

Meeting Minutes of the
BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 18, 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:

Michael Gombar, 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 Councilman Harris

Visitor(s): Christen Thompson, Dave Blank, Ryan Acevedo, Denise Harner, American Legion Post 626 representatives, Daniel Boone Sports representatives, Brenda Tucci, Tony Tucci, Gary Buck, Steve Dragon, Susie and Russell Lander

Agenda Amendments: None

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes– September 5, 2023 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the September 5, 2023 council meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried 7-0. Amendments being, under Engineer’s Report, note that Engineer Reeser attended the meeting in place of Engineer Boyer, under Council/Committee Report, note that Councilman Elgonitis thanked Chief Trupp, etc. for the stop signs at S. Walnut and E. 2nd Streets.

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Brungard to approve the Bills List dated September 18, 2023 (58,715.19) and Checks for Ratification dated September 5, 2023– September 17, 2023 (25,944.19). Motion carried 7-0.

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 7-0.

Treasurer's Report

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the Treasurer's Report dated September 18, 2023.
 - General – Surplus/(Deficit) 681,002.45
 - Harms – Surplus/(Deficit) 237,415.77
 - Liquid Fuels – Surplus/(Deficit) 105,606.85

Motion carried 7-0.

Manager's Report

- **Steve Dragon Tax Issue – MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Brungard to approve tax bill penalty relief, to pay the face amount and not the penalty amount, for Steve Dragon's tax bill due to extreme circumstances, with the understanding the intention of relief is not to set a precedence. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Land Swap with BMA – MOTION** was made by Councilman Harris and seconded by Councilman Brungard to authorize legal counsel and engineering services to prepare documentation for the proposed land swap with the BMA and submit the information to Council so they may make an informed decision. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Acknowledgement of the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) – MOTION** was made by Councilman Elgonitis and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to acknowledgement receipt of the 2024 MMO's. Motion carried 7-0.

Solicitor's Report

- **Legion Ballfield License Agreement** – Solicitor Gombar has reviewed the Legion Ballfield License Agreement and has provided suggestions. After discussion, with representatives of all parties involved, President Welch suggested discussions take place with the school district to ensure all are on the same page.
- **Stormwater Management Ordinance** – Solicitor Gombar has provided Council with a revised Stormwater Management Ordinance and the matter is to be place on the next meeting agenda so the Borough Engineer can be present to discuss.
- **Parking Ordinance Amendment – Road Closures** – The Parking Ordinance Amendment will be on the next meeting agenda for consideration of adoption.

Mayor/Police Reports

- Chief Trupp reviewed his report with Council, a copy of which will be kept on file.
- Chief Trupp noted that the Police Department is receiving submission from the bus company to review and determine if/when citations are warranted. In the last 30 days 66 violations have been identified by the license plate reader system.

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

- **Electrical Box - MOTION** was made by Councilman Harris and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter approve an electrical box at Main Bird Park for a cost not to exceed \$1,950.00. Motion carried 7-0.

Emergency Management: Report included in the Council packet

Fire Department: Report included in the Council packet

Council/Committee Reports

- Councilman Myers noted that the PSAB Leadership Conference in Erie and items to be highlighted are Cyber Security and Internal Controls.
- Councilman Harris noted that there will be a meeting on September 21 to discuss the AL 626 ballfield.
- Councilwoman Cotter asked if Council and the Authority are going to meet to discuss the land swap and President Welch noted he will contact Anthony Tucci, Chairman of The Authority.
- Vice President McCauley noted that the Pioneer Crossing Landfill Advisory Committee will meet Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. at the Pioneer Crossing Landfill.
- Councilman Brungard noted he will bring social media ideas to the next meeting.

Old Business

- **Birdsboro Power Accommodation Fee Renegotiations** – No discussion

Public Comment

- Denise Harner, AL Post 626 representative, noted the original contract for the ballfield was between the school, the legion and the Borough and commended the individuals who have been providing labor at not cost with the AL Post 626 ballfield improvements project.
- Ryan Acevedo, 647 Jefferson Street, noted concern of issues surrounding use of the ballfield the past week and Mrs. Harner noted that the Legion was not notified of the ballfield use in advance. Mr. Acevedo noted that he hasn't been provided with a schedule for use of the field.
- Susie Lander, 534 Silverbrook Drive, praised the Borough staff and Water Dept staff as excessive usage was found at their home, which was a water leak, while on vacation and they were able to return home quickly and repair the water leak in a timely manner.
- Brenda Tucci, 341 Washington Street, asked what to do when finding a stray dog and Chief Trupp noted if the resident is comfortable with the dog, they can contact Safety Net Sanctuary to pick up the dog, but if the resident feels the dog is aggressive, they should contact the Police Department.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary