

Meeting Minutes of the
BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
MAY 15, 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 – absent

Also, in attendance were:

Anthony Scioli, Mayor
Chris Muvdi, Solicitor
Brian Boyer, Engineer
Todd Trupp, Police Chief
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): Nancy Kauffman, Susie and Russell Lander, Jeffrey Dieteman, Tony and Brenda Tucci, Ryan Acevedo, Christen Thompson, Dave Blank, Matthew Specht, Jennifer Wexler

Agenda Amendment:

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Elgonitis to amend the agenda to add, under the Solicitor’s Report, discussion regarding the potential repeal of the Health Officer ordinance. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Mayor’s Certificate Presentation to Jeffrey Dieteman

Mayor Scioli presented a Certificate of Community Service to Jeffrey Dieteman.

Minutes– 1, 2023 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the May 1, 2023 council meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the Bills List dated May 15, 2023 (29,106.52) and Checks for Ratification dated May 2, 2023– May 14, 2023 (59,408.45). Motion carried 6-0.

Interim Bills and Payroll

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

Treasurer's Report

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the Treasurer's Report dated May 15, 2023. Motion carried 6-0.

Treasurers' Report

General (Surplus/(Deficit)	(161,005.15)
Harms (Surplus/(Deficit)	164,652.10
Liquid Fuels (Surplus/(Deficit)	(22,211.52)

Manager's Report

- **Introduction of Library Board Applicant** – Jennifer Wexler, Library Board Applicant, provided an overview of herself to Council. **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Elgonitis to recommend appointment of Jennifer Wexler to the Boone Area Library Board of Trustees. Motion carried 6-0.
- **Emergency Management Coordinator Stipend** – The Emergency Management Coordinator stipend provided by the Borough has been terminated due to the May 11, 2023 lifting of the COVID emergency declaration.
- **Water Department Seasonal Help** – **MOTION** was made by Councilman Elgonitis and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve to advertise for the hiring of season help for the watershed at a rate of \$15/hour, starting no earlier than the first Monday in May and ending no later than the second Friday in September, in accordance with the Teamster's Local Union #429 contract 1/1/23-12/31/27. Motion carried 6-0.
- **Amended Animal Ordinance Draft** – The Borough Solicitor will revise the amended animal ordinance for Council review. The beekeeping portion has been scaled down to three pages.
- **Borough Hall Stucco Damage** – **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to accept the proposal from HAD Construction for the Borough Hall stucco damage work needed (proposed cost is \$7,000, additional costs only to be incurred if additional damage is discovered underneath the stucco). Motion carried 6-0.
- **Security Cameras in Recreational Areas** – Discussion regards the security cameras for the recreational areas is tabled.
- **BMA/Borough Lease Agreement – RPA & TX Ballfield** – It was agreed that ad-hoc committees will be formed to discuss the parks' security cameras and the BMA/Borough Lease Agreement – RPA & TX Ballfield. The ad-hoc committees will include two members of Council, two members of the Municipal Authority and the respective solicitors. President Welch and Councilman Elgonitis will serve on the committees. The Municipal Authority will call a special meeting to determine their representatives.

Engineer's Report

- Engineer Boyer reviewed the Engineer's Report, a copy of which will be kept on file.

Solicitor's Report

- **Health Officer Ordinance** – **MOTION** was made by Councilman Brungard and seconded by Councilman Myers to repeal the Health Officer ordinance and authorize advertising of the ordinance repeal for the next Council meeting, as well as contact the appropriate Health Department to inquire about how to proceed with turning over the inspections. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor/Police Reports

Mayor Scioli noted that the Sons of the Legion adopt a highway group cleaned Route 724 on Beautify Birdsboro day. The Memorial Day Parade will be held Memorial Day, May 29. No Parking signs to be posted.

Chief Trupp noted that the recent issue with the toilets at Rustic Park were not related to vandalism. The rooster matter has started up again and there are six of eight court cases pending regarding that issue. There have been 1,000 dumps at the brush pile this month, resulting in nine violations.

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

- Councilman Elgonitis noted that the Recreation Board is going to move the Beautify Birdsboro day back to April, Earth Day for next year and flowers may be planted at a later date. The Farmer's Markets start this Saturday, May 20. Ryan Acevedo noted that there were over 50 volunteers for Beautify Birdsboro and St. Mark's Church provided lunch for everyone.

Emergency Management: No new report

Fire Department: No new report

Council/Committee Reports

- Councilwoman Cotter thanked all of those involved with Beautify Birdsboro and thanked all the employees for all they do.
- Vice President McCauley noted that Pioneer Crossing Landfill Advisory Committee will meet next Wednesday.
- Councilman Elgonitis thanked Tony Tucci for arranging for the AED for the Legion for BYS.
- Councilman Brungard noted that the Repair Café is on hold as they have not found any volunteers.
- President Welch noted that last week was thank you to nurses week and next week is EMS week. May is mental health awareness month and if anyone sees someone struggling to reach out to them.

Old Business: No old business

Public Comment

- Nancy Kauffman, 7 Mansion Court E, noted that Public Works did a nice job cleaning up the underpass at Jackson Street and they also picked up the trash bags from the highway cleanup. Mrs. Kauffman asked if members of the public can ask to have the public comment section of the minutes edited and President Welch noted the public may contact Council regarding that.
- Brenda Tucci, 341 Washington Street, noted high grass at the Mansion. President Welch asked Mrs. Tucci to submit a complaint form to the Borough to be forwarded to the Zoning Officer.

- Tony Tucci, 341 Washington Street, noted the 3rd pedestrian bridge is proposed to be 110' long and will go from the roadway to the horseshoe trail.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary