

Meeting Minutes of the
BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 7, 2022 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL

Council roll call:

Matthew Welch, President - present
Neil McCauley, Vice President - present
Robert Myers, Member - present
Richard Happel, Member - present

Mary Ann Cotter, Member - present
Thomas Brungard, Member – present
Matthew Elgonitis, Member – present

Also in attendance were:

Anthony Scioli, Mayor
Todd Trupp, Police Chief
Terry Weiler, Solicitor
Brian Boyer, Engineer
Kelly J. Yanos, Manager
Bonnie L. Frisco, Secretary/Treasurer

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

Opening prayer was led by Councilwoman Cotter

Visitor(s): Russell and Susie Lander, Chruce Godfrey, and Joseph Peterson

Agenda Amendments

MOTION was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to amend the agenda to correct the Minutes and Bills List items as follows:

- Minutes: Motion to approve the January 17, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes
- Bills List: Motion to approve the Bills List dated February 7, 2022 and checks for ratification dated January 18, 2022 – February 6, 2022

Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes– January 17, 2022 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Happel to approve the January 17, 2022 council meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried 7-0.
 - Council/Committee Report – Bullet Point Six – the last sentence to read, Councilman Myers noted that a \$10,000 donation was received for the AL Post 626 Ball Field Fund in honor of Commander Denise Harner.

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Happel to approve the Bills List dated February 7, 2022 and Checks for Ratification dated January 18, 2022 – February 6, 2022. Motion carried 7-0.

Manager's Report

- **Teamsters' Contract Negotiations** - The Teamsters' Local Union #429 has requested negotiations to commence for their contract starting 1/1/23. President Welch, Vice President McCauley and Councilman Elgonitis will make up the Teamsters' Negotiations Committee.
- **American Legion Banners**- The American Legion Banner Sponsorship matter has been tabled until further information is provided by Commander Denise Harner.
- **COVID Bonus** – This matter to be discussed in Executive Session.
- **Nominations for PA State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) 2nd Vice President** – Correspondence provided in council packet relating to Nominations for PA State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) 2nd Vice President.

Engineer's Report

- Engineer Boyer reviewed his report with Council, a copy of which will be kept on file.

Mayor/Police Reports

- Chief Trupp noted that applications for the Police Officer position are available at Borough Hall and various organizations and colleges have been notified of the position.
- Mayor Scioli noted he had a zoom meeting with a Cub Scouts Troop and provided an overview of the roles of the Mayor and Council. Mayor Scioli will meet with the Police Department on February 11.

Recreation Board

- Chruce Godfrey, Chair of the Recreation Board, noted that the Recreation Board is working with the American Legion Post 626 for the 100th Anniversary event in August and also they are working on Earth Day activities and asked for suggestions of areas that need to be addressed. Councilman Brungard suggested the path between F.M. Brown's and Mountz Road for trail signage.

Emergency Management: No new report

Fire Department: No new report

Solicitor's Report

- **400 W. 2nd Street- Birdsboro Elementary Center** – This matter to be discussed in Executive Session.

Executive Session

Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. to discuss personnel and litigation matters. Council reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:56 p.m. Solicitor Weiler noted that the Zoning Application for 400 W. 2nd Street- Birdsboro Elementary Center was discussed and no action is to be taken at this time. Solicitor Weiler noted that the other matter discussed was personnel regarding the COVID bonus monies relating to a Federal grant relating to the reimbursement to employees during COVID absences.

MOTION was made by Councilman Brungard to reinstate up to five (5) days sick time to those

employees who either contracted or were exposed to COVID and were under quarantine restrictions. There was no second to the motion; therefore, the motion failed.

Council/Committee Reports

- Councilman Brungard noted the Community Redevelopment Committee should start meeting as soon as possible.
- Vice President McCauley noted a traffic safety issue at Routes 345 and 724 due to the fading lines and directions arrows on the roadway and Manager Yanos noted that PADOT is responsible for the lines but not the arrows. Vice President McCauley suggested that Senator Schwenk be contacted. Vice President McCauley noted that the Pioneer Crossing Landfill Advisory Committee met in January and discussed odor complaints and overweight trucks, the next meeting will be the third Wednesday in February.
- Councilwoman Cotter inquired about the status of the repair of the railroad tracks on Furnace Street and Manager Yanos noted that H&K had planned to fix the tracks but received pushback from PADOT and Manager Yanos was requested to contact H&K. Councilwoman Cotter inquired about the status of the Motta property and Solicitor Weiler noted he will check on the status.
- Councilman Myers asked if the Board of Health matter has been resolved and it was noted that a doctor or nurse can serve as the Health Officer, which the current Health Officer, Ken Long, is a registered nurse. Appointment of Ken Long to position of Health Officer to be placed on the next agenda.
- President Welch stated he distributed a list of committees and committee members and requested the committees set up meetings. Those committees and members are:
 - Public Safety - M. Welch, M. Elgonitis
 - Public Works - N. McCauley, R. Happel
 - Community Redevelopment - T. Brungard, R. Myers, M. A. Cotter
 - BMA Working Group - M. Welch, R. Happel
 - Contract Negotiation Team - M. Welch, N. McCauley, M. Elgonitis

Public Comment

- Chruce Godfrey, 204 Hampton Drive, inquired about mask mandates and asked if Council will remove the mask mandate and President Welch noted Council will see how things progress.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary