

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 20, 2020 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL
(Meeting held Teleconference)

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

Staff & Professionals: Terry Weiler, Solicitor
Todd Trupp, Chief of Police
Brian Boyer, Engineer
Kelly J. Yanos, Manager
Bonnie L. Frisco, Secretary/Treasurer

Call to Order: President McCauley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Opening prayer was led by Vice President Cotter.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes– April 6 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Happel and seconded by Councilman Kauffman to approve the April 6, 2020 council meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried 7-0 Amendment being to add ‘The motion carried 7-0’ for the vote to waive transfer u/o inspections for property sales.

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Welch and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the Bills List dated April 20, 2020 and Checks for Ratification dated April 7, 2020 – April 19, 2020. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilman Happel to approve the Treasurer’s Report dated April 20, 2020. Motion carried 7-0.

Manager’s Report

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Happel and seconded by Councilwoman Kauffman to authorize President McCauley to execute the Schuylkill Road Low-Volume grant amendment, extending the deadline for completion to December 31, 2020. Motion carried 7-0.
- Manager Yanos noted the quarterly Birdsboro Power accommodation fee received to be split 80/20 between the Borough (20%) and Borough Municipal Authority (80%).
- Manager Yanos noted the COVID-19 Zoom conference tomorrow, April 21 at 11:00 a.m. hosted by Albright College CELG.
- Manager Yanos noted the monies to the Auditor General for the repayment of a State Aid pension monies overpayment.

Engineer’s Report

- Engineer Boyer presented two (2) proposed options for the Motta Property, at the intersection of N. Furnace Street and W. 1st Street. The one option proposes a full right turn lane and the other

option proposes a softened right turn. The traffic signal would need to be redone in its entirety. Solicitor Weiler to discuss the issue with Solicitor London, representative for the Berks County Redevelopment Authority.

- Engineer Boyer presented revised plans for the American Legion Post 626 ball field concession stand and noted changes one being moving the hot water heater into the concession stand. Councilman Myers asked if the \$30,000 in the budget will be adequate and Engineer Boyer noted a list of materials will need to be prepared.
- Engineer Boyer noted a time extension for the Haycreek Pedestrian Bridge Grant has been requested and there is no guarantee when the permit will be approved by the DEP. Recommendation was made for Engineer Boyer and Manager Yanos to reach out to Senator Judy Schwank and Representative David Maloney requesting aid to further the process.
- The grant application for the Low Volume Road Project was not submitted making the project at the Borough's expense and not utilizing BMPs.
- Councilman Scioli asked about the status of the Car Museum and Engineer Boyer noted he was aware that they failed the electrical inspection.

Mayor/Police Reports

- Mayor Peterson noted the Birdsboro Municipal Authority has agreed to pay half of the Emergency Management Coordinator's monthly stipend.
- Chief Trupp noted that the Police Department has helped deliver meals the past two Saturdays, also noting the call volume has been down. Twenty (29) positive COVID-19 cases have been confirmed for the 19508 zip code. A list of donations is to be compiled and donors to be recognized.
- Chief Trupp noted the District Attorney's office is producing posters for open/opening businesses and the Police Department will distribute to the businesses.

Emergency Management

Kenneth Imes noted that under the recommendation of PEMA the County declared a local emergency. Mr. Imes noted that an emergency declaration was declared by Mayor Peterson on April 16, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Solicitor Weiler recommended the emergency declaration be amended to have the declaration in force for 30 days or until the Governor lifts the declaration so it does not have to be renewed every 7 days.

Mr. Imes noted that his employer, Alarm Tech, received a special exception to work in healthcare facilities so he is back to work, but assured Council that his employer has agreed to allow him to leave work as necessary to perform his Emergency Management Coordinator duties.

Fire Department: Report is included in the Council packet

Solicitor's Report

- The Board of Health Ordinance to be adopted at the next council meeting.

Council/Committee Reports

- Vice President Cotter noted the trailhead is looking really good. Vice President Cotter inquired if there are protocols established for buildings where Borough business transpires and asked if the Tax Collector must be an elected position. Solicitor Weiler will check into that.
- President McCauley noted the Pioneer Crossing Landfill meetings are not being held at this time.

Public Comment

- Tom Brungard, 908 Union Street, thanked those responsible for putting up the signs in the parks regarding the park equipment, also thanking Chief Trupp, the police force, Matt Welch and Ken Imes.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary