

Meeting Minutes of the
BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL

Council roll call:

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

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

Also, in attendance were:

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

Call to Order: President Matthew 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): Janet Steiner (Comcast), Nancy Kauffman, Susie and Russell Lander, Nick Bieber (Herbein and Company), Christen Thompson

Agenda Amendments

MOTION was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Brungard to add Herbein and Company audit review to the agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

2021 Borough Audit Review – Herbein and Company – Nick Bieber

Nick Bieber of Herbein and Company reviewed the Borough’s 2021 audit. Councilwoman Cotter inquired about the monies owed to the Borough by the Birdsboro Municipal Authority.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes– August 15, 2022 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Brungard to approve the August 15, 2022 council meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the Bills List dated September 6, 2022 and Checks for Ratification dated August 16, 2022 – September 5, 2022. Motion carried 6-0.

Interim Bills and Payroll

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the Interim Bills and Payroll. Motion carried 6-0.

Manager's Report

- **Commercial Inspection Program – MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Brungard to repeal the Commercial Inspection Program ordinance in its entirety. Motion carried 6-0.
 - **Comcast** – Janet Steiner of Comcast was present to discuss the information provided regarding the Comcast Franchise Agreement. There was discussion regarding the process and concern was noted about the road being cut and not repaired properly. President Welch requested that curb to curb paving occur and utilizes boring procedures as much as possible. Vice President McCauley inquired about the possibility of Comcast aiding in providing lights for the American Legion 626 ball field and Ms. Steiner noted that Comcast does some community sponsorships that are focused on digital literacy, accessibility and veteran programs, noting there is not a large budget for sponsorships. Comcast does offer community projects such as cleanups. Councilwoman Cotter inquired about the implications to the residents that have to have the cable go through their yards. Permission would need to be obtained from the property owners and an easement agreement would be required. Councilwoman Cotter asked if there would be any incentives for affected property owners and Ms. Steiner noted she did not know and that was handled by a separate department. Councilman Myers asked if the Borough already has Service Electric is there a need for another service. Ms. Steiner noted that Comcast has a lot of competitive footprints and residents like a choice. Councilman Brungard asked if there is a senior discount and Ms. Steiner noted there is not but there are several bundle options. Councilman Brungard noted he was in favor of Comcast as competition is good. The matter to be placed on the agenda for the next council meeting.
 - **Recreation Board Reappointment – MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Brungard to reappoint Ryan Acevedo to the Recreation Board. Motion carried 6-0.
 - **Opportunity House Drop Box**– The American Legion has requested permission to plan an Opportunity Drop Box in the Main Bird parking lot. There was discussion and concerns of the requested location of the Drop Box and its visibility and the fact that these types of Drop Boxes become eyesores and they are not used properly and they end up being dumping sites. To be discussed at the next council meeting.
 - **Boy Scout Banner – MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the resolution to allow a banner to be hung (until October 1, 2022) across 724 announcing the 80-year anniversary celebration of Daniel Boone Cub Scout Pack 595. Motion carried 6-0.
 - **Milling Bid** – The following bids were received the milling portion of the Water Street repaving project:

H&K Group, Inc.	\$20,235.60
Ronnie C. Folk Paving, Inc.	\$21,286.80
Rota-Mill, Inc.	\$15,426.36
- MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Brungard to award the milling portion of the Water Street repaving project to Rota-Mill, Inc. for the cost of \$15,426.36. Motion carried 6-0.
- **Mission Trip Birdsboro and Beyond** – A thank you note to the Borough was received from Mission Trip Birdsboro and Beyond for the Borough's donation for their program.
 - **Water System** – Manager Yanos provided an overview of the situation where a snapping turtle got stuck in the water pipe which pulled water from the Haycreek. Once the alarms were activated the Haycreek system automatically switched to pulling water from the Indian Run Reservoir. Residents

may experience discolored, water with a smell as the water is being pulled from the reservoir and the water from the reservoir has more organic matter in it than the moving waters of Haycreek.

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 2,100+ individuals have used the dump site and 86 notices were sent for more information and several individuals have responded. Quality of life calls remain at the top of the list of most calls received by the Police Department and also noted was 53 domestic calls in July and August. Noted was there will be a cost for individuals requesting car fax reports going forward except for third parties such as legal representation, police report companies, etc.

Recreation Board

- Christen Thompson, representative for the Recreation Board, noted that the pet picture contest at the Farmer's Market was a hit and movie night is scheduled for September 17. The Recreation Board is considering an ice slide for the Christmas in Birdsboro event and would like find a sponsor for the ice slide.

Emergency Management: Readoption of the Emergency Response Plan was tabled.

Fire Department: No new report

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Weiler advised that, due to financial issues, Beacon Containers cannot agree to the Jackson Street access road called for in the Cedar Hill development plan. Solicitor Weiler will notify C2C Design, to revise the plan accordingly.

Council/Committee Reports

- Councilwoman Cotter asked how many resumes have been submitted for the Council vacancy and Manager Yanos noted that four (4) resumes have been received. Councilwoman Cotter asked if it was agreeable to Council to not require the interview process for the Council candidates as the individuals have already been involved in the process and have interviewed in the past. Council was agreeable to not interviewing/questioning the Council candidates.

Public Comment

- Christen Thompson, 134 Hopewell Street, asked if the increase in domestic calls was the same as last year's and Chief Trupp noted he will check into that.

Executive Session

Council recessed into Executive Session at 8:28 p.m. to discuss police contract negotiations. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:34 p.m. Solicitor Weiler summarized the Executive Session that addressed the appointment of arbitration counsel to represent the Borough if the need arises. **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Vice President McCauley to seek legal services from Socrates Georgeadis, of the firm Georgeadis|Setley, to provide arbitration counsel for the Borough for police contract negotiations, if the need arises. Motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary