



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

***COUNCIL CHAMBER***

July 10, 2017

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

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Glenn Gurney  
Mark Pennink  
Duane D. Hyatt

Brent McCurdy  
Jeffrey Elsing

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Bradley E. Cranch, Glenn A. Coffin, Steve Gray, Reid Heinrichs, Derek Zecher, R. Scott Cooper, Mayor Ken Schauder. Solicitor R. Rex Herder and Councilmembers Aurelle Genzlinger and Ric Asplundh were excused.

**SPECIAL ANNOUCEMENTS**

President Jeffrey Elsing announced that Chief Glenn Coffin would retire from the Bryn Athyn Police Department on July 28, 2017 after nearly 29 years of service. Mr. Elsing recommended that Sergeant Steve Gray be appointed Acting Chief on July 28, 2017.

***On a motion by Mark Pennink, seconded by Duane Hyatt, Council voted unanimously in favor to appoint Sergeant Stephen Gray as Acting Chief effective July 28, 2107.***

Mr. Elsing then explained the process for the hiring of a new chief through the Civil Service Commission. There are currently two vacancies on the Civil Service Commission which needs to be filled as soon as possible to begin the process.

**SWEAR-IN NEW PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER**

President Elsing introduced David T. O’Neill who was appointed to the position of Part-Time Police Officer at the May 1, 2017 Council meeting. Mayor Ken Schauder administered the Oath of Office and Council welcomed Officer David O’Neill.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Elsing reported that the June Minutes reflect a notation on page 3 referring to a tie-vote for a resolution concerning gerrymandering, where Mayor Ken Schauder broke a tie on the resolution at the June meeting. The Solicitor later informed Council that the Pennsylvania Home Rule Charter Law says “the mayor may attend meetings of council and may take part in discussions of council, *but shall have no vote except in the case of a tie on the question of filling a vacancy in the council, in which case he may cast the deciding vote.*” (52 Pa.C.S. § 3102(b).) Therefore, the tie vote on the resolution caused the motion to fail.

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

On the subject of Gerrymandering, Council agreed to consider the proposed Gerrymandering Resolution at their September meeting.

*On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council voted unanimously in favor to reconsider the proposed Gerrymandering Resolution at the September 11, 2017 meeting.*

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Treasurer Vikki Trost reported General Fund Revenue for June was \$89,495.67. General Fund Expenses were \$71,939.74. Net Income was \$17,555.93.

Sewer Fund Revenue for June was \$1,187.42. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$20,023.38. Net Income was -\$18,835.96.

Today PLGIT paid .72%. PLGIT I-Class paid .88%.

Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	74,155.29	in Real Estate Tax receipts
\$	3,224.20	in Transfer Tax receipts

\$	264.50	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$	5,611.76	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	638.10	in Interest income
\$	75.00	in Police Report receipts
\$	200.00	in Planning Application Fees
\$	175.00	in Zoning Permits receipts
\$	-487.50	in Zoning Hearing Board <b>refunds</b>
\$	1,000.00	in Grading Permit receipts
\$	1,269.32	in Fines
\$	3,346.00	in Building Permit receipts

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$	446.26	in Finance Charge receipts
\$	690.30	in Late Fee receipts
\$	50.00	in Sewer Certification receipts
\$	.86	in Interest income

**TAX COLLECTOR**

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported \$7,557.32 in Real Estate Taxes collected in June; \$\$37,792.28 remains uncollected.

**BILLS**

Treasurer Vikki Trost distributed a separate listing of the PLGIT P-Card credit card charges for January through June 2017, explaining that the 2016 credit card charges were included on the monthly unpaid bills list. The separate listing was recommended by our consultant and will clearly show the charges each month.

Mr. Pennink asked if the Borough has an Amazon Prime Account. Vikki Trost and Reid Heinrichs use their personal accounts and Council agreed that an Amazon account should be created for Borough use.

Mr. Elsing asked Vikki Trost to pursue the collection of the single seriously delinquent sewer usage account.

*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**

Gerrymandering Discussion

President Jeff Elsing continued the discussion of the gerrymandering issue since there were members of the audience interested in the subject. Lisa H. Cooper answered some questions concerning redistricting and the proposed eleven member citizen commission to replace the current Legislative Reapportionment Commission which is made up of two Democrat political representatives, two Republican political representatives and one member selected by both parties. Council agreed previously to continue to review the information available on this subject and reconsider the failed resolution at the September meeting.

**MAYOR’S REPORT - None**

**POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT**

Sergeant Steve Gray reported the following activity for June:

Citations Issued	Traffic 45, Non Traffic 0	45
Alarms		23
Assist to Bryn Athyn Fire/Ambulance		8
Assist other Police Agencies		33
Assist Citizens		12
Complaints concerning Animals		4
Reports of Suspicious Circumstances		11
Special Traffic Details		14
Miscellaneous Complaints		126
Vehicles checked for Ownership or warned for Motor Violations		76
Vehicle Accidents		3

On June 5<sup>th</sup> after a traffic stop at Huntingdon Pike & Alden Road police escorted a 33-year-old NY man to District Court who had a traffic warrant issued for him.

On June 4<sup>th</sup> police responded to the 2700 block of South Avenue for a domestic situation not in progress.

On June 5<sup>th</sup> police investigated a suspicious vehicle observed in the 2800 block of Paper Mill Road.

On June 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:43 PM police investigated suspicious persons at Masons Mill Road and Pennypack Road.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> after being observed in a vehicle at Masons Mill & Byberry Road, police took custody of a 35-year-old Hatboro man who had a warrant for failure to appear on drug charges.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> police investigated a report of a trespasser, no longer on scene, in the 3100 block of Buck Road.

On June 18<sup>th</sup> police assisted LMPD with a report of missing road closed signs from the Fetters Mill Road Bridge.

On June 23<sup>rd</sup> police took a report of a dog bite in the 3100 block of Paper Mill Road.

On June 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:10 PM police received a report of a suspicious person at 940 Fetters Mill Road.

On June 27<sup>th</sup> police investigated a road rage incident between two motorists at Huntingdon Pike & Alnwick Road. Incident was resolved.

On June 29<sup>th</sup> police received a report of a missing child from the 3000 block of Buck Road. The eleven year old returned home approximately 45 minutes later.

On June 29<sup>th</sup> police received a report of a disturbance/simple assault at the Bryn Athyn Thrift Shop. Investigation revealed that this was a domestic situation between two Philadelphia residents. No charges will be filed.

Police responded to three domestic disturbances in the Borough in June.

## **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Derek Zecher reported 24 Fire Calls in June, 12 in Bryn Athyn; 97 EMS Calls in June.

The Department responded to multiple calls of trees and wires down following sever rainstorms, as well as assisting Willow Grove Fire Company with a house fire and Huntingdon Valley Fire Company with a basement fire. A problem with the Academy of the New Church alarm system resulted in a number of false alarms.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Scott Cooper reported no riots or other incidents at the Fireworks on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Committee discussed adding Weather-Related Infrastructure Damage to the Risk Assessment report to PEMA.

The Safety Committee annual renewal was submitted to the PA Department of Labor and Industry which should result in a discount of workers' compensation insurance premiums.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None**

## **BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

### Zoning Ordinance Update

Vikki Trost reported that the Bryn Athyn Planning Commission began their review of the draft Zoning Ordinance. The Ordinance will then be submitted to the Montgomery County Planning Commission for review.

### Building Permit Fee Waiver

Mrs. Trost stated that in order to waive fees for building permits issued to the Borough for work on municipal projects, Council must approve the fee waiver. A mechanical permit and electrical permit were required for the current blower replacement project at the sewage treatment plant. Vikki Trost will ask the Solicitor if Council can adopt a resolution to waive all building permit fees for municipal projects or if they must be waived individually.

*On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council voted unanimously in favor to waive the building permit fees for the Sewage Treatment Plant Blower Replacement project.*

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Chairman Jeff Elsing reported that the only incident at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks was a dog bite to a Bryn Athyn Police Officer. Luckily, the dog only bit the officer's shoe.

Mr. Elsing and Council thanked Councilman Brent McCurdy for running the Fireworks event for the past eight years.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Chairman Mark Pennink reported that the drainage project between the Brown and Feerrar properties on Woodland Road is near completion.

Mr. Pennink is waiting to hear from Lower Moreland as to the start date for this year's paving project.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE - None**

**LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE - None**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE - None**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

Councilman Brent McCurdy thanked the Police and Fire Departments for their efforts during the Fireworks event on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. McCurdy reported generous donations that will more than cover the costs this year. The Fireworks Committee asked for a \$20 donation per car entering the ANC parking lots, which was very successful. Mr. McCurdy offered to assist the new chairman with next year's fireworks. Mr. Hyatt thanked Mr. McCurdy for his 8 years of chairing the event. Mr. Elsing stated that he would not let the fireworks end. President Elsing and Mayor Schauder agreed to take the lead on the fireworks event for next year.

**PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

Bryn Athyn College Proposed Gravel Parking Lot

President Elsing invited Nick Rose, PE, representing the Bryn Athyn College, to present the proposed plan for a gravel parking lot on Campus Drive near the College Cottages.

Mr. Rose stated that the required American with Disabilities Act (ADA) parking spaces for this parking area will be located closer to the new college dormitories in the existing Childs Hall parking lot.

Nick Rose assured Council that all of Alternate Borough Engineer Tim Woodrow's comments, from the project review dated June 29, 2017 have been addressed.

Mr. Woodrow's comments:

- 1. The seepage bed is provided with a high-water overflow pipe. Invert elevations for the location where the pipe leaves the seepage bed, as well as the location of the pipe's discharge to daylight, should be provided.*
- 2. At the point at which the discharge pipe reaches daylight, some form of pipe protections should be provided. This could include a small head wall, flared end section or stone riprap. His concern is that over time this outfall will become clogged, lost in the landscape, and become ineffective.*
- 3. To the north side of the proposed parking area, a drainage swale is to be graded into the landscape. Mr. Woodrow suggested that this swale be protected by erosion control blanket, sodding, or other form of stabilization as soon as practical after construction.*
- 4. The Academy and the Borough should enter into a perpetual stormwater maintenance agreement for this seepage trench. The agreement will memorialize the fact that the trench exists, as well as the fact that the Academy has an obligation to assure the trench is functioning properly over time.*

Mr. Rose indicated that lighting for the parking lot is proposed, but will not affect any neighbors.

Mr. Pennink noted that the last gravel parking lot approved by Council has since been paved and asked if this lot will eventually be paved, and if so, is the stormwater runoff designed for a paved surface? Mr. Rose answered in the affirmative. Mr. Rose agreed that this parking lot will not adversely impact the adjacent Hoffman property. Mr. Rose indicated that instead of striping, bumper blocks will likely be installed to designate the parking spaces.

*On a motion by Brent McCurdy, seconded by Jeffrey Elsing, Council voted unanimously in favor to approve the Bryn Athyn College Parking Improvement Plan dated 6/7/17.*



**ZONING OFFICER**

Two Zoning Permit applications were filed in June; Seven Building Permits were issued. One Grading Permit was issued.

**SEWER ADMINISTRATOR**

Sewage Treatment Plan Update

Chairman Glenn Gurney reported that the new blowers have been installed at the sewage treatment plan and are very near completion, awaiting the installation of the control system.

Mr. Gurney reported that only one aeration tank is in use over the summer months.

The Sewer Committee is still waiting for engineering for the proposed holding tank project.

Sycamore Road Pump Station Odor Problem

Mr. Gurney reported that re-piping work at the Sycamore Road pump station failed to resolve the odor problem and that the order has been placed with Vapor Technologies for an air-scrubber unit. Delivery is expected within four to six weeks. The cost of the unit is \$8,450.00. Reid Heinrichs will replace the activated carbon filter at the pump station one last time while awaiting the scrubber unit. The Nashes have been reporting to the Borough office when the odor is strong.

**BOROUGH ENGINEER - None**

**OLD BUSINESS**

The Fetters Mill Bridge status: The County is doing a risk assessment on possible repairs to the bridge. There is no date for reopening the bridge.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Council reviewed a letter received today from the Montgomery County Commissioners with regard to a study for fire delivery services. Chief Zecher reported that the Bryn Athyn Fire Company will participate in the study, noting the result will likely be another

unfunded mandate and he believes that the Fire Chiefs in the county will oppose the recommendation.

**QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 7, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost  
Secretary