

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 19, 2020 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  
Todd Trupp, Chief of Police  
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– October 5, 2020 Budget and Council Meeting**

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Scioli and seconded by Councilman Welch to approve the October 5, 2020 budget meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Kauffman and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the October 5, 2020 council meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

**Bills List and Treasurer’s Report**

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Welch and seconded by Councilwoman Kauffman to approve the Bills List dated October 19, 2020 and Checks for Ratification dated October 5, 2020 – October 18, 2020. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilman Scioli to approve the Treasurer’s Report dated October 19, 2020. Motion carried 7-0.

**Manager’s Report**

- Counsel for JP Mascaro was present for the discussion regarding the recycling bids. JP Mascaro Counsel noted a deficiency in the Edgar Holland bid. **MOTION** was made by Councilman Happel to award the recycling bids to JP Mascaro for the two year bid for 2021-2022 for the 25-gallon totes for \$247,008 with an annual cost of \$123,504. No seconded was made and the motion failed. Further action to be considered at the next council meeting.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Kauffman and seconded by Councilman Myers to allow Birdsboro non-profit organizations, such as scouts, churches to rent Rustic Park at no charge and non-profit organizations outside the Birdsboro Borough to pay the \$35.00 rental fee. After discussion, Councilwoman Kauffman amended the motion to allow Borough-based non-profit organizations to rent Rustic Park at no charge. Motion carried 6-1 with Councilman Welch voting no.
- Emma Elgonitis presented her Girl Scout Silver Award project which is to place a bench at Rustic Park in memory of former Girl Scout leader Lynn Decker. The American

Legion Post 626 has donated monies to the project. **MOTION** was made by Councilman Welch and seconded by Vice President Cotter to approve Emma Elgonitis' Girl Scout Silver Award to place a bench at Rustic Park in memory of Lynn Decker. Motion carried 7-0. Style and placement of bench to be approved by Manager Yanos.

- Manager Yanos read a thank you letter to Council from Keith Karlson for his 45-year employment anniversary celebration.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Welch and seconded by Vice President Cotter to approve a \$750.00 donation from Harms Benefit to Crime Alert Berks County. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Engineer's Report**

- Engineer Boyer reviewed the Engineer's Report, a copy of which will be kept on file.
- **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilwoman Kauffman to include the Furnace Street intersection in the Multi-Modal Grant Streetscapes grant application. Motion carried 7-0.
- Councilwoman Kauffman inquired about the status of the Motta property it was noted there is an appointment set with the Board of Review. Engineer Boyer continues to work on the requested project extension from DCNR for the Haycreek Pedestrian Bridge.

### **Mayor/Police Reports**

- Chief Trupp noted the Police Department received a \$2,000 donation from the American Legion Post 626 for electronic car equipment and asked for and was granted permission to request funds from the Legion to outfit a fourth vehicle. Chief Trupp noted increase graffiti at the watershed and another arrest was made over the weekend.

### **Recreation Board**

- It was agreed that the Recreation Board will on the agenda for only the first Council meeting of the month. The Recreation Board to recommend a fee policy for the parks.

### **Emergency Management:**

- Kenneth Imes noted that Birdsboro has passed Phase 2 of the COVID funding process and noted the EMC stipend should be reimbursed up until November but the police overtime expenses have not been approved as of yet.

**Fire Department:** No new report.

### **Solicitor's Report**

- Discussion regarding the recycling bids ensued and a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Welch and seconded by Councilwoman Kauffman to reject the recycling bid from Edgar Holland due to bidding requirement deficiency. Motion carried 7-0. Further action on the recycling bids has been tabled.

### **Council/Committee Reports**

- Councilman Welch noted that Manager Yanos is arranging a meeting with Life Lion for ambulance services.
- Councilman Scioli thanked those involved for honoring Lynn Decker.

- Vice President Cotter suggested a stockpile of PPE in case there is a second round of COVID and Manager Yanos noted there is a plenty of chemicals but additional PPE may be obtained. Councilman Welch stated there is no longer a backlog for PPE. Vice President Cotter thanked all of those in attendance and thanked the town for its concern and input.
- Councilwoman Kauffman stated that the Haycreek Watershed did stream bank stabilizing. A Birdsboro Hometown Christmas Committee meeting will be held Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- Councilman Myers asked about notice of change of ambulance service and Councilman Welch stated action is planned to be taken by the end of the year.
- Councilman Happel noted concern regarding the railroad tracks and it was noted that PennDot are responsible for repairing them. Councilman Happel suggested revisiting a stop sign at Jefferson Street and W. 1st Street.

**Public Comment**

- Tom Brungard, 908 Union Street, noted the new census doesn't become effective until 2022.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco  
Borough Secretary