

BOROUGH OF BIRDSBORO
JANUARY 4, 2010, 7:00 P.M. – BIRDSBORO BOROUGH HALL

MINUTES

PRESENT

Aaron Durso, President
Steve Lusky, Vice-President
Thomas Kanuck, Council Member
Kenneth Templin, Council Member
Nancy Kauffman, Council Member
Neil McCauley, Council Member
Angelene McKinney, Council Member
Robert Myers, Mayor
Karen Willman, Borough Manager
Theodore Roth, Police Chief
Terry D. Weiler, Esq., Solicitor

Ted Morse, Municipal Authority Representative

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Durso called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

BILLS LIST

Upon motion made by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Bills List dated 1/4/2010 was unanimously approved for payment by Council.

Upon motion made by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Bills list for payments made from 12/17/09 through 12/31/09 was unanimously ratified by Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS): None

MAYOR/POLICE REPORT:

Mayor Myers advised Council that he received a letter dated 12/18/09 announcing the formation of an Economic Development Committee. Members would consist of the Daniel Boone School District, Amity Township, Union Township and Birdsboro, if interested. Birdsboro would be represented by one council member and the Borough Manager. Mr. Lusky asked Mr. McKinney if she would be interested in representing the Borough. Ms. Kauffman said she would be willing to serve since it would tie in with the Schuylkill highlands project. Ms. McKinney said she would be willing to attend the first meeting and report back what it entails.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lusky and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Ms. McKinney was authorized to attend the first meeting and report back to council. It is noted that Mr. McCauley voted against the motion. Motion passed 6 to 1.

Mayor Meyers advised that the State Department of Health is sponsoring free H1N1 vaccination clinics at the Berks County Agricultural Center on Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments are required. More information can be obtained by calling 1-877-724-3258 or by visiting the website at www.H1N1inPA.com

Chief Roth advised that he asked Solicitor Weiler to review a 911 Agreement which he received from County Communications which would permit police departments request transcripts of 911 calls. A formal agreement was requested as a result of the Privacy Act.

Chief Roth advised Council that the entire Police Department would be attending funeral services for former Chief Rothhapt on Tuesday, 1/5/10, but that the Borough would not be without police coverage.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Mr. Imes advised that he will be at Emergency Management office in the Union Township municipal building on Tuesday evening, 1/5/10. Should any council members require NIMS training and testing, they could visit him there.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mr. Durso advised that an Executive Session is required to discuss the possible sale of a borough vehicle and for an update on an employee matter.

MANAGER'S REPORT

E. First Street Bridge: Ms. Willman advised Council that she had concerns with borough employees painting the bridge beams from a liability standpoint as well as the potential impact on the Borough's Workers' Compensation insurance should an employee get hurt. If a contractor is hired to complete the painting, it would be more expediently accomplished. The contractor also is covered by his own Workers' Compensation insurance. Since the project would cost more than \$4,000, three written quotes were obtained. The lowest bidder was Rosati at \$9,800. Ms. Willman asked Council to approve the total amount of the project to be paid in two installments. She also advised that this expense is reimbursable to the Borough by D&E.

Upon motion made by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Mr. Templin, the bridge beam painting project was unanimously awarded to Rosati in the amount of \$9,800.

Mr. Lusky suggested that a ribbon cutting ceremony and, perhaps, a contest with the winners being the first persons to drive over the new bridge, be scheduled. Ms. Willman advised that, to the best of her knowledge, the completion date for the bridge is January 26, 2010; however, an inspection must be completed prior to the bridge opening. Mr. Yuhas will be attending the next Council meeting and will have an update on the schedule.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Zoning Ordinance: Solicitor Weiler advised that a public hearing for the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance will be scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on 2/8/2010.

Police Pension Amendments: Mr. Weiler advised that these issues have been resolved.

ZONING HEARING BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Durso advised that Kevin Orman is interested in serving on the Zoning Hearing Board.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lusky and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Kevin Orman was unanimously appointed to a 4-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board, with said term to expire on 12/31/13.

Upon motion made by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. McCauley, Steve Rathman was unanimously appointed to a 3-year term as an alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board, with said term to expire on 12/31/12.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cindy McGee commented that the website needs to be updated with regard to meeting minutes.

Mr. Lusky asked Ms. McGee about the property she had complained about some time ago. She responded that some repairs have been done, but the property is still in deplorable condition.

Roy Feick asked if the Code Enforcement Officer routinely travels through the Borough in search of violations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council recessed its regular session and entered into Executive Session at 8:33 p.m. Council resumed its regular session at 8:57 p.m.

Mr. Weiler advised that Council discussed the possible sale of the 1999 Ford Explorer to the Fire Company.

Upon motion made by Mr. Templin and seconded by Mr. Lusky, authorization was unanimously granted offer to sell the Borough's 1999 Ford Explorer to the Birdsboro-Union Fire Company for \$500 providing their insurance coverage does not provide for replacement cost.

TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE: Mr. Kanuck reminded Council that an alternate delegate will need to be appointed since Mr. Tucci is no longer a member of Council.

Upon motion made by Mr. McCauley and seconded by Mr. Lusky, Kenneth Templin was unanimously appointed to serve on the Berks County Tax Collection Committee as an alternate voting delegate.

VACATION POLICY: **Upon motion made** by Mr. Lusky and seconded by Mr. McCauley, Ms. Willman was instructed to develop, for Council review and approval, a vacation policy with regard to scheduling and the number of employees who can be on vacation simultaneously. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: **Upon motion made** by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Mr. Lusky, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen T. Willman
Borough Manager/Secretary