

Meeting Minutes of the
BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
OCTOBER 2, 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:

Chris Muvdi, Solicitor
Brian Boyer, Engineer
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, Susie and Russell Lander, Sue Walley, Richard Fiset, Nancy Kauffman

Agenda Amendments: None

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes– September 18, 2023 Budget Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the September 18, 2023 budget meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes– September 18, 2023 Council Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilman Harris to approve the September 18, 2023 council meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve the Bills List dated October 2, 2023 (56,048.51) and Checks for Ratification dated September 19, 2023– October 1, 2023 (80,265.71). Motion carried 7-0.

Interim Bills and Payroll

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

Manager’s Report

- **American Legion 626 Budget Request** – No representatives from the American Legion Post 626 were present.
- **Recycling Bids**

Company	2024 (1 year)	2024-2025 (2 year)	2024-2026 (3 year)
Hollenbaugh’s Trash & Recycling	\$128,040.48	\$256,080.96	\$384,121.44
J.P. Mascaro	\$180,948.00	\$369,528.00	\$563,400.00
Whitetail Disposal	\$201,970.53	\$410,000.18	\$625,310.86
Republic Services declined to bid			

MOTION was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to award the recycling bid to Hollenbaugh’s Trash and Recycling for a 3-year term (2024-2026) for the cost of \$384,121.44. Motion carried 7-0.

- **Milling Bids** – One bid was received from H&K Group, Inc. MOTION was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Harris to award the milling bid to H&K Group, Inc. for the cost of \$12,399.76. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Social Media** – Items was requested to be stricken from this evening’s agenda.
- **Executive Session** – Two personnel items.

Engineer’s Report

- Engineer Boyer reviewed the Engineer’s Report, a copy of which will be kept on file.
- **Tucci Plan Review Letter** – Engineer Boyer noted the outstanding issues have been completed.

Solicitor’s Report

- **Parking Ordinance Amendment – Road Closures** – MOTION was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve the Parking Ordinance – Road Closures. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Stop Sign Ordinance** – MOTION was made by Councilman Brungard and seconded by Councilman Harris to approve the Stop Sign Ordinance to allow for two stop signs at the intersection of E. 2nd and S. Walnut Street. Motion carried 7-0.
- **Stormwater Management Ordinance** – MOTION was made by Councilman Harris and seconded by Councilman Elgonitis to advertise for adoption the amended Stormwater Management Ordinance. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor/Police Reports

- Chief Trupp reviewed his report with Council, a copy of which will be kept on file.
- Chief Trupp noted that the Beacon Container parking lot is not available to be used for the Halloween Parade, a possible location is the VIST Bank parking lot, Nancy Kauffman to follow up.
- Chief Trupp noted that three officers have been injured on the job, two of them are off work and one is still on duty.

- The bus patrol has been active, there have been three approvals and four disapprovals.
- The County rolled out the new laptops for the police vehicles, two of them have been installed so far and the equipment is faster and more reliable. The Fire Department asked if they could have one of the old laptops. No decision was made.

Municipal Services / Department Reports

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

Recreation Board

Christen Thompson, Recreation Board President, noted there are two more Farmer's Markets left this season and next year there will only be one Farmer's Market per month instead of two per month. The Recreation Board is hoping to raise \$10,000 for the Christmas in Birdsboro event. They are considering adding a petting zoo in addition to the live nativity. A mechanical snowboard and various inflatables are proposed. The 5K run will start at 9:00 a.m. and the fun Run will start at 10:00 a.m.

Emergency Management: No new report

Fire Department: No new report

Council/Committee Reports

- Councilman Elgonitis noted several street lights are out in the Mansion Heights area.
- Vice President McCauley noted that it was agreed upon that for the AL626 ballfield, the Borough will handle the agreements and the Legion will continue scheduling.
- Councilwoman Cotter asked if Council and the Authority will be meeting to discuss the land swap matter and it was agreed that another ad-hoc meeting should occur first.
- Councilman Harris commended Borough staff and thanked the Borough Solicitor for all they do.
- President Welch noted that an ad-hoc meeting will be scheduled to discuss the land swap.

Old Business

- **Lease Agreement Discussion** – No discussion
- **Legion Field Agreements** – No discussion
- **Land Swap with BMA** – Ad-hoc meeting to be scheduled
- **Birdsboro Power Accommodation Fee Renegotiations** – No discussion

Public Comment

- Ryan Acevedo, 647 Jefferson Street, thanked Councilman Harris, Vice President McCauley and Manager Yanos for their work with the AL626 ballfield issues. Also, Mr. Acevedo asked if the new recycling company will start the first of the year and it was noted that they will start January 1, 2024 and asked if the new company will pick up the recycling if the Mascaro tote is used. Manager Yanos noted that will be worked out with the new hauler.
- Nancy Kauffman, 7 Mansion Court E, asked if recycling pickup will still be on Wednesday and it was noted that the pickup day will remain on Wednesdays. Mrs. Kauffman noted concern about the

new recycling company listing on their website that they don't pick up the same recycling items as what is currently being collected. Manager Yanos noted she would look into that.

Executive Session

Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. to discuss two personnel matters. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:11 p.m. Solicitor Muvdi noted that two personnel matters were discussed in Executive Session.

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to increase the Borough Manager's pay to 40 hours per week at the current pay rate and approve eligibility for an increase at the first of the year contingent upon Authority approval. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Harris and seconded by Councilman Myers to change Keith Karlson's position from Road Foreman to Floater Laborer, to begin the first of the year, to be paid the laborer rate plus the \$0.45 per hour for pesticide licensure, with the salary being split, 60% Borough, 20% Water and 20% Sewer, contingent upon approval from the Authority. Motion carried 7-0.
- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Harris and seconded by Councilman Myers to eliminate the Assistant Supervisor position. Motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary