

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 15, 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
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

Visitor(s): Bruce Godfrey, Tom Brungard, and Matt Elgonitis

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes– February 1, 2021 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Kauffman and seconded by Councilman Welch to approve February 1, 2021 council meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Kauffman and seconded by Councilman Happel to approve the Bills List dated February 15, 2021 and Checks for Ratification dated February 2, 2021 – February 14, 2021. Motion carried 7-0.

Treasurer’s Report

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilman Welch to approve the Treasurer’s Report dated February 15, 2021. Motion carried 7-0.
 - Councilman Myers inquired about the building equipment charges and the police income and it was noted that the Major Equipment (Budget Item: G409740) \$6,787.00 charge was for the Police Department security system and the Police Income (Budget Item: G332900) of \$1,275.00 represented donations from the American Legion and a resident as well as restitution.

Manager’s Report

- Council agreed to not pay the bill for the town clock maintenance agreement
- Councilwoman Kauffman noted the potential donation from the Rotary Club for clock repairs.
- In consideration of the Commercial Inspection Program, Council has requested that the Building Inspector/Zoning Officer attend the next Council meeting to discuss the commercial inspection program.
- The COVID pay policy is pending legal response.

Engineer's Report

- Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council, a copy of which will be kept on file.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Kauffman and seconded by Councilman Myers to authorize Engineer Boyer to prepare the bid documents for the Haycreek Pedestrian Project once DCNR approval is received. Motion carried 7-0.
- Engineer Boyer noted he checked the water runoff over the sidewalk at Beacon Container and noted the water is to be tested by the Water Department to determine if it is illicit discharge prior to moving ahead.

Mayor/Police Reports

- Mayor Peterson noted the ongoing issues occurring on Orange Street. Chief Trupp noted issues where individuals park in such a way that residents have difficulty accessing their front porches. Chief Trupp noted a possible solution would be making that block of Orange Street a one-way street. Of further concern is that emergency vehicles cannot access the properties on that block causing a dangerous situation. President McCauley noted concern about the inconvenience that could be caused by having that portion of Orange Street one-way. **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilwoman Kauffman to authorize Solicitor Weiler to prepare an ordinance to make the 100 block of Orange Street one-way heading south, along with proper signage, send the draft ordinance to Council and advertise if Council is in agreement with the ordinance amendment language. Motion carried 5-2 with President McCauley and Councilman Scioli voting no.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Welch and seconded by Councilwoman Kauffman to authorize Chief Trupp to have a network drop installed in the Police Department garage for a cost not to exceed \$700.00. Motion carried 7-0.
- Chief Trupp noted that a Civil Service Commission meeting will be held in March for the purpose of preparing for the Sergeant's retirement and work on promotional testing.

Emergency Management: Ken Imes noted there is nothing new to report.

Fire Department: Vice President Cotter requested a corrected Fire Department report.

Solicitor's Report:

- Solicitor Weiler noted he has not received an update regarding the Motta property and noted he sent the BMA Management Agreement to Dan Becker and has not heard back yet.

Council/Committee Reports

- Councilwoman Kauffman noted that the Rotary Club is accepting canned and non-perishable goods for the February food drive, items can be dropped off in the Matthew Brooke lobby and the food will be delivered to the First Baptist Church.
- Councilman Scioli commended the plow crew on a job well done.
- Vice President Cotter noted responses have been received regarding the recycling letters that were sent to varying communities. Vice President Cotter provided a presentation focusing on the importance of providing the Borough Manager with a performance review and providing a presentation sharing a sample performance review form.
- President McCauley noted that the Pioneer Crossing Landfill Committee continues to address odor issues.

- Councilman Myers suggested that the Recreation Board be represented to share input during the discussions regarding the American Legion Ball Field lease agreement.

Public Comment

- Tom Brungard, 908 Union Street, noted the Windstream e-mail issues. Mr. Brungard expounded on the need for emergency vehicles to access properties on Orange Street.
- Bruce Godfrey, 204 Hampton Drive, noted concern regarding the one item on the Borough Manager review list, Equity and Inclusion.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary