

Birdsboro Borough Council Meeting

June 14, 2010, 7:00 P.M. – Borough Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT: Aaron J. Durso, President
Steve Lusky, Vice President
Tom Kanuck, Member
Kenneth J. Templin, Member
Nancy Kauffman, Member
Neil McCauley, Member
Robert M. Myers, Mayor
Theodore R. Roth, Chief of Police
Terry D. Weiler, Esq., Solicitor
Thomas J. Yuhas, P.E., Borough Engineer

ALSO PRESENT: Theodore Morse, Chairman, Birdsboro Municipal Authority

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Durso called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES:

Council immediately went into Executive Session to discuss personnel issue.

When council reconvened in the meeting room, the resignation of Manager Karen T. Willman was read. The resignation was unanimously accepted.

- a. Upon motion made by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Ms. Kauffman, council unanimously voted to provide 1 month of severance pay and 3 months of insurance benefits to former Mgr. Willman.
- b. Upon a motion made by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Mr. Lusky, council appointed Aaron J. Durso as Interim Borough Manager with an annual salary of \$45,000 contingent

on bonding contingency & also appointed a search committee for a permanent Borough Manager.

Solicitor Weiler reminded Council that Mr. Durso needed to resign as Council president and present letter of intent to resign.

Mrs. McKinney abstained from voting on motion to hire Mr. Durso due to conflict of interest as she is related to Mr. Durso and compensation is involved. She noted that she fully supports him as Interim Manager.

Council voted 5-0 to offer job of Interim Manager to Mr. Durso.

Mr. Durso resigned as Borough Council President contingent upon drug testing, physical exam and bonding.

C. Upon a motion by Mr. McCauley and seconded by Mr. Templin, council voted 5-0 to accept Mr. Durso's resignation.

REORGANIZATION:

- a. Mr. Kanuck nominated Steve Lusky for Borough Council President. Mr. McCauley nominated Kenneth J. Templin.
- b. Upon motion by Ms. Kauffman the nominations were closed for Borough Council President. Council voted 4-1 (Mr. Templin abstained) to appoint Mr. Lusky as Borough Council President.
- c. Mr. Kanuck nominated Mr. Templin for Borough Council Vice President. Upon motion made by Mrs. McKinney and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Council unanimously voted Mr. Templin as Borough Council Vice President.
- d. Mrs. McKinney volunteered to act as Recording Secretary during meeting.

LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT:

Mr. Richard Grove, Vice President of the Boone Area Library Board of Trustees introduced Mr. Geoff Steigauf as a volunteer and a good fit for the library board.

- a. Upon a motion made by Mrs. McKinney and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Council unanimously Mr. Steigauf to the Boone Area Library Board of Trustees with a term expiration of 12/31/2012

PRESENTATION BY OFFICER BORZ ON TASERS:

Officer Borz showed a PowerPoint presentation on the use of Tasers. He thanked the Community Center for the use of their projector. He answered questions on the presentation for Council and the public.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

Engineer Yuhas fielded questions about Resolution #LD10-02 granting final approval to Brown's Feed Mill land and development plans.

- a. Upon motion made by Ms. Kaufmann and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution #LD10-02

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Glen Miller of Berks Street mentioned that Mr. Mike Kilareski-former member of the Planning Commission had recently passed away.
- b. Cindy McGee of Spruce Street inquired why former Mgr. Willman resigned and why Council gave severance & benefits to her. Sol. Weiler explained that we cannot disclose matters of employment. Mr. McCauley mentioned that due to the sensitive nature of the resignation, Council made the decision to grant severance & medical benefits.
- c. Ted Morse of Mansion Ct. asked if we are moving ahead with the Tasers for the Police Dept. He was informed this topic would be discussed in Mayor/Police Report
- d. Cindy McGee of Spruce Street asked about Crime Watch advertisement. She was informed this topic would be included in the Mayor/ Police Report.

MINUTES: It was agreed by all to table the minutes from the May, 10, 2010 meeting until the July meeting so they could be corrected.

BILLS LIST:

- a. Upon a motion by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, the bills list dated June 14, 2010 was unanimously approved.

TREASURE'S REPORT:

- a. Upon a motion made by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Templin, the Treasure's Report for the month of May was unanimously approved.

MAYOR/POLICE REPORTS:

Mayor Myers read from two pieces of correspondence he received in regard to the Police Department:

The first piece thanked the Police Secretary for her courteous and immediate response to an issue. The second was a letter from The Amity Chief of Police to our Chief of Police, expressing appreciation to Officer D. Seidel for his assistance in the Hillside Motel Homicide in April.

Mayor Myers informed council of the upcoming Association of Mayors Clambake on Friday, July 16, 2010. All Council is invited- RSVP as per the flyer the Mayor provided.

Chief Roth thanked Officer Borz for the Taser Presentation. Chief Roth introduced the SOP for the use of Tasers for the Birdsboro Police Department. He then asked Council to permit BPD Officers to carry Tasers and for a motion for the SOP to be put into effect.

Discussions ensued about the number of Tasers needed, cost of said Tasers, and the fact that one Officer requests not to carry a Taser based on the SOP guidelines. Solicitor Weiler suggested bending/tweaking SOP to promote homogeneity. Chief Roth mentioned that on Fridays, there are 4 Officers on duty at the same time, so at least 4 Tasers are needed. Council was reminded that the Police Dept. has received donations to cover the cost of two Tasers and spare cartridges.

- a. Upon a motion by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Templin, Council voted 4-2 to purchase 7 Tasers not to exceed the amount of \$7000.

Chief Roth discussed a Crime Plan, stating that vandalism in the borough is not atypical for other Boroughs/towns in our area. He announced that BPD is organizing a CRIME WATCH and presented flyers for Council and the citizens to distribute.

First meeting of Crime Watch is to be held on Monday, June 28, 2010, 7:00P.M. at Borough Hall. Mr. McCauley suggested that the info be put on the sign at Borough Hall.

Chief discussed the possibility of removing the Gazebo from Main Bird Park as it acts as a magnet for teens. He asked Mr. Miller if he was opposed to the Gazebo being moved to possibly Vest Pocket Park as it is across from the Fire Dept. and has a lot more traffic going by on the street which would discourage vandalism. Mr. Miller (whose Father donated the Gazebo) had no objections. Mr. Lusky suggested bringing this idea to the attention of the Rec.

Board as they might be able to assist in finding ways to fund the move. Also needs to be discussed with Fire Chief Kulp.

Chief Roth suggested a resolution for new parkhours be passed.

- b. Upon motion by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. McCauley, Council voted unanimously to authorize Sol. Weiler to prepare Resolution corrections for park hours per memo and signage.

Chief Roth informed Council of the results of the online auction for the Crown Victoria.

- c. Upon a motion by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Templin, Council voted unanimously to award 2003 Ford Crown Victoria, as advertised for sale on Municibid.com, to Elena Agapii of Haverford, PA in the amount of \$2550.

Chief Roth then informed council of a consortium that the Chiefs Association is forming for testing. They would sponsor one police and physical fitness test for all municipalities. This would cut the costs for hiring an Officer in half for municipalities.

- d. Upon a motion made by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mrs. McKinney, Council voted unanimously to authorize Birdsboro Police Department to join the consortium.

Chief Roth informed council he would be taking vacation. June 21 -June 28th.

PLANNING COMISSION:

Council President Lusky reminded Council that former member of the Planning g commission, Mike Kilareski, has passed away.

- a. Upon a motion by Mr. McCauley and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Council unanimously passed a resolution honoring Mike Kilareski for his years of service to the borough. A letter will be sent to his family.

COMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

- a. Council President Lusky named the committee for hiring a Borough Manager as Ms. Kauffman, Mr. Templin, Mr. Kanuck and Mr. Morse (water Authority)
- b. Council President Lusky named committee to fill the place vacated by Mr. Durso on council as Mrs. McKinney, Mr. Templin and Mr. Kanuck.
- c. Advertising will be on the Borough website, sign, & News of Southern Berks.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Yuhas informed Council that the East 1st Street final mill and overlay (including a small section of Water St.) will be completed by June 21 or 22, 1010. There were some questions in regard to the Public Works Building. President Lusky has done some research and checked with other engineers to make sure we are getting the best price on this building.

- a. Upon a motion by Mr. McCauley and seconded by Mr. Kanuck, Council voted unanimously to reject bids on the Public Works Building.

Road Paving Projects: President Lusky asked Mr. McCauley and Mr. Kanuck to work with Mr. Yuhas to keep the costs down and get sidewalks done in a timely manner.

- b. Upon a motion by Ms, Kauffman and seconded by Mr. Templin, Council vote unanimously to advertise street paving bid.
- c. Upon a motion by Ms. Kauffman and seconded by Mrs. McKinney, Council voted unanimously to put the sidewalk projects out to bid-as per the specs of the committee of Mr. McCauley, Mr. Kanuck, Engineer Yuhas, & Manager Durso.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

No report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Council was informed that the county is changing how calls are done.

- a. Upon a motion made by Mr. Templin and seconded by Ms. Kauffman, Council voted unanimously to sign the emergency run cards for the Borough.

EMERGENCY MANGEMENT:

Mr. Imes distributed copies of his letter resigning from the position of Emergency Management Coordinator of Union Twp. at the request of Union Twp. Chairman. He also noted that he had a disaster Recovery Template in the works.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Sol. Weiler informed Council that the Personnel Manual draft is available to read and open to comments. Ms. Kauffman recommended a dress code policy be included. He also stated that he had the revisions from Spotts, Stevens & McCoy for the zoning ordinance. He said it was a pretty well finished document and advised us to advertise for in July so it could be adopted at the August meeting. He also proposed advertising the Police Pension Plan so we could adopt it- council decided to table that until the July meeting.

- a. Upon a motion by Mr. Templin and seconded by Mr. McCauley, Council voted unanimously to advertise the draft ordinance Birdsboro-Union Relief Association Amendment.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms. Kauffman brought our attention to the article about the sidewalk issue in the Reading Eagle. Ms. Kauffman mentioned that "Walk by Berks" complimented Borough Council on their handling of the issue.

Mr. McCauley stated that the PCLC meeting is on the 4th Wednesday of the month. He also commented on the Schuylkill Highlands presentation he attended with Ms. Kauffman. He commented that the Chester County Parks Dept. seems to be well funded and large.

Mr. Lusky said he has gotten calls from residents asking about the reservoir- wanting to be able to get out there and utilize the grounds. He asked Ms. Kauffman to find out how much money it would take to gain access to the reservoir.(rail car bridge) He mentioned that a Dog Park & Large animal rescue is being built on Rt. 345 across from the Landfill. Donated by Mascaro.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon a motion by Mr. Kanuck and seconded by Mr. Templin, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angelene McKinney