

Meeting Minutes of the
BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 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 – absent
Alen Harris, Member –present

Also, in attendance were:

Anthony Scioli, Mayor
Mike 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 Councilwoman Cotter

Visitor(s): Nick Tucci, Bert Tucci, Ryan Acevedo, Sue Walley, Steve Dragon, Suzy Lander, Brenda Tucci, Tony Tucci

Agenda Amendments

President Welch requested a brief Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes– November 6, 2023 Council Meeting

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

Minutes– November 6, 2023 Budget Meeting

- **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Harris to approve the November 6, 2023 budget meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Bills List

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Brungard to approve the Bills List dated November 20, 2023 (74,164.21) and Checks for Ratification dated November 7, 2023– November 19, 2023 (36,967.01). Motion carried 6-0.

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 6-0.

Treasurer's Report

- **MOTION** was made by Vice President McCauley and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the Treasurer's Report dated November 20, 2023. Motion carried 6-0.

Treasurers' Report

General (Surplus/(Deficit)	502,516.59
Harms (Surplus/(Deficit)	331,623.46
Liquid Fuels (Surplus/(Deficit)	93,875.08

Manager's Report

- **2024 EMS Charges** – The budget amount for ambulance service to be collected for each household has been increased to \$45/household.
- **Approve 2024 Proposed Budget for Advertising** – **MOTION** was made by Councilman Brungard and seconded by Councilman Harris to authorize advertising of the 2024 proposed budget. Motion carried 6-0. **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Councilman Harris to approve a .25 mill increase for 2024. Motion carried 6-0.
- **Teamsters' Contract Amendment** – **MOTION** was made by Councilman Harris and seconded by Councilwoman Cotter to approve the proposed memorandum of understanding for the Teamsters' Contract as follows:
 - Delete the "Assistant Foreman" classification and replace it with "Laborer A" classification-keeping the same hourly rate (\$32.05).
 - Add the "Groundskeeper/Floater Laborer" classification at the hourly rate of \$30.55. Note that, in accordance with the contract, this rate would be increased by \$.45/hour if the employee holds a current pesticide license.
 - Memorialize the procedure for assigning overtime.

Motion carried 6-0.

- **Emergency Management Seminar** – **MOTION** was made by Councilman Myers and seconded by Vice President McCauley to approve registering President Welch for the 12/7/23 PSATS Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise virtual seminar at a cost of \$175. Motion carried 5-0-1 with abstention by President Welch, citing conflict of interest.

Solicitor's Report

- Solicitor Gombar reviewed the Solicitor's Report with Council, a copy of which will be kept on file.
- **Tucci Easement** – No action required.

Mayor/Police Reports

- Chief Trupp noted recent criminal mischief and those involved have been identified.
- Chief Trupp noted that the license readers are working well and are beneficial and approximately five citations have been issued.

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

- **MOTION** was made by Councilwoman Cotter and seconded by Councilman Myers to approve closure of E. 1st Street from N. Spruce to Mill St from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. for the Santa Run on December 9. Motion carried 6-0.
- Ryan Acevedo noted that over \$10,000 has been raised for Christmas in Birdsboro.

Emergency Management: Report included in the Council packet

Fire Department: Report included in the Council packet

Council/Committee Reports

- Councilwoman Cotter noted complaints regarding the limestone dust from H&K spreading all the way into the Maple Springs Developments. Manager Yanos will notify H&K of the matter. Councilwoman Cotter thanked St. Mark's Church for providing showers to the homeless. Councilwoman Cotter noted confusion about the requirements relating to the posting of political signs and recommended the matter be clarified. Councilwoman Cotter congratulated Dave Chaney, Public Works Department, on becoming a grandfather. Councilwoman Cotter requested a list of borough employees.
- Councilman Harris thanked all of those in attendance and requested everyone keep Councilman Elgonitis and his family in their prayers. Councilman Harris congratulated the election winners.
- Councilman Myers congratulated election winners Tony Tucci, Dave Blank, Ryan Acevedo and Mary Ann Cotter.
- President Welch echoed Councilman Myers congratulatory wishes. President Welch noted meetings being held with BUFD to review bills.

Old Business: No old business

Public Comment

- Tony Tucci, 341 Washington Street, asked if the EMS charge to residents will change and President Welch noted the cost per household will increase to \$45.
- Ryan Acevedo, 647 Jefferson Street, noted concerns of a fox in the neighborhood in the early mornings and Chief Trupp noted there are a couple foxes around town, but they are not aggressive.

Executive Session

Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:20 p.m. Solicitor Gombar noted that a personnel matter was discussed in Executive Session. No action to be taken at this time.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Borough Secretary