



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

COUNCIL CHAMBER
February 3, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Elsing at 7:00p.m. The following were present:

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Glenn Gurney
Duane D. Hyatt
Jeffrey Elsing

Brent McCurdy
Mark Pennink

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Bradley E. Cranch, Stephen Gray, Derek Zecher, Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder, Russ Cooper. Councilman Ric Asplundh and Councilwoman Aurelle Genzlinger were excused.

MINUTES

On a motion by Brent McCurdy, seconded by Mark Pennink, Council voted unanimous approval of the January minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund Revenue for January was \$50,211.42. General Fund Expenses were \$170,487.85. Net Income was -\$120,276.43.

Sewer Fund Revenue for January was \$242.76. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$23,465.74. Net Income was -\$23,222.98.

Today PLGIT paid 1.48%. PLGIT I-Class paid 1.62%.

The second page of this report shows the cash balances to date. Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	15,856.45	in Prior Year Real Estate Tax receipts
\$	1,202.67	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	4,909.80	in Transfer Tax receipts
\$	1.37	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$	2,161.13	in Fines
\$	60.00	in Police Report receipts
\$	1,000.00	in Contributions to the Police Department
\$	25,000.00	in Donations to Shade Trees
\$	20.00	in Fireworks Donations

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$	84.76	in Finance charge assessments
\$	158.00	in Lower Moreland Usage Fees

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported that 2020 Borough Real Estate Tax Bills were mailed on February 1. Mr. Cranch noted that there is an incorrect “Revised” heading on the bills.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND BILLS

21 st Century Media	\$1,673.60
A & T Auto and Truck Repair	157.69
Aqua Pennsylvania	18.00
Aqua Pennsylvania – Fire Hydrants	2,715.30
Bradley E. Cranch, Tax Collector	167.25
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	321.47
Building Inspection Underwriters Inc.	3,276.00
Chuck’s Service Center Inc.	620.67
Davidheiser’s Inc.	116.00
DeLage Landen – Police Copier	172.00
DeLage Landen – Borough Office Copier	136.95
Eastburn & Gray PC	1,507.50
FastSigns of Willow Grove	225.00
Graphic Designs International Inc.	241.91
Hei-Way LLC	450.00
Home Depot	45.77
Keystone Health Plan East	9,743.60

Montgomery County Borough's Association	100.00
NAPA Auto Parts	19.99
PA Association of Municipal Administrators	150.00
Peco Energy – Street Lights	982.18
Peco Energy – Traffic Signals	96.79
Petty Cash – Rx	283.62
Petty Cash – Steve Gray	388.63
Shapiro Fire Protection Co.	26.85
Shechtman Tree Care LLC	17,620.00
Staples	179.35
Stephen Gray	150.00
TGI Office Automation	10.00
The Vanguard Group	1,035.39
US Municipal Supply Inc.	64.04
USA Payroll	115.53
Verizon Wireless – Police	192.44
Victoria Trost	100.00
Wawa – Wright Express	1,414.37
TOTAL	<u>\$44,517.89</u>

SEWER FUND BILLS

Aqua PA	\$257.60
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	172.82
DeLage Landen	112.05
Deckman Electric Inc.	140.00
Eastburn & Gray PC	30.00
Franc Environmental Inc.	1,550.00
Home Depot	454.01
Keystone Health Plan East	977.81
MJ Reider Associates Inc.	746.00
Mac Medical Gases Inc.	3.50
McGovern Environmental LLC	360.00
McMaster-Carr Supply Co.	85.41
Peco Energy – Sycamore Pump Station	168.04
Petty Cash – Reid Heinrichs	200.00
Scott's Emergency Lighting & Power	596.93
UMHJSA	5,440.94
USA Blue Book	2,002.34
USA Payroll	76.07
Verizon – Feters Mill Pump Station	39.01
Verizon – Sycamore Pump Station	35.40
Verizon Wireless	55.32
Wawa – Wright Express	315.34
TOTAL	<u>\$13,818.59</u>

POLICE PENSION BILLS

Duda Actuarial Consulting Inc. \$975.00

FEBRUARY BMO MASTERCARD BILLS

Sewer Fund

PayPal	\$4.83
Amazon.com	39.99
<u>Amazon.com</u>	<u>42.83</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$87.65</u>

