

BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2010, 7:00 P.M. – BOROUGH HALL

MINUTES

PRESENT: Aaron J. Durso, President
Steve Lusky, Vice-President
Thomas Kanuck, Member
Kenneth J. Templin, Member
Nancy Kauffman, Member
Neil McCauley, Member
Angelene McKinney, Member
Robert M. Myers, Mayor
Karen T. Willman, Borough Manager
Terry D. Weiler, Esq., Solicitor
Theodore Morse, Municipal Authority Representative

ABSENT: Theodore R. Roth, Chief of Police
Thomas J. Yuhas, P.E., Horizon Engineers

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Mr. Durso called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Glenn Miller, Berks Street, advised council of a new method of cleaning the brackets for the railing on the bridge called “soda blasting”. He will supply the relevant information to the Borough Manager.

MINUTES: **Upon motion made** by Ms. Kauffman and seconded Mr. Kanuck, the January 11, 2010 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

BILLS LIST

- a. **Bills list dated 2/1/2010:** **Upon motion made** by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, the Bills List dated 2/1/10 was unanimously approved.
- b. **Ratification of invoices paid during the period of 1/12/10 through 2/01/10:** **Upon motion made** by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Ms. McKinney, invoices paid during the period of 1/12/10 through 1/01/10 were unanimously ratified.

MAYOR/POLICE DEPARTMENT: Mayor Myers advised that Chief Roth could not be in attendance at this evening’s meeting due to an illness in the family. Mayor Myers advised that Chief Roth was a guest speaker at a Rotary Club meeting; the Rotary has donated \$804 to the Police Department for the purchase of one taser. He also advised that a donation in the amount of \$500 will be made to Friendship Fire Company #1.

HOPEWELL BIG WOODS: One copy of the Trails and Recreation Concept Plan was forwarded to the Borough with a request that each municipality adopt a Resolution in support of the plan. Ms. Kauffman said she e-mailed everyone a copy and said that a representative would not be attending the meeting to present the plan. Mr. Lusky said he does not have enough information about the plan as it relates to the possible Route 82 turnback. Mr. Kanuck said he sees no point in adopting the resolution since there are

no effected properties in the borough. Ms. Kauffman said that this plan promotes Birdsboro as a gateway which possibly translates to economic development for Birdsboro. Mr. Lusky suggested that this plan should be reviewed by the Recreation Board before consideration by council. Ms. Kauffman said she is willing to rescind the motion to adopt the ordinance if Mr. McCauley agreed. Mr. McCauley did not second the motion to rescind. A roll call vote was taken with the following votes: Mr. McCauley voted yes; Mr. Kanuck voted no; Mr. Templin voted no; Ms. Kauffman voted yes; Mr. Lusky voted no; Ms. McKinney voted no; and Mr. Durso voted no. Motion failed 2-5.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Mr. Imes advised that he is waiting to receive county approval on the emergency plans for the wastewater and water treatment plants. He requested that council designate the operations and maintenance responsibilities to him as the Emergency Management Coordinator.

Upon motion made by Mr. Lusky and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, council unanimously designated operations and maintenance responsibilities for the dry fire hydrant on E. First Street to the Emergency Management Coordinator.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- a. **Route 82 Turnback:** Ms. Willman advised that she as well as Messrs. Lusky and Kanuck attended a meeting on 1/22/10. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the best route for the sewer line to be run from Geigertown to the Birdsboro wastewater treatment plant. PennDOT representatives were also in attendance and talked about the turnback of Route 82 from the Exxon Station to the Rustic Picnic Area and on the south side of the washed out bridges. If the borough were to take the turnback, PennDOT would issue the borough a check to bring the stub road up to standards and the road would then qualify for liquid fuels funds. There would be no obligation on the borough's part to accept the turnback; however, PennDOT could eventually abandon the road which would then revert to the borough by default and the borough would then be responsible for funding to fix the road. In order to enter negotiations with PennDOT, a letter of interest in the turnback program is required. Mr. McCauley commented that he would like to see H&K involved in discussions when specs are developed for Route 82 since their trucks are damaging the road. He also said that PennDOT cannot simply abandon the road.

Upon motion made by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Templin, the borough manager was authorized to send PennDOT a letter expressing the borough's interest in pursuing the turnback program for Route 82.

- b. **E. First Street Bridge Update:** The tenting material and heaters used to help concrete curing have been removed and the curbs have been poured. The replacement anchor bolts will be installed and painted on February 1st. Eckman will begin demobilizing their equipment on February 1st as well. The bridge opening is scheduled for Friday, February 19th.
- c. **Drawdown on Letter of Credit:** **Upon motion made** by Mr. Lusky and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Resolution #2010-09, authorizing a drawdown on the Borough's letter of credit in the amount of \$9,939.46 for E. First Street Bridge expenses to be reimbursed to the General Fund.

- d. Personnel Manual: The draft of the Personnel Manual is virtually complete. The Manager, Tom Kanuck and Terry Weiler, Solicitor will be meeting this week to review the draft. Once the draft is completely reviewed, the Manager will forward an electronic copy to Council for their consideration.
- e. Appointment to Recreation Board: At its 1/27/10 meeting, the Recreation Board made a unanimous recommendation to Council for the appointment of Steve Lusky to the vacant seat.

Motion was made by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Mr. Templin to appoint Steve Lusky to a 5-year term on the Borough of Birdsboro Recreation Board, with said term to expire 12/31/14. It is noted that Mr. McCauley voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

- f. Zoning Hearing Board Advisory: The Zoning Hearing for Eric Bachman, 200 Bird Street, is scheduled for 2/4/10 at 7 p.m.
- g. Berks Municipal Officials Dinner: Ms. Willman advised that the Berks Municipal Officials Dinner will be held on Thursday, 2/25/10, at Reading Country Club beginning with registration at 6:00 p.m.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Zoning Amendment: Mr. Weiler advised that the Zoning Amendment was forwarded to all parties that are required to review it prior to passage. There is a 45 day comment period.

Official Fire Company of Birdsboro: Mr. Weiler advised that he drafted an Ordinance which names Birdsboro-Union Fire Department as the appointed fire company for the borough and requested authorization to advertise.

Upon motion made by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Mr. Lusky, authorization to advertise the ordinance naming Birdsboro-Union Fire department as the official borough fire department was unanimously granted.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Kauffman advised that in conjunction with the Compatible Economic Development Study, she attended an economic development course in W. Virginia on 1/30/10.

Ms. McKinney advised that she attended the Economic Development Committee meeting in Amity Township. She said that the meeting was about a 20-year plan for an industrial park in Amity which doesn't impact the borough, but will be beneficial for the school district with respect to the amount of taxes that they will see as a result.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council entered into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter as it relates to benefits to retired employees. Council resumed its regular session at 8:50 p.m. No action taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion made by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Mr. McCauley, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen T. Willman
Borough Manager