

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2021 7:00 P.M. – MEETING HELD TELECONFERENCE

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

Staff & Professionals: Terry Weiler, Solicitor
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

Visitor(s): Tom Brungard, Matt Elgonitis, Jeff Klick, Austin Peterson, Anthony Tucci, and Bruce Godfrey, Susie and Russell Landers, Ken Imes

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes– January 4, 2021 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Kauffman and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the January 4, 2021 council meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried 7-0.
Amendment: clarify that Vice President Cotter abstained only from Resolution No. 2020-09, appointing Herbein and Company as the Independent Auditor and change the vote to passing 7-0 and in the same motion include the action to add Resolution No. 2021-18 appointing Anthony Scioli and Matthew Welch as Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators.

Bills List and Treasurer’s Report

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Kauffman and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the Bills List dated January 18, 2021 and Checks for Ratification dated January 5, 2021 – January 17, 2021. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Kauffman and seconded by Councilman Welch to approve the Treasurer’s Report dated January 18, 2021. Motion carried 7-0.
 - Vice President Cotter asked who the health officer is and Manager Yanos noted the health officer is Ken Long.
 - Vice President Cotter requested the ARL line item be changed to reflect animal control service changes.
 - Councilman Myers noted that the EIT collected was a good amount considering the economy.
 - Councilman Myers inquired about the dirt and gravel grant revenues and Manager Yanos noted that the balance will be received in the spring when the road is paved.

- Councilman Myers inquired about the American Legion 626 ball field expenses and inquired if all the bills have been paid and Manager Yanos noted that all the bills received have been paid.
- Councilman Myers noted concern regarding the ambiguous expenses on the Fire Department financial report, Manager Yanos will follow up with the Fire Department. Councilman Myers noted the \$184,748 year end surplus and commended staff on their fiscal conservation.

Manager's Report

- Austin Peterson was present to discuss the Sportman's Club Annual Fish Rodeo. Mr. Peterson asked if Council would consider approving a beef and ale to be held at Rustic Park for fundraising for the Fish Rodeo and approve the use of Rustic Park for the Fish Rodeo. **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilwoman Kauffman to waive the park rental fees and allow the Sportman's Club to use the Pavilions 3 and 4 for the beef and ale fundraiser on 4/24 and Pavilions 3 and 4 for the Fish Rodeo on 4/30 and 5/1. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and Councilman Welch to approve moving \$500,000 from the General Fund Prime account (.09%) to a 180-day Term account (.14%). Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve moving \$150,000 from the Harms Benefit Class account (.02%) to the Prime account (.09%). Motion carried 7-0.
- Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:31 p.m. for the purpose of personnel. Council reconvened the regular meeting at 7:53 p.m. Solicitor Weiler noted the Executive Session was to discuss a proposition from the Teamsters to temporarily alter the sick pay benefits. No action was taken.
- Manager Yanos noted that the town clock is beyond repair and requires upgrades which will cost \$9,200. Mayor Peterson suggested consulting with Merritt's regarding the clock repairs.

Engineer's Report

- Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council. Vice President Cotter asked Engineer Boyer to elaborate on the Cedar Hill development. Engineer Boyer noted the plan proposes 300 units located at the end of W. 1st Street. Mayor Peterson noted concern of water running on the sidewalk at Beacon Container which runs into the storm sewer at Jackson Street. Engineer Boyer will check to see if it is a natural spring or illicit discharge.

Mayor/Police Reports: No new report

Emergency Management

Ken Imes, Emergency Management Coordinator, noted he is reviewing the Emergency Management Plans with an anticipated adoption in 2022. The Indian Run Plan is under review. The Borough will receive \$3,611.25 for the EMC stipend. Mr. Imes noted the Declaration of Emergency may be extended.

Fire Department: Vice President Cotter noted several errors on the Fire Department financial report and asked a corrected copy be provided.

Solicitor's Report:

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Welch and seconded by Councilman Happel to approve Ordinance No. 491 amending the Stop Sign Ordinance to approve the installation of stop signs at the intersection at W. 1st and Jefferson Streets. President McCauley called for a roll call vote.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Vice President Cotter – no | Councilman Happel – yes |
| Councilman Myers – no | Councilman Scioli – yes |
| Councilman Welch – yes | Councilwoman Kauffman – yes |
| President McCauley – no | |

Motion carried with a 4-3 vote.

- Solicitor Weiler noted that revised recycling bids text and the American Legion 626 ball field agreement are in the packets for review. Solicitor Weiler noted the affidavits for the Hollis case have been filed.

Council/Committee Reports

- Councilman Happel asked when the auto museum is scheduled to open and Manager Yanos noted she has not heard anything.
- Vice President Cotter asked Mayor Peterson what Birdsboro Elementary Center is zoned for and Mayor Peterson noted that it is zoned for attached housing but whatever is planned for that property will require a zoning variance. Vice President Cotter noted she has identified 25-30 more municipalities to send the recycling letters to.
- President McCauley noted the Pioneer Crossing Landfill Advisory Committee will meet Wednesday and they have been addressing odor complaints.

Public Comment

- Tom Brungard, 908 Union Street, inquired about what can and can't be done in the parks relating to stormwater and Manager Yanos noted she will facilitate a meeting with Engineer Boyer.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary