



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

COUNCIL CHAMBER
February 4, 2019

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

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Glenn Gurney
Ric Asplundh
Jeffrey Elsing

Brent McCurdy
Mark Pennink
Duane D. Hyatt

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Bradley E. Cranch, Stephen Gray, Reid Heinrichs, Derek Zecher, R. Scott Cooper, Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder. Councilwoman Aurelle Genzlinger was excused.

MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Vikki Trost reported General Fund Revenue for January was \$30,889.68. General Fund Expenses were \$173,658.87. Net Income was

-\$142,769.19.

Sewer Fund Revenue for January was \$271.74. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$25,585.88. Net Income was -\$25,314.14.

Today PLGIT paid 2.21%. PLGIT I-Class paid 2.37%.

Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	17,051.06	in 2018 Real Estate Tax receipts
\$	7,118.37	in Earned income Tax receipts
\$	416.46	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$	239.97	in Interest Income
\$	3,187.00	in Building Permit receipts
\$	15.00	in Police Report receipts
\$	487.50	in Zoning Hearing Board fees
\$	1,516.32	in Insurance Dividends
\$	840.00	in Road Opening Permit receipts

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$	155.00	in Lower Moreland Usage fees
\$	66.73	in Finance charge assessments
\$	25.00	in Sewer Certification fees
\$	25.01	in Interest Income

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported that 2019 tax bills were mailed on Friday, February 1, 2019.

BILLS

On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Mark Pennink, Council unanimously voted to authorize payment of the bills as shown on the attached list, as well as Gurney Kerr invoice #6524 in the amount of 7,259.63 for the Sewer Equalization Tank Project, which is made a part of these minutes..

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Fetters Mill Bridge Rehabilitation Project – PA DOT Permits

President Jeff Elsing asked Solicitor Rex Herder to report on the PA DOT Permits. Mr. Herder was contacted by Montgomery County Department of Roads and Bridges and the engineering firm, Arora Engineers, Inc., regarding necessary paperwork for the Fetters Mill Bridge Rehabilitation project. PA DOT is requesting utility clearances for the bridge project. A very large crane will be used to remove the steel truss section of the bridge and there is concern for the underground utilities in the area due to the weight of the crane. The sanitary sewer pipe to the Borough's pump station on the Connelly's property is twelve feet underground and should not be impacted. It was also agreed that the stormwater lines should not be impacted. Information on the exact crane model is not yet available. The crane will either be brought to the area on a truck or will be delivered in pieces and assembled onsite. The crane will be set up in Lower Moreland Township where the creek passes under the bridge. The contractor may use steel decking or timber matting under the crane to spread the load. The truss structure will be taken to the Connelly's parking lot. The project is expected to begin in June. Fetters Mill Road will be closed. Mr. Herder has completed the required forms and will sign off on behalf of the Borough.

On a motion by Ric Asplundh, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council voted unanimously in favor to authorize the Solicitor to execute, on behalf of the Borough, all necessary PA DOT documentation in connection with the Fetters Mill Road Bridge project.

Mr. Herder noted that the Pennypack Trail will be diverted around the construction project through Connelly's parking lot for the duration of the project.

Mr. Gurney asked if there would be a post construction inspection of the underground pipes. Mr. Herder noted that the contractor is responsible for any damage to the utility lines. It was decided that video inspection of the underground pipes is cost prohibitive. The pressure from the crane is described as the weight of a fully loaded dump truck.

MAYOR'S REPORT - None

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Steven Gray reported that two new Your Speed Is signs have been installed on Buck Road. The sign on the southbound side of Buck Road will be relocated slightly to avoid being hit by larger vehicles.

Chief Gray reported the following activity for January:

Citations Issued: Traffic: 89 Non-Traffic: 00	89
Alarms	12
Animal complaints	00
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	07
Assist other Police Agencies	33
Assist Citizens / Public Service calls	02
Miscellaneous Complaints	102
Special Traffic Details	19
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	12
Vehicle Accidents	05
Vehicle Investigations / Warnings Issued	173

On Sunday January 6th at 8:40pm, police responded to the 800 block of Fetters Mill Road to assist Bryn Athyn Ambulance with an unresponsive 30-year-old female resident of Bryn Athyn who had overdosed on heroin. Bryn Athyn Ambulance personnel administered Narcan, which assisted in reviving the patient.

On Sunday January 13th at 3:26am, police conducted a vehicle stop in the 3000 block of Huntingdon Pike. Further investigation led to the driver, a 28-year-old female resident of Philadelphia, being charged with using a counterfeit vehicle insurance card, which is a misdemeanor in the first degree for "altered, forged or counterfeit documents" and carries a sentence of 2.5 to 5 years imprisonment if convicted.

On Monday January 14th at 12:07 am, police conducted a vehicle stop in the 3000 block of Huntingdon Pike which resulted in a DUI arrest of a 24-year-old male resident of Horsham, PA.

On Monday January 14th at 8:33am, police investigated a hit and run vehicle accident in the 1800 block of Byberry Road. Video of the accident obtained by the Masons Mill Business Park cameras was instrumental in identifying the striking vehicle, which resulted in charges being filed against the offender, a 30-year-old male resident of Pennsauken, New Jersey.

On Wednesday January 23rd at 11:37pm, Bryn Athyn Police observed a vehicle swerving and driving recklessly on Terwood Road in the area of Papermill Road in Lower Moreland Township. At the request of Lower Moreland Police, the Bryn Athyn Officer stopped the vehicle. Lower Moreland Police arrived and after conducting field sobriety tests, the 22-year-old female resident of Rydal, PA was arrested for DUI.

On Saturday January 26th at 2:52am, police conducted a vehicle stop in the 3000 block of Huntingdon Pike which resulted in the vehicle being towed due to a suspended vehicle registration and also due to the driver using a counterfeit vehicle insurance card. The driver, a 28-year-old male resident of Philadelphia, has been charged with a

misdemeanor in the first degree for “altered, forged or counterfeit documents”, which carries a sentence of 2.5 to 5 years imprisonment if convicted.

On Tuesday January 29th at 12:23am, police conducted a vehicle stop in the 3000 block of Huntingdon Pike, which resulted in the vehicle being towed and the arrest of a 30-year-old male resident of Philadelphia for drug possession.

On Wednesday January 30th at 1:45pm, police conducted a vehicle stop in the 1800 block of Byberry Road, which resulted in the vehicle being towed and the arrest of a 19-year-old male resident of Philadelphia for drug possession.

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT

Chief Derek Zecher reported 17 Fire Calls in January, 2 in Bryn Athyn.

The BAFC assisted Upper Southampton in a structure fire on January 11; responded to a fatal vehicle accident on Philmont Avenue on January 26; and assisted Rockledge with a porch fire on January 31.

Chief Zecher reported that 299 Fire Dispatches in 2018 was a new record. 56 of those dispatches were to Bryn Athyn and 219 dispatches were to Lower Moreland. The Chief also noted a significant increase in the number of water rescues in 2018, most of them in Lower Moreland on Philmont Avenue and several on Masons Mill Road in the Borough.

In 2018 there were 1,435 EMS Calls which is an 11% increase over 2017. There was a 14% increase in patients transported to the hospital, a total of 964.

Chief Zecher noted that the scratch rate has also increased. This occurs when 2-3 calls come in at once. Bryn Athyn Ambulance had full coverage all year with the County. Mayor Schauder added that Bryn Athyn covers twice as many calls for other areas than others do for Bryn Athyn.

Chief Zecher outlined his top goal for 2018:

Move toward merger with Huntingdon Valley Fire Company – both companies are currently working on standardizing equipment and procedures, as well as training together on Monday nights. The PA DCED recommendation report on merging companies is due very soon. Both companies are looking at all aspects, not sure what the end result will look like. One thing is clear – HVFC building needs to be replaced.

Mayor Schauder asked Borough Council what concerns they have regarding the merger. Councilman McCurdy noted the potential for more equipment and

personnel at a lower cost to both municipalities. Borough Council expressed no opposition to moving forward with the merger studies.

Chief Zecher noted that he learned from a recently merged fire company in Limerick Township that the most difficult part of the merger was re-branding the new fire company.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT - None

SOLICITOR’S REPORT - None

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT

MuniciBid Auction

Vikki Trost reported that 37 bids were received on the 2014 Ford Explorer which was posted on the MuniciBid auction website ending on January 25. The high bid was \$6,600. The bidder took possession of the vehicle on February 1.

The SnowEx Tailgate Spreader received 11 bids and was sold for \$850.00.

PLGIT Procurement Card

Reid Heinrichs has requested an increase in the Sewer Department’s credit limit from \$2,000 to \$4,000. This will be referred to the Finance Committee.

Aqua PA Infrastructure Improvement

Aqua PA has notified the Borough that they will replace the existing water main on Feters Mill Road between Alden Road and Hallowell Drive, as well as Hallowell Drive between Feters Mill Road and Walton Road.

The new main will increase service reliability, reduce the potential for discolored water and improve firefighting capabilities in the area.

Councilman Mark Pennink requested that Vikki Trost contact Chris Hoffman at Lower Moreland Township to find out how to obtain funds from Aqua PA to repair the road when they cut open Feters Mill Road for the water main replacement project.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Chairman Mark Pennink reported several minor snow and ice events during January.

Mr. Pennink reported that Borough Engineer Nick Rose will be starting the report on Alden Road.

Another smaller geyser has appeared on Alden Road. Mr. Pennink reported that the drain is clogged again. Mr. Pennink will investigate a possible connection with an Alden Road resident who has been pumping an unusual amount of water from her basement and a significant increase of infiltration at the Fetters Mill Pump Station over the past month. Mr. Pennink noted that the water table is likely very high as a result of the significant amount of precipitation since last year and that there are several underground springs in that area. The drain water has been tested for chlorine to eliminate a water main break as the problem. Mr. Pennink added that there is more ice than usual in the gutters on Alden Road.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman Duane Hyatt reported that the committee did not meet in January. Mr. Hyatt asked about the payments from Portnoff which are not yet shown on the receivables report. The payments will be credited on the next report.

LAND USE/ 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. Four (4) Building Permits were issued. No Grading Permits were issued.

The Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Tuesday, February 26, to consider the application for a special exception for a two-family dwelling at 2744 Alnwick Road.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

2800 Quarry Road

Reid Heinrichs reported that he continues to send monthly updates on 2800 Quarry Road to John Veneziale at PA DEP.

STP Equalization Project

The project is nearly complete. Final grading and seeding will occur when the weather permits.

Digester Tank Project

The digester tank project is 70% complete

Fetters Mill Pump Station

Both pumps at the pump station need to be replaced.

Sewage Treatment Plant Operations

The plant continues to run well despite a few setbacks due to the extremely cold weather.

Councilman Mark Pennink expressed appreciation to Mr. Gurney and Mr. Heinrichs for their efforts on the Equalization Tank Project.

BOROUGH ENGINEER

In the absence of the Borough Engineer, President Jeff Elsing reported that Mr. Rose is working on as-built plans for the Sycamore Road Pump Station and the new tanks at the Sewage Treatment Plant, along with the Alden Road construction options.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - None

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 11, 2019 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary