

Meeting Minutes of the  
**BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**MARCH 20, 2023 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  
Alen Harris, Member - present

Also, in attendance were:

Anthony Scioli, Mayor  
Christopher Muvdi, Solicitor  
Todd Trupp, Police Chief  
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 Reverend Harris

**Visitor(s):** Nancy Kauffman, Russell and Susy Lander, David Blank, Christen Thompson, Ryan Acevedo, Melissa Karpovich, Roger Huffman

**Agenda Amendment**

**MOTION** was made by Councilman Brungard and seconded by Vice President McCauley to amend the agenda by adding under Manager’s Report, discussion of posting financial reports on the website. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None

**Minutes– February 21, 2023 Council Meeting**

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Brungard to approve the February 21, 2023 council meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

**Bills List**

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Elgonitis to approve the Bills List dated March 20, 2023 and Checks for Ratification dated February 21, 2023– March 19, 2023. Motion carried 7-0.

**Interim Bills and Payroll**

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Harris to approve the Interim Bills and Payroll. Motion carried 7-0.

### Treasurer's Report

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the March 20, 2023 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried 7-0.

### Manager's Report

- **Pension Board COLA Recommendation** – To be discussed in Executive Session.
- **Rustic Park Memorial Bench** – Manager Yanos noted the request from a resident, Bev Garitano, to place a memorial bench at Rustic Park in memory of a pet. Council suggested that the Recreation Board create guidelines for memorials in the Borough parks.
- **Rustic Park Security** – It was decided Chief Trupp, Manager Yanos and representatives of the Recreation Board and the Public Works have a site visit and Rustic Park to discuss security options.
- **Close Water Street April 8, 2023** – **MOTION** was made by Councilman Harris and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the closing of Water Street from East Main to Main Bird Street on April 8, 2023 in the event that Abundant Life Church's Easter Egg Hunt needs to be rescheduled from its original date of April 1, 2023 and held at Main Bird Park due to inclement weather. Motion carried 7-0
- **Posting of Financial Reports** – Councilman Myers suggested that any action regarding posting of financial reports be postponed until the Birdsboro Municipal Authority is consulted. President Welch suggested checking with PSAB regarding this matter.

### Engineer's Report

- **Cedar Hill Estates** – Nothing new to report.
- **Jackson Street/Route 724 Warehouse Project** – The Planning Commission will meet next week to discuss the Jackson Street/Route 724 Warehouse Project. Councilman Myers inquired about the zoning of the property and Engineer Boyer noted that will be part of his review of the plans.

### Solicitor's Report

- **Truist Bank** – **MOTION** was made by Councilman Elgonitis and seconded by Councilman Harris to approve the Ordinance for the Truist/LIBOR issue relating to the current loan the Borough has with Truist Bank. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Animal Ordinance** – Solicitor Muvdi noted they are in the process of revising the existing animal ordinance and a copy of a model ordinance has been provided to them.

### Mayor/Police Reports

Mayor Scioli thanked Kelly and staff for their work on the LSA grants received. Mayor Scioli noted that the American Legion Post 626 has been discussing the use of the old ambulance building and the discussed uses were a parking lot or a multi-use complex. Also, noted was the scoreboard for the AL626 ballfield has been ordered.

Chief Trupp noted a recent incident where a stopped vehicle sped off and almost struck Sergeant Borz. The driver (whose father lives in Union Township) was stopped in Exeter. The District Attorney's office has asked the Birdsboro Police Department to handle the case. The encampment moved off the Schuylkill River Trail and relocated closer to Union Township.

### **Municipal Services / Department Reports**

- **Wastewater Treatment Plant:** Report included in the Council packet
- **Water Treatment Plant:** Report included in the Council packet
- **Streets Department:** Report included in the Council packet

### **Recreation Board**

- Christen Thompson, Recreation Board President, noted there are 110 people registered for the March 31 Adult Egg Hunt, Farmer's Markets will begin May 20 and Beautify Birdsboro is May 13.

**Emergency Management:** No new report

**Fire Department:** Report included in the Council packet

### **Council/Committee Reports**

- Councilwoman Cotter thanked Masano and Bradley for the solicitors' report. Councilwoman Cotter noted that the Public Works Department will seek to have their own storage building and not combine it with a storage building at the Water Plant.
- Vice President McCauley noted the Pioneer Crossing Landfill Advisory Committee met and there are two new members, and radiation pits were discussed.
- Councilman Elgonitis noted that the Daniel Boone bowling team came in third place at the states.
- Councilman Brungard noted he hopes to present information regarding Repair Cafes within the next two or three meetings and noted he has not had time yet to do research regarding Youtube meetings.

**Old Business:** No old business

### **Public Comment**

- Nancy Kauffman, 7 Mansion Court E, noted that ever since the rock climbers installed cameras near the watershed the spray painting has diminished.
- David Blank, 127 Hopewell Street, noted concern regarding abandoned cars in the Borough and it was recommended he complete complaint forms that can be forwarded to the Codes Officer.
- Melissa Siedel Karpovich, 973 Berks Street, noted she is running for District Judge and asked Council for their support.
- Susie Lander, 534 Silverbrook Drive, noted a recent ambulance call and the Fire Department with two EMT's arrived right away and the ambulance arrived in about fifteen minutes. Mrs. Lander asked if there is an update on Beacon Container and Vice President McCauley noted that the owner is looking for a buyer for the company, because Fulton Bank pulled their letter of credit citing that the business was not solvent enough. Mrs. Lander asked if there is an update regarding the Motta property and Solicitor Muvdi noted there is no new update.
- Russell Lander, 534 Silverbrook Drive, asked if there is an update regarding the BEC building and Vice President McCauley noted the property owner is taking the route of getting a zoning change. Mr. Lander asked how close are we to getting rail service and Councilman Myers noted that an application has been made to the Federal Railroad Administration.

**Executive Session**

Council recessed into Executive Session at 8:14 p.m. to discuss personnel. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:53 p.m. Solicitor Muvdi summarized the Executive Session and noted Council discussed a personnel matter. No action was taken.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco  
Borough Secretary