General Fund

Adobe.com	\$9.99
Amazon.com	20.80
Amazon.com	30.40
Amazon.com	134.16
<u>Amazon.com</u>	<u>16.80</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$460.21</u>

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 - None

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Police Chief Stephen Gray reported the following activity for January:

Alarms	12
Animal Complaints	04
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	08
Assist Other Police Agencies	41
Assist Citizens / Public Service Calls	04
Miscellaneous Complaints	77
Special Traffic Details	22
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	07
Traffic Citations	42
Vehicle Accidents	06
Vehicle Investigations / Warnings Issued	78

On Saturday January 4th at 5:33pm, police responded to the 2500 block of Woodland Road to investigate a report of a Domestic Disturbance. Upon arrival, police learned that the dispute was verbal only. One of the parties involved was in the process of moving out and wished for police to remain on location while she gathered her items. The female gathered her items and left the home without further incident.

On Tuesday January 7th at 8:20pm, police stopped a vehicle in the area of 1800 Byberry Road to investigate an expired vehicle registration. Further investigation revealed that the 48-year-old male resident of Levittown, was driving under the influence of alcohol. The driver was given field tests, which he failed. A blood test revealed that the driver's BAC (blood alcohol content) was 0.25%.

On Sunday January 12th at 9:42am, police responded to a investigate a report of a house fire in the 2600 block of Alden Road. Upon arrival, police found a heavy smoke condition inside of the home. Further investigation revealed that the smoke was caused by a pot that was left on the stove. The Bryn Athyn Fire Company was able to ventilate the house. No injuries were reported in this incident.

On Sunday January 19th at 8:52pm, police stopped a vehicle in the area of 1800 Byberry Road to investigate a suspended vehicle registration. Upon investigation, police detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside of the vehicle. A search of the vehicle resulted in finding marijuana and drug paraphernalia. The driver was charged with possession of drugs, drug paraphernalia, driving with a suspended vehicle registration and driving with an expired driver's license.

On Monday January 20th at 1:20am, police stopped a vehicle at Huntingdon Pike and Welsh Road that was traveling 60mph in a 35mph zone while it was driving through the Borough. Upon investigation, police observed a two-year-old child laying across the back seat with only an adult seatbelt around him. The driver, a 34-year-old resident of Philadelphia appeared to be under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance. A blood test of the driver resulted in a BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) of .10% The driver was charged with DUI, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, suspended vehicle registration, speeding, duty of driver on approach of an emergency vehicle and passenger restraint systems.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Derek Zecher reported 22 Fire Calls in January, 2 in Bryn Athyn; 135 EMS Calls, 10 in Bryn Athyn; and 100 Hospital Transports, 7 in Bryn Athyn.

Chief Zecher reported that BA Fire Company is now dispatched for every Lower Moreland Fire Call.

Chief Zecher noted that a Paramedic Supervisor has been hired for administration, who will also staff a second ambulance crew with Kurt Wille.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Schauder reported that the team met in January and set up 2020 goals. The team will meet in March to plan re-routing the July 4th parade.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Ken Schauder reported that he was reappointed to the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust (PERT) Board to represent the Borough of Bryn Athyn. Mr. Schauder noted that PERT has new volunteers who are creating a new marketing program for the Trust.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Ordinance #689 Water Shut-Off

Solicitor Rex Herder noted that at the January meeting of Council, Bill Buick asked a question about shutting off water to residents during the public comment period of the public hearing on Ordinance #689 which now permits Borough Council to shut-off a resident’s water for delinquent sewer usage bills. Mr. Herder sent an email to Mr. Buick clarifying his response regarding Borough liability in the event of a fire if the water was shutoff for non-payment of sewer bills. Mr. Herder stated that per the Municipal Tort Claims Act, the Borough would be protected from liability as a result of Sovereign Immunity granted to municipalities.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT - None

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

2015 Dump Truck Accident

Chairman Mark Pennink reported that the Borough’s 2015 Ford Dump Truck was involved in an accident while salting Borough roads on January 18.

