

MINUTES OF THE BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 19, 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

Council Members Absent: Matthew Welch, Member
Nancy Kauffman, Member

Staff & Professionals: Terry Weiler, Solicitor
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, Matt Elgonitis, Christen Thompson, Steve Lusky, Anthony Tucci, Susie and Russell Lander

Public Comment on Agenda Items: No public comment on agenda items.

Minutes– April 5, 2021 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Scioli and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the April 5, 2021 council meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried 5-0.
 - Under Public Comment on Agenda Items, change \$700,00,00 to \$700,000.00

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Happel and seconded by Vice President Cotter to approve the Bills List dated April 19, 2021 and Checks for Ratification dated April 6, 2021 – April 18, 2021. Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer’s Report

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Happel and seconded by Vice President Cotter to approve Treasurer’s Report dated April 19, 2021. Motion carried 5-0.

Manager’s Report

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the contract with Keystone Collections for the collection of the Per Capital Tax for 2021 only for \$.50 per bill and postage split the postage 1/3 the Borough and 2/3 the School District. Motion carried 5-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Scioli and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the \$500 donation to Mission Trip Birdsboro Beyond to be paid out of Harms Benefit. Motion carried 5-0.
- Vice President Cotter asked for an accounting of the monies spent on Birdsboro Fitness and Splash.

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President Cotter and seconded by Councilman Happel to appoint Asheli Godfrey to the Recreation Board for a term to expire 12/31/23. Motion carried 5-0.
- Manager Yanos and Road Foreman Karlson reviewed the High Street parking issues and recommended that four (4) parking space be created at an area of Lincoln Park. Councilman McCauley requested that Engineer Boyer be consulted regarding impervious coverage.

Mayor/Police Reports

- Mayor Peterson noted the Planning Commission will meet the end of the month to reorganize.
- Chief Trupp noted the State Police National Crime Information Center audit went well. Chief Trupp reviewed with Council the types of calls received by the Police Department and 60% of the calls are quality of life calls, i.e., noise, animals, parking, littering, juveniles.

Emergency Management: No new report

Fire Department: No new report

Solicitor's Report:

- Chief Trupp asked if it is acceptable to use the existing firing range contracts and just change the dates and Solicitor Weiler noted that is acceptable.
- Solicitor Weiler noted there is no new update regarding the Motta property.
- There were inquiries regarding a resolution containing rules and regulations for the Farmers' Market and Solicitor Weiler noted he is not aware of a rules and regulations resolutions and requested that Manager Yanos contact our counterpart West Reading for further information.
- Solicitor Weiler noted that caution should be taken with going to live meetings as is may not be feasible to meeting distancing requirements.

Executive Session

Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:46 p.m. Solicitor Weiler noted that Council discussed personnel matter, specifically, the Borough Manager's performance review, a copy of which is to be placed the personnel files.

Council/Committee Reports

- Vice President Cotter thanked all of those who attended and thanked those attending and the Recreation Board for all their input.
- Councilman Myers inquired about purchasing a halo for the home plate at the American Legion Post 626 ball field. Mr. Myers noted that the expense for the replacement of the left field netting had originally been budgeted, and the projected cost was \$10,000. In lieu of that expense, a portion of it, \$6,000, is now being proposed for the home plate halo. Also noted is that the purpose of the halo was not simply to make the field more aesthetically appealing. It is for weed control in a critical area of the ball field, as well. **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Happel to approve the purchase of a halo for the home plate at the American Legion Post 626 ball field for a cost not to exceed \$6,000.

President McCauley asked for a roll call vote.

Vice President Cotter – no
Councilman Scioli – yes

Councilman Happel – yes
President McCauley – no

Councilman Myers – yes

Motion carried 3-2.

Public Comment

- Mr. Godfrey, Recreation Board President, thanked Councilwoman Kauffman for her work on the Recreation Board as she has resigned from her Recreation Board post.
- Mr. Godfrey noted the list of rules for the Farmers' Market and President McCauley noted review will take place at a later as they just received the documents. President McCauley noted the rules would need to be approved by Solicitor Weiler.
- There have been additional confirmed donations for the movie nights.
- Steve Lusky, 211 Caravan Drive, inquired about the status of the recycling grant and the 64-gallon totes and it was noted that use of the larger totes would increase recycling costs by \$40,000 annually.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary