

BIRDSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 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
Karen T. Willman, Borough Manager
Robert M. Myers, Mayor
Thomas J. Yuhas, P.E., Horizon Engineering
Theodore Morse, Birdsboro Municipal Authority

ABSENT: Theodore R. Roth, Chief of Police

CALL TO ORDER: 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: None

MINUTES: **Upon motion made** by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Templin, the February 1, 2010 meeting minutes were unanimously approved with one amendment: the bills list dates need to be corrected.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Mr. Yuhas was present and gave an overview of Engineering Zoning and Code activities for the month. An inspection of Armorcast, with DEP in attendance, was conducted. Some clean-up progress has been made, but there is still a lot of work to be done. Should Mr. Flynn opt not to follow the prescribed process and submit schedules, bills of lading, etc., the matter will go back to the judge. Several complaints were recently received regarding the wood burning stove; the resident burning the stove will be required to move into compliance. A punch list has been developed for the East First Street Bridge and the concrete is now into its critical curing period. Mr. Yuhas advised that the bridge project is under budget by 10%. He suggested to Council that N. Water Street from E. First Street to Beacon Street be paved; the estimate for that section is \$11,000, which could be included in the bridge project.

Motion was made by Mr. Templin and seconded by Ms. Kauffman to repave the section of N. Water Street from East First Street to Beacon Street. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Yuhas said that, with regard to the rental inspection ordinance, no applications have been received yet. The GEM (Glenn Miller) land development plan for the storage facility on W. Main Street was reviewed by the Planning Commission. Mr. Miller has modifications to be made to the plan before a recommendation can be made.

BILLS LIST: **Upon motion made** by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Ms. McKinney, the Bills list as presented to Council was unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Upon motion made by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Lusky, the January Treasurer's report was unanimously accepted.

MAYOR/POLICE REPORTS: Mayor Myers advised that Chief Roth was not able to attend this evening's meeting due to a death in the family. Mayor Myers distributed the monthly police report. He also asked the Manager to pass his compliments on to the Street Department for their efforts during and handling of the recent snow storm. Mayor Myers advised that the Rotary Club was so impressed by a recent presentation by the fire company on the services they offer and their financial needs, that a \$500 donation was made. He presented fire company representatives with the check at this meeting.

RECREATION COMMITTEE: Gloria Uhniat, Chairman, was present. She advised Council that the Recreation Board arranged for a bridge opening ceremony is planned for Friday, 2/19/10 at 5:00 p.m. The theme for the reopening is "Have a Ball at the Bridge". A raffle will be held for various prizes; tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.00. She encouraged everyone to come out for the opening.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: None

MUNICIPAL SERVICES / DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Water Department

The usual monthly sampling and charting was done, along with routine maintenance work. All chemical pumps and turbidity meters were cleaned and calibrated. New feed lines were put in the CL2 Room. Water Meters were shut off as per the list from Collections. The Water department repaired several water main breaks: 4" main at Hopewell Street; 4" main in the 600 block of W. 2nd Street; and a 6" main on Rte 724 at the cemetery. Roads were widened at the small reservoir. Trees were cut down and brush was cleaned up at the small reservoir and the upper side of race. The water department is staying very busy.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

During the month of January, routine maintenance and repair work was performed. PA One calls were marked throughout the month. Issues with the digesters were apparent throughout the month. Levensgood was called in to pump down the diffusers; heavy rags were found in the remaining sludge. Radar level indicators were showing false high levels. Mark Morton from Ives is to bring in replacement meters. WETT tests were performed by Aquaticlabs. The MOV's on tanks #4 & #3 of the primary clarifiers have failed. MLK has determined that the torque settings were improperly set. MLK has taken full responsibility for the valve failures and will be rebuilding all tanks.

Streets Department

In addition to the performance of normal maintenance, Christmas trees were collected. Periodic maintenance and vehicle repairs were completed. Streets were cindered throughout the month when necessary. PWD personnel assisted with taking down the Christmas lights. Potholes were repaired throughout the borough. The streets dept. assisted the water department with a main break. Skirting was installed on the modular unit. Scraps and chipped Christmas trees were cleaned up. Personnel also cleaned off areas marked by graffiti. A handicap sign was installed on Windsor Street. Borough vehicles were washed and waxed. Streets were swept throughout the month.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. J. D. Eckman Invoice: J.D. Eckman presented its second invoice for bridge work to the borough in the amount of \$560,616.89. It has been reviewed and approved by Tom Yuhas.

Motion was made by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Ms. Kauffman to approve J.D. Eckman's Invoice #02 dated 1/29/10 in the amount of \$560,616.89, to be paid from the Line of Credit and further authorizing the Council President to affix his signature thereto prior to forwarding to the Berks County Community Development Office.

- b. Resolution #2010-10, Drawdown on Line of Credit: This request for drawdown includes Fund 24 special project expenses for the E. First Street Bridge to the following vendors: J.D. Eckman (Invoice No. 2), Total Rental, Horizon Engineering and Exeter Supply.

Motion was made by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Mr. Lusky to adopt Resolution #2010-10, authorizing a drawdown on the line of credit in the amount of \$578,191.09 to reimburse the General Fund for special projects expenses paid. Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Personnel Manual: Ms. Willman and Mr. Kanuck met with Solicitor Weiler to review the draft manual. Another meeting is scheduled for the week of February 15th to review the remainder of the manual, after which it will be presented to Council for their consideration.

- d. PLGIT vs. National Penn Savings: PLGIT is currently paying .17% interest on funds in our General Fund Savings, Harms Benefit Savings, Liquid Fuels Savings and the Fire Equipment Fund Savings accounts. National Penn is currently offering .58% or three times the amount PLGIT is offering.

Motion was made by Mr. Lusky and seconded by Mr. Kanuck to close the PLGIT General Fund, Harms Benefit, Liquid Fuels, and Fire Equipment Fund savings accounts and move the funds to savings accounts with National Penn Bank or VIST, whichever offers a higher percentage of interest. Motion passed unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Weiler advised that he, Ms. Willman and Mr. Kanuck had a very productive meeting on the Personnel Manual. He also had meetings with Messrs. Yuhas and Hatt with regard to Armorcast and with Mr. Dillon on the Rental Ordinance.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mr. McCauley advised that the Berks Implementation Committee met, but a quorum was not present. Future meetings will be held at the New Morgan Municipal Building even though New Morgan is not ready to take part in the joint zoning yet. Officers will be elected as soon as a quorum is present.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Lusky advised that an Economic Development Committee, consisting of volunteers, is being formed. Interested parties should contact Mr. Lusky through Borough Hall. The first meeting will be held at 12:00 Noon on 2/25/10 at Italian Delight on Main Street.

Mr. Durso requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Tony Tucci for his presence at the bridge almost every day during the construction project.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Kanuck commented on a police officer who recently decided to give up his arms master position. The Borough paid his training expenses and is now required to train another officer. The former Arms Master now wants to go to supervisory training. After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Kauffman requested that the Mayor find out how long Sgt. Riegel has been the Arms Master as well as the cost of the supervisory training. Mr. Durso commented that he feels Mr. Kanuck has a valid point and this subject should be included in the next contract negotiations.

Mr. Kanuck also commented that he is not happy with things he has been reading about tasers and their recent recalls. He said that paramedics must remove the taser barb from the person who was hit; we need to make sure that the tips are not reused due to the risk of various diseases that people may have or be exposed to.

Mr. Lusky said that he participated in a conference call with Ms. Willman and PennDOT representatives John Davis, Municipal Services Supervisor, Gerry Fry, Assistant Executive Director for Design and Ken Kutchinsky, Administrator for the Right-of-Way Unit regarding the turnback program for the stub portion of Rte. 82 as well as the closed portion of Rte. 82.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Alex Bromwell, 213 Mill Street, commented on water/sewer rates and usage; he said he cannot get answers from the Birdsboro Municipal Authority. He commented on the current financial condition of the borough.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY APPOINTMENT: Upon motion made by Mr. McCauley and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Deborah Murphy was unanimously appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board of the Birdsboro Municipal Authority created by the resignation of Harlin W. Lavin, with said term to expire on 12/31/12.

BIRDSBORO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY: The next meeting is scheduled for 2/15/10.

PLANNING COMMISSION: The next meeting is scheduled for 2/23/10.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion made by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Mr. Templin, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen T. Willman
Borough Manager