2020 Paving with Lower Moreland

Mr. Pennink has been working on this year’s paving work estimates with Lower Moreland Township. Public Works would like to pave five (5) roads this year – Alden Road, Woodland Road, Cathedral Road, Quarry Road and Feters Mill Road. The estimate for these roads is \$190,000. Mr. Pennink may use some reserve funds to install

some curbing along Tomlinson Road. Nick Rose is working on the curbing plan. Mr. Pennink lamented that it is very difficult to estimate the cost of road paving.

Alden Road Improvements

Chairman Pennink reported that the meeting of Alden Road property owners is scheduled for Monday, February 17, 2020 at 7:00pm. He plans to show the property owners what the ultimate right-of-way is along Alden Road. Vikki Trost will send minutes of the meeting to the property owners. Mr. Pennink noted that Bennet Dunlap did a survey of property owners, however the Borough needs to get our own numbers. Mr. Pennink offered to visit with property owners who cannot attend the meeting on February 17.

Mayor Schauder asked if Lower Moreland needs to buy into the project. Mr. Pennink stated that this meeting is being held to get information from the property owners and give them ideas about improvements.

Mark Pennink and Aurelle Genzlinger will represent Borough Council at the meeting. Since Brent McCurdy is a property owner who will attend, no other Council member may attend according to Solicitor Herder. Mr. Pennink reiterated that the purpose is to exchange information and that no decisions will be made at the meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Police Pension Plan

Chairman Duane Hyatt reported that the Finance Committee met in January with the police pension actuary, Joe Duda. Mr. Duda explained that an actuarial valuation is prepared for the plan, per Act 600, every two years on the odd year. Mr. Duda brought good news that the plan is now slightly overfunded by \$144,000 and that there are currently \$2.6 million in assets. A few years ago, the plan was labelled “distressed” by the PA Public Employees Retirement Commission. Mr. Hyatt noted that the Finance Committee budgeted additional funds for the pension over the past few years to overcome the distressed designation. Mr. McCurdy asked if the pension could be invested in a 401(k). Mr. Herder stated no, that PA Act 600 would not permit 401(k) plans.

Mr. Hyatt explained that the plan uses certain actuarial assumptions involving interest rates, future payments and liabilities. Mr. Duda recommended to the Committee that we lower the interest rate from 7% to 6% which would increase the Borough liability and require additional funds (which we are already doing). The increased liability would also bring additional state funding to the plan. The Finance Committee accepted Mr. Duda’s recommendations.

Health Insurance

Mr. Hyatt reported that during the 2020 Budget process, the committee solicited a proposal from Delaware Valley Investment Trust (DVIT) for employee health insurance

comparison. The DVIT plan was very comparable to the current Keystone plan in coverage and cost, however, the Finance Committee plans to investigate further. There is no proposal to change coverage at this time. Any change would have to be approved by the police officers according to the Police Contract.

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 no Zoning Permit applications approved in January. One (1) Building Permit was issued. No Grading Permits were issued.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Chairman Glenn Gurney reported that the back-up blower is being built.

Reid Heinrichs is working on the outside water meter discount spreadsheet. Mr. Heinrichs will have the first quarter 2020 sewer bills spreadsheet completed next week.

Quotations are being solicited for replacement of two elbow connections for the 10hp pumps at the Fetters Mill Pump Station. They are worn out and loose, effectively rendering the two pumps useless. The Godwin diesel pump is being utilized in the interim.

Mr. Gurney reported that the Sewer Committee will meet after February 17.

BOROUGH ENGINEER - None

OLD BUSINESS

Mark Pennink asked if the Municipal Building Committee has met regarding the inadequate storm drains at the Borough garage, which are 24" pipes feeding into 12"

pipes. Vikki Trost will set up the Municipal Building Committee meeting. Mark Pennink will be invited to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS - None

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Resident Janice Roscoe pointed out that when the new 30mph signs were installed on Huntingdon Pike, the "Reduced Speed Ahead" sign was removed. Mark Pennink will call Steve Woerner at Lower Moreland to have the signs reinstalled. Mr. Pennink reiterated that Borough Public Works employees may not perform work on Huntingdon Pike with is a state highway.

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary