



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

COUNCIL CHAMBER
October 7, 2024

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

Brent McCurdy
Jeffrey Elsing

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder. Councilman Mark Pennink, Councilman Duane D. Hyatt and Councilman Steven Huntzinger were excused.

MINUTES

On a motion by Glenn Gurney, seconded by Ric Asplundh, Council voted unanimous approval of the September minutes.

TREASURER’S REPORT

General Fund Revenue for September was \$24,978.01. General Fund Expenses were \$97,590.23. Net Income was -\$72,612.22.

Sewer Fund Revenue for September was \$134.57. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$27,477.21. Net Income was -\$27,342.64.

Today PLGIT paid 4.78%. PLGIT Prime paid 5.05%.

Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	10,702.30	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	106.93	in Local Services Tax receipts

\$	75.00	in Zoning Permit receipts
\$	1,348.86	in Fines
\$	90.00	in Police Report receipts
\$	198.00	in Building Permit receipts
\$	140.00	in Road Opening Permit receipts
\$	5.00	in Fireworks Contributions
\$	12,302.92	in Volunteer Fire Relief Aid

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$	32.77	in Finance Charges
\$	101.80	in Late Fees

TAX COLLECTOR - None

GENERAL FUND BILLS

Academy of the New Church	\$1,465.63
Am-Trust North America	7,880.00
Aqua PA	3,246.88
Armour & Sons Electric, Inc.	260.00
Auto Spa Xpress	132.00
Brian Llewellyn Plumbing	73.92
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	52,084.46
Bryn Athyn Volunteer Fire Relief Association	12,302.92
Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc.	1,000.00
Davidheiser's Inc.	60.00
DeLage Landen	175.00
Eastburn & Gray PC	5,475.00
Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin	181.50
Independence Blue Cross	6,047.88
Kenneth J. Schauder Inc.	505.00
Lower Moreland Township	8,825.32
Peco Energy Company	246.67
ProTract Engineering	13,542.00
PSAB	90.00
T & G Industries	279.00
TGI Office Automation	327.46
The Vanguard Group	1,067.80
TruGreen Processing Center	1,022.08
Verizon Wireless	216.76
Victoria Trost	50.00
Wawa-Wright Express	922.57
Woodrow & Associates	461.97
TOTAL	\$117,941.82

SEWER FUND BILLS

Academy of the New Church	\$3,000.00
Bill’s Copier Service	300.00
Gannett Pennsylvania LOCALiQ	467.38
George Allen Wastewater Management	9,855.00
Home Depot	482.32
Independence Blue Cross	680.58
Keystone Engineering Group	2,927.50
MJ Reider Associates Inc.	603.90
Mac Medical Gases Inc.	34.00
Peco Energy	329.46
Verizon	90.22
<u>Verizon Wireless</u>	<u>82.56</u>
TOTAL	\$18,852.92

BMO MASTERCARD

General Fund

Adobe AcroPro	\$19.99
Google GSuite	136.80
Staples	244.90
Domenic Graziano	141.98
Sunoco	36.01
21 CM PA2 Newspapers	14.00
<u>Gannett Media Co.</u>	<u>14.99</u>
TOTAL	\$608.67

Sewer Fund

eBay.com	\$8.05
Amazon.com	146.59
<u>Google GSuite</u>	<u>7.20</u>
TOTAL	\$161.84

On a motion by Glenn Gurney, seconded by Brent McCurdy, Council unanimously voted to authorize payment of the bills as listed.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Civil Service Commission

President Jeff Elsing reported that the Civil Service Commission has started the process of hiring a new full-time police officer and is now accepting applications. Ivan Asplundh was appointed as Civil Service Commission Clerk, replacing Reed Asplundh. President Elsing reported that an offer was made to the only applicant on the previous Candidate List which was not accepted.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Chief Brigdon Odhner reported the following activity for September:

All Police Activities	1196
Alarms	7
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	7
Assist Other Police Agencies	22
Public Service Calls / Assist Citizens	8
Special Traffic Details	17
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	6
Traffic Citations	32
Vehicle Accidents	4
Animal Complaints.	1
Traffic Stops	49
Theft	2
Domestic	1

- Bryn Athyn police attended a touch a truck event at Philmont golf course, where the group autism cares attended, bringing about 200 autistic individuals, who enjoyed looking in the police cars and fire trucks.
- Corporal Hotchkiss attended an event called EDITS, where an organization will go over critical incident that they have experienced and they discuss ways things that went well or not so well, and how to improve in the future.
- Chief Odhner reported that a speed study was conducted on Tomlinson Road over nine days. 10,000 cars were recorded with average speeds of 26.2 mph and 26.4 mph.

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT

Fire Chief Ken Schauder reported 46 Fire Calls in September, 34 in Lower Moreland, 5 in Bryn Athyn and 9 in other municipalities; 183 EMS Calls in September, 101 in Lower Moreland, 7 in Bryn Athyn, 6 in Abington and 27 in other municipalities; 96 Patients were Transported, 65 in Lower Moreland, 3 in Bryn Athyn, 15 in Abington, 9 in Upper Moreland and 4 in other municipalities. Chief Schauder reported that the ambulance was unavailable in Bryn Athyn/Lower Moreland six times during the month.

CHIEF OF EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Chief Mark Showmaker reported the following activity for September:

Please find my activity for the month of September outlined and up to the date of this report. The presentation of my analysis for both organizations was conducted at each municipal monthly

meeting. In addition, I have been finalizing the details of the new Tower Fire truck and preparing for the delivery. The following will briefly cover my monthly activity

Weeks 1 and 2

- *I attended both the Bryn Athyn Borough Council meeting and Lower Moreland Township Commissioner meetings.*
- *Updated both Boards regarding the Fire Apparatus Purchase of a Pierce Mid Mount Tower Ladder.*
- *Updated Boards on the status of the name of the future organization*
- *Reviewed the monthly Bryn Athyn Fire Company Financial and response statistics.*
- *Reviewed the monthly Huntingdon Valley Fire Company financial and response statistics.*
- *Review and approve the Huntingdon Valley Fire Shift Program time sheets for the month*
- *Met with HVFC Officers about equipment orders*
- *Attended Fire Marshals meeting.*
- *Met with numerous municipal officials from both municipalities regarding findings and future plans to mitigate the issues identified.*
- *Attended a 911 memorial service at Bryn Athyn Fire*
- *Attended HVFC Members Picnic and recognition event*

Week 3 and 4

- *Responded to numerous fire emergencies*
- *Conducted numerous Inspections for L&I during building inspectors' absence*
- *Met with BAFC Chief and President for update and briefing*
- *Conducted fit testing for SCBA use*
- *Met with Bryn Athyn Reps and Manager as well as LM Manager to discuss funding strategies*
- *Met with both HVFC and BAFC in preparation for 2025 Budgets*
- *Review HVFC Shift Program time sheets second half of month*
- *Conducted Fire Station replacement research*
- *Met with Montco 911 regarding questions pertaining to future consolidation requirements*
- *Met with HVFC president to update our status*
- *Conducted Emergency Services meeting (Discussed Truck Lettering Layout)*
- *Responded to numerous emergency calls throughout month*
- *Career Staff Employment interviews BAFC*
- *Traveled to Pierce manufacturing (Glick Facility Lancaster PA to conduct final work progress on Tower Ladder*
- *Met with Office manager to prepare for possible migration of HVFC into the current ESO reporting software in attempts to get both organizations on to one reporting system.*
- *Meeting with LM School Board*

Fire Calls of Interest:

Emergency Response Data for the month as of the date of this report:

<i>BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in BA</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in LM</i>	<i>101</i>
<i>BAFC Emergency Medical Calls other</i>	<i>67</i>

<i>BAFC Monthly total EMS Calls</i>	<i>175</i>
<i>Year to date EMS Calls</i>	<i>1487</i>

<i>BAFC Fire Calls in BA</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>HVFC Fire Calls in LM</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>BAFC Fire Calls IN LM</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>HVFC Fire Calls in BA</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>BAFC Fire Calls Other</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>HVFC Fire Calls Other</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>BAFC Monthly Fire Calls</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>HVFC Monthly Fire Calls</i>	<i>45</i>
<i>Year to Date Fire Calls</i>	<i>322</i>	<i>Year to Date Fire Calls</i>	<i>339</i>

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

EM Coordinator Ken Schauder reported that the team will meet on Wednesday, October 9th.

MAYOR’S REPORT - None

SOLICITOR’S REPORT - None

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT

Sewer Generator Bids

Three bids were received today for the generator project. Bidders were AJM Electric, Eastern Environmental Contractors and GS Developers. The bid documents have been forwarded to the Solicitor and Keystone Engineering for review. GS Developers was the low bidder at \$162,700; AJM Electric bid \$178,000 and Eastern Environmental Contractors bid \$258,700.

2018 Ford Police Interceptor

The 2018 Ford has been posted on the MuniBid auction site. There are currently 3 bids; the high bid is \$3,000; the Bid Reserve is \$4,000. The auction will end on October 24.

2025 OPERATIONS LIST

The first draft of the 2025 Operations List has been distributed to members of Council. Letters have been sent to Aurelle Genzlinger (Zoning Hearing Board) and Jon Hoffman (Planning Commission) will expire on December 31.

2025 BUDGET

2025 Budget presentations will take place at the Finance Committee meeting on October 15. Department heads have been notified.

A thank you card was received from the Gunther family for the gift basket sent in memory of Brian Gunther.

Lower Moreland Township introduced the Fethers Mill Fire Rescue in the Township’s newsletter sent to their residents. This was posted on Facebook today by BAFC.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Future Fire Services

Chairman Jeff Elsing reported that he sent an email to members of Council outlining the progress and goals of the fire company consolidation with Lower Moreland Township. To better plan for the future of fire services in the Borough, the current committee members, Vikki Trost and Mr. Elsing agreed that we should create a “consolidation committee” to include members of Borough Council, along with Chief Ken Schauder and BAFC President Lach Brown, to address all that is involved in this project – i.e. Fire and EMS input, finance input, community input.

Mr. Elsing noted that the current budget request from BAFC for operations in 2025, including our share of the costs for Chief Showmaker, is \$225,000.

Fire Allocation = \$96,000

EMS Allocation = \$66,500

LMBA Emergency Services: Chief Showmaker expense = \$60,000 (25% split with LM)

The total cost for BAFC operations is \$1,646,000 (2023).

EMS Billings = \$550,000;

Relief Funding = \$15,000;

LM Contribution to BAFC = \$297,000.

The remaining shortfall (\$100,000 - \$200,000) is taken from the BAFC investment fund.

New Fethers Mill Fire Rescue (FMFR) costs required for 2025 is a 15% contribution to the purchase of a new ladder truck in the amount of \$43,186 and additional manpower costs of \$66,000, totaling \$109,186.

The proposed split for costs with Lower Moