



**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BRYN ATHYN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

COUNCIL CHAMBER
April 5, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Elsing at 7:00p.m. via Zoom Teleconferencing due to COVID-19 restrictions imposed by Governor Wolf. The following were present:

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Glenn Gurney
Ric Asplundh
Jeffrey Elsing
Duane D. Hyatt

Brent McCurdy
Mark Pennink
Aurelle Genzlinger

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Bradley E. Cranch, Stephen Gray, Mayor Ken Schauder, Lach Brown, Nick Rose, Russell Cooper, Solicitor R. Rex Herder.

MINUTES

On a motion by Glenn Gurney, seconded by Brent McCurdy, Council voted unanimous approval of the March minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Vikki Trost reported General Fund Revenue for March was \$611,956.95. General Fund Expenses were \$85,640.14. Net Income was \$526,316.81.

Sewer Fund Revenue for March was \$106,051.21. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$15,900.09. Net Income was \$90,151.12.

Pre-collection letters were sent to 5 seriously delinquent sewer accounts. All accounts have been paid. There are currently no delinquencies over 30 days.

Today PLGIT paid .01%. PLGIT PRIME paid .04%.

Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	547,250.03	in Current Year Real Estate Taxes
\$	9,932.68	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	1,349.76	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$	1,443.01	in Fines
\$	350.00	in Zoning Permits
\$	46,148.04	in State Highway Aid (Liquid Fuels Allocation)
\$	100.00	in Grading Permit Fees
\$	30.00	in Police Report Fees
\$	5,138.93	in Building Permit Fees
\$	120.00	in Road Opening Permit Fees
\$	55.00	in Fireworks Contributions

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$	52,119.78	in Category 2 Usage Fees
\$	38,031.00	in Category 3 Usage Fees
\$	15,355.00	in Category 4 Usage Fees
\$	96.34	in Finance Charges
\$	409.10	in Late Fees
\$	25.00	in Sewer Certification Fees

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported \$577,940.80 in Real Estate Taxes collected in March; \$700,622.30 remains uncollected. Mr. Cranch noted that nearly half of the projected tax revenue has been collected in the discount period.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND BILLS

21 st Century Media	\$603.11
Am-Trust North America	8,573.00
Aqua PA	18.67
Axon Enterprise Inc.	755.00
Bradley E. Cranch	95.38
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	32,166.67

Building Inspection Underwriters Inc.	252.00
Calebe Nobre	849.00
Davidheiser's Inc.	36.00
DeLage Landen	249.00
DeLage Landen	183.75
Department of the Navy	300.00
Doug Hotchkiss	250.00
Eastburn & Gray PC	202.50
Grainger	162.96
Havis Inc.	532.00
Hess Embroidery & Uniforms LLC	1,726.82
Home Depot	866.19
Independence Blue Cross	5,795.46
Joseph Bresnan, Esquire	180.00
Ken Johnson	33.39
Keystone Recognition	70.00
Kimberly Kleinguenther	1,237.50
Lower Moreland Township	23,866.25
McDonald Uniform Company	367.94
Montgomery County Assn of Township Officials	75.00
Montgomery County MIRT	300.00
Montgomery County Treasurer	60.00
Noble Turf LLC	299.80
PA DCED	67.50
PA Turnpike Toll by Plate	13.60
Peco Energy Company	952.81
Peco Energy Company	89.51
Petty Cash – Steve Gray	432.80
Petty Cash – Victoria Trost	61.78
RHR Mechanical Contractors Inc.	455.50
Southwest Solutions Group	6,521.43
Staples	67.66
TGI Office Automation	74.13
The Vanguard Group	698.57
US Postal Service	134.00
USA Payroll	209.25
Verizon Wireless	201.42
Victoria Trost	50.00
Wawa – Wright Express	1,929.56
Total	<u>\$92,086.91</u>

SEWER FUND BILLS

AC Schultes Inc.	\$1,500.00
Academy of the New Church	323.48
Berardelli Pool Supplies LLC	1,476.20
Delaware River Basin Commission	638.00

Eastburn & Gray PC	330.00
Environmental Engineering & Management Assoc.	875.00
Home Depot	157.61
Independence Blue Cross	551.32
Kimberly Kleinguenther	450.00
MJ Reider Associates Inc.	534.00
Mac Medical Gases Inc.	37.50
McGovern Environmental LLC	765.00
McMaster-Carr Supply Company	33.12
Peco Energy – Feters Mill PS	589.58
Peco Energy – Sycamore Rd PS	492.74
Petty Cash – Reid Heinrichs	164.98
Postmaster	165.00
SCP Distributors LLC	1,925.00
TW Reiss Inc.	2.34
USA Blue Book	155.18
USA Payroll	73.67
Verizon – Feters Mill PS	84.45
Verizon – Sycamore Rd PS	77.14
Verizon – Internet	49.38
Verizon Wireless	29.82
Wawa – Wright Express	233.00
Wind River Environmental LLC	900.00
Total	<u>\$12,613.51</u>

BMO MasterCard – General Fund

Amazon.com	\$29.12
Adobe AcroPro	14.99
USPS Bryn Athyn	55.00
Total	<u>\$99.11</u>

BMO MasterCard – Sewer Fund

Ebay.com	\$272.95
Amazon.com	40.18
Staples	36.01
Best Buy	74.18
USPS Bryn Athyn	203.42
Total	<u>\$626.77</u>

Mr. Elsing noted that the evidence lockers purchased from Southwest Solutions Group were purchased with donations from the Asplundh Foundation.

On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council unanimously voted to authorize payment of the bills as shown on the attached list, which is made a part of these minutes.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Jeff Elsing reported that he attended a meeting to hosted by Montgomery County to review plans for connecting the County Pennypack Trail system to east-west trails in Upper Dublin Township and Horsham Township to connect neighborhoods. There is no proposed new activity in Bryn Athyn for now.

MAYOR’S REPORT - None

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Chief Steve Gray reported the following activity for March:

Alarms	13
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	04
Assist Other Police Agencies	34
Miscellaneous Activity	64
Public Service Calls / Assist Citizens	04
Special Traffic Details	08
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	14
Traffic Citations	52
Vehicle Accidents	01
Vehicle Investigations	76

On Wednesday March 3rd at 3:37pm, police observed a vehicle driving in the 1800 block of Byberry Road with a fictitious license plate. Before police activated their lights and sirens, the vehicle quickly drove into a private driveway in the area of Byberry Road and Hale Road and then fled on foot. The driver of the vehicle could not be located, however, video footage from a local resident’s exterior camera captured a picture of the driver, who police identified as being a 32-year-old male resident of Philadelphia. A warrant has been issued for the driver’s arrest for driving with Counterfeit License Plates, Driving while under Suspension, Required Financial Responsibility (a.k.a. No Vehicle Insurance), Registration Required on a Motor Vehicle and Trespass by Motor Vehicle.

On Friday March 5th at 10:32pm, police conducted a vehicle stop at Huntingdon Pike and Tomlinson Road, which led to the arrest of a 48

year old male resident of Warminster, who was wanted by the Warrington Township Police Department on a criminal warrant. The driver was taken into custody without incident and turned over to the Warrington Police Dept.

On Monday March 8th and Tuesday March 9th, police took two reports of Identity Theft. Both cases are currently under investigation.

On Tuesday March 9th at 9:55pm, police responded to a call of a reckless driver heading Southbound on Huntingdon Pike from Byberry Road. Police observed the vehicle hit the curb in the 2800 block of Huntingdon Pike. The vehicle was stopped by police. Upon investigation, the driver, a 25-year-old male resident of Philadelphia, who was suspected of DUI, could not safely perform the field sobriety tests without falling, however, he agreed to take a blood test. The results of the blood test are still pending.

On Saturday March 13th at 3:40am, police conducted a vehicle stop in the area of Byberry Road and Buck Road to investigate a vehicle that had an expired registration. While speaking with the driver, police detected a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from his breath. After performing field sobriety tests, the 26-year-old male resident of Warminster was given a blood test. The results of the blood test are still pending.

On Sunday March 21st at 9:52am, police found a cell phone laying on the roadway in the area of Alden and Fetters Mill Road. The phone was returned to a local juvenile resident.

On Monday March 22nd at 12:50pm, police took a report at the Masons Mill Business Park of trespassing that occurred on Sunday March 21st. The video surveillance at the Business park recorded a red Nissan pick-up truck that intentionally drove across their lawn at 3501 Masons Mill Road instead of exiting from the driveway. The video captured the license plate, which was registered to a 48-year-old male resident of Abington Township. Police made contact with the owner of the vehicle, who was cited for Trespass by Motor Vehicle and also for driving with a suspended vehicle registration.

On Tuesday March 23rd at 1:09pm, police conducted a vehicle stop at 1800 Byberry Road to investigate expired registration stickers. Further investigation revealed that the driver, a 32-year-old male resident of Philadelphia, was driving with a suspended driver's license that was suspended due to a previous DUI. Upon conviction, the driver will be remanded to County Prison for 90 days due to driving with a DUI related suspended license. The owner of the vehicle, a 33-year-old female resident of Philadelphia was cited for permitting the driver to drive her uninspected vehicle and for allowing him to drive her vehicle while he was under a DUI related suspended license. The vehicle was towed to the impound lot.

On Friday March 26th at 1:52pm, police responded to the 500 block of Waverly Lane to investigate a disabled vehicle that was in the resident's driveway. Upon arrival, police found that the vehicle was occupied by a 26-year-old female resident of Philadelphia who was in crisis. It was learned that the vehicle had driven over something in the 800 block of Welsh Road in Lower Moreland Township which caused the two front tires to go flat.

The driver was transported by Bryn Athyn Ambulance to Abington Hospital to be evaluated.

On Tuesday March 30th at 6:05pm, police observed a vehicle parked and occupied in the 3100 block of Masons Mill Road that was posted as “No Trespassing”. The vehicle was registered to a 56-year-old male resident of Philadelphia. The officer was able to identify the driver as being the owner of the vehicle before the driver quickly drove away. Police attempted to stop the vehicle, but the vehicle would not stop. For safety of the public and because police had already identified the driver, the vehicle pursuit was ended and police resumed patrol. A criminal complaint has since been filed charging the owner of the vehicle for Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Police Officer, which is a Misdemeanor in the 2nd Degree, Duty of Driver on Approach of an Emergency Vehicle and for Criminal Trespassing. A warrant for the driver’s arrest has also been requested by police.

Recent Milestones at Bryn Athyn PD: On February 1st, **Officer Ken Johnson** celebrated his 5th Anniversary with the Police Department. On April 1st, **Chief Gray** celebrated his 25th Anniversary with Bryn Athyn PD and on January 1st, **Stephanie Doman** began her 24th year as the Bryn Athyn Police Secretary. The police department honored Borough Manager **Vikki Trost** in February for her 30 years of service as the Bryn Athyn Borough Manager.

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT

In the absence of Chief Derek Zecher, Ken Schauder reported 34 Fire Calls in March, 30 in Lower Moreland, 3 in Bryn Athyn and 1 in Bucks County; 125 EMS Calls in March, 83 in Lower Moreland, 5 in Bryn Athyn, 22 in Abington and 15 in other municipalities. There were 80 transports in March.

Mr. Schauder reported that a meeting was held at Lower Moreland Township attended by Chief Derek Zecher, BAFC President Lach Brown, Council President Jeff Elsing and Manager Vikki Trost. The Lower Moreland representatives included Manager Chris Hoffman, Board President David Sirken and Huntingdon Valley Fire Company representatives. The purpose of the meeting was to open dialogue and to cooperate more. The group agreed to meet regularly to discuss sharing resources and training. The next meeting is scheduled for April 21.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Emergency Management Team will meet next week.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT - None

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Borough Park Gatherings

Vikki Trost reported that the Borough Park Concert group has asked if concerts can resume in Borough Park this year. If they are permitted, they have asked if the Borough will impose any restrictions beyond the county and state guidelines. Borough Council recommended that the group follow the Montgomery County Health Department recommendations for gatherings. It was noted that there is no parking on private property or on the grass.

Mr. Elsing noted that there were several requests last year to have weddings and that we should dust off the rules for the use of Borough Park including parking, right of way, respecting private property, no restroom facilities and removing trash when people leave. It is a public park and it cannot be closed for private events. The list will be delivered to people asking to use the park.

Fetters Mill Bridge Rehabilitation Project

The County would like to acquire additional 600+ square feet of ROW for utility lines. We will receive an offer from the County in the next month or two. Mr. Gurney asked if the Borough Engineer should stake out the property that the County is requesting. Mr. Schauder noted that the County should pay for the survey/staking.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Bryn Athyn and Huntingdon Valley (Lower Moreland) Fire Companies

Chairman Jeff Elsing reported that there is more to come over the course of the next few months on the two fire companies meeting with Lower Moreland, which will be reported on monthly.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Alden Road Improvements

Aurette Genzlinger reported that a letter was sent to residents and noted that an Alden Road resident's email to Council recently pointed out that a response date error was on the survey, but that more than half of residents responded. Nick Rose, Borough Engineer, presented a rough estimate for the recommended replacement of the concrete gutter (\$400,000) and milling/paving of the bituminous section of the road (\$50,000), as well as improving existing driveways and pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Huntingdon Pike. The estimate was a little over \$500,000. No engineering was included in the estimate, and Nick Rose indicated that since the project is surface work, the engineering will not be a huge amount.

