

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 16, 2019 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL

Council Members Present: Richard Happel, President Robert Myers, Member
Neil McCauley, Vice President Anthony Scioli, Member
Joseph Peterson, Mayor Austin Peterson, Member
Mary Ann Cotter, Member

Council Member Absent: David Blank, Member

Jr. Council Member Absent: Ashley Gieringer

Staff & Professionals: Todd E. Trupp, Chief of Police Kelly J. Yanos, Borough Manager
Terry Weiler, Solicitor Bonnie L. Frisco, Borough Secretary

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

No comment on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2019 council meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

BILLS LIST

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the Bills List dated December 16, 2019, and the Checks for Ratification dated December 3, 2019 through December 15, 2019 with the addition of a checks for Circus Time Amusements for \$775.00 and Cub Scout Pack 595 for \$400.00. Motion carried 6-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the Treasurer's Report dated December 16, 2019. Motion carried 6-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Recycling Grant

- Manager Yanos noted that the recycling grant was received in the amount of \$295,182 with a 90/10 match to include a leaf waste site at Public Works to accommodate more than once a month drop off, a new truck, a new leaf vacuum and recycling carts with lids.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council. Engineer Boyer provided a timeline for the Haycreek Road Bridge and noted the bridge may need to be obtained from Costars.

MAYOR/POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Hold Harmless Agreement with Pastor Farnsworth

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Peterson and seconded by Councilman Myers to authorize the Police Department and President Happel to sign the Hold Harmless Agreement with Pastor Farnsworth.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

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

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: No new report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: No new report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

2020 Tax Resolution

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Scioli to adopt the 2020 Tax Resolution No. 2019-22. Motion carried 6-0.
- The Recreation Board Ordinance will be adopted at the January 6, 2020 meeting.
- Solicitor Weiler to contact the County regarding the Board of Health.
- Councilman Myers requested an Executive Session to discuss personnel.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilman Myers noted he encountered Joan London, solicitor for the redevelopment authority, and inquired about the Motta property. Manager Yanos noted they are looking for the new plans and Solicitor London will be handling that.
- Councilman Peterson thanked his fellow Council members and noted he has learned a lot by being on Council and saw a unique perspective of local governance. Councilman Myers noted that Councilman Peterson did an extraordinary job.
- Vice President McCauley noted that the Pioneer Crossing Landfill Committee met last Tuesday and there was some detection of radiation in special aircraft parts and the situation was handled properly.
- Councilwoman Cotter inquired about the Birdsboro Municipal Authority report noting that Maple Springs Pool is a 501.3(c) and inquired what Mr. Lusky's part is with the pool. Councilman Peterson noted that Maple Springs Pool contracted with Mr. Lusky to solicit donations for in kind legal advice. Mr. Peterson noted that Maple Springs Pool is now in a position to pay their loan. Councilwoman Cotter questioned if the hiring of Mr. Lusky should have been done at a public meeting. Councilwoman Cotter said that her real concern was whether or not the pool would be able to pay the \$60,000 loan which is due in May.

Councilwoman Cotter noted that Junior Council Member Ashley Gieringer will be featured in the February issue of the Borough News. Councilwoman Cotter thanked Councilman Peterson for his service on Council and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

- Councilman Scioli saw the Facebook posts stating that the Birdsboro Hometown Christmas event was nice and thanked Councilman Peterson for his service on Council and all of his great ideas.
- President Happel thanked Councilman Peterson for his service and noted he was glad to work with him.
- Manager Yanos noted a large pothole on Jackson Street which needs to be dug up, milled and filled with hot asphalt, job to be done Wednesday or Thursday depending on the weather.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Pastor James Farnsworth noted the success of the Birdsboro Hometown Christmas and noted the blessings from folks from different organizations, outside grants and cooperation from all.
- Bruce Godfrey, 204 Hampton Drive, asked why the Christmas event was changed and President Happel cited high costs.
- Matthew Welch, 122 N. Kelly Drive, noted he is looking forward to serving on Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. and reconvened at 8:25 p.m. The Executive Session was to discuss personnel. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary