW Way was advertised for approval at the April 15, 2019 Council meeting. Solicitor Weiler noted he met with Manager Durso regarding the Recreation Board Ordinance and the baseball field licensing agreements.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilman Myers handed out drafts, for Council's review, of the sign for St. Michael's/New Baptist Church.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the Maple Springs Pool Association 5K Run (to be held June 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.) route in the Borough as listed on the map provided by Councilman Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
- Vice President McCauley noted the Southern Berks Regional Comprehensive Plan Committee met at Caernarvon Township and they reviewed survey data and a section on A6 Preservation.
- Councilwoman Cotter asked Solicitor Weiler a question about VFW Way. Solicitor Weiler stated it is three deeds and that no one has asked for a hearing. He states Council can vote to approve it at the April 15, 2019 meeting. Councilwoman Cotter then asked about the easement and public use on Armorcast Road. Mayor Peterson explained the Armorcast Road dedication process and Solicitor Weiler answered the questions about the easement issue. The businesses that exit or enter onto Armorcast Road have an easement to do so. Once Armorcast is fully dedicated it will be a Borough Street.

- Councilwoman Cotter noted an approved reason for an Executive Session is safety and security issues. Councilwoman Cotter thanked those in attendance and thanked the American Legion for the Saturday clean up.
- Councilman Scioli noted today was opening day for the American Legion Post 626 Ballfield and Daniel Boone Varsity won. Councilman Scioli then provided an update of the field upgrades.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Stacy Young, 201 Cinder Street, reviewed with Council an ongoing issue with the dwelling connected to her dwelling and noted the neighbor's roof is in a state of disrepair, citing dissatisfaction with the response to such complaint thus far. A lengthy discussion ensued. Solicitor Weiler will meet with the Borough's Codes and Zoning Official to discuss.
- Chrissy Mittura, 300 Washington Street, requested a \$1,000 donation for the Boone Area Library for prizes for the Duck Race. **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blank and seconded by Councilman Peterson to donate \$1,000 from the Harms Benefit Fund to the Boone Area Library for prizes for the Duck Race. Councilwoman Cotter asked if it is in the budget, Manager Durso noted it was not but there is money in the savings. Councilman Myers noted this should have been discussed at budget time and Ms. Mittura explained the reason for the late notice of the request. Motion carried 7-0.
- Cindy McGee, 101 N. Spruce Street, noted that Borough staff had recently went out of their way to help her with an issue that came up after Borough hours.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Borough Council	Monday, April 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Birdsboro Municipal Authority	Tuesday, April 9, 2018 at 6:30 PM
Planning Commission	Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 7:00 PM, if needed

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Durso
Borough Secretary