Mr. Pennink noted that the road will be new but the same with driveway improvements. Mr. Pennink also noted that the road was designed in the current configuration with gutters and crown. The Committee did its due diligence and this plan is the recommendation.

Mr. Hyatt noted that the Finance Committee will meet in April and will review the project estimate. The Committee will review fund reserves and borrowing capacity.

Mr. Elsing stated that the project is still a work in progress at this time with a direction. Mr. Herder recommended that specifications be prepared for the bidding process.

The meeting was opened to comments from Alden Road residents.

Daric Smith identified himself as the Alden Road resident who authored the email that Council received about the incorrect survey response date. Mr. Smith questioned the lack of an option offered for a complete rebuild of the road without paths but with a flattened roadway, engineered to modern specifications for a normal road. Mrs. Genzlinger noted that the Committee offered the options that are feasible, noting that flattening the road would reduce the width. Nick Rose stated that the road cannot be flattened as Mr. Smith suggested without curbing which would then prevent parking along the road. Without curbing, there would be a huge erosion problem at the end of the road. Low profile curb would not be able to handle the water flow. Mr. Asplundh noted that the majority of responses desired to keep the road as-is.

Christina Orthwein thought the options offered were not ideal and asked about paths. Mrs. Genzlinger reported that the first survey results indicated that there was an even split of residents who did and did not think a path necessary. Mrs. Orthwein prefers having a path on Alden Road, not just for residents but for the community.

Kay Alden commented that she would like a path, but she was attending the meeting just to listen.

Jane Bostock expressed concern about the sidewalk at the top of Alden Road where the sidewalk on Huntingdon Pike ends. Nick Rose responded that the plan includes improvements to that area. Mrs. Bostock asked about the driveway entrances and eliminating bottoming-out. Mr. Rose responded that that driveway access improvements was also included in the committee's recommendation.

Sig Soneson asked if it is possible to decrease how wide the concrete is and increase the asphalt. Mr. Pennink noted that it is possible and is part of the engineering of the plan.

Robert Genzlinger asked about a quick survey for others who don't live on Alden Road to comment on the sidewalk. Mr. Elsing noted that another survey can be considered and that real estate is the limiting factor for sidewalks. There is a limited roadbed and ROW that the Borough can use and then we would have to cut into people's property. It is an option that Council can reconsider.

Mr. Pennink noted that Council did not plan to make a decision tonight but wanted to get cost information and residents' feedback on all of the needs and options. Council will review information and look to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Hyatt supports the recommendations of the Committee and the feedback from residents, but suggested that at some point Borough Council will vote to affirm the direction of the project. Mrs. Genzlinger agreed with Mr. Hyatt that Council needs to set the direction.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman Duane Hyatt noted that as Vikki Trost reported there is no account over 60 days on the sewer payables aging report. Mr. Hyatt noted that it was nice to see that the usual delinquent accounts have paid their bills which is only fair to the residents who do pay their bills every quarter.

LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE - None

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - None

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT - None

ZONING OFFICER

Vikki Trost reported that there were four (4) Zoning Permit applications approved in March. Thirteen (13) Building Permits were issued. Two (2) Grading Permits were issued.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Chairman Glenn Gurney reported that first quarter sewer bills went out and Reid Heinrichs received several inquiries despite the letter explaining the changes. In many cases the customer's water bill actually increased last year.

EEMA has submitted the Annual Chapter 94 Report to the PA DEP.

The wastewater treatment plant annual inspection by PA DEP went very well. There were no suggested changes or violations.

Mr. Gurney reported that the Sewer Committee plans to meet in late April or early May to perform a quarterly review.

BOROUGH ENGINEER - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Lach Brown stated that the Fire Company has offered to purchase the 2013 Police Interceptor and would like to know what the status of the offer is. Mr. Hyatt responded that the Finance Committee has been discussing the disposition of the vehicle via email. The vehicle was offered to the Fire Company for \$10,000 and the Committee is not yet ready to make a recommendation to Council.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - None

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 3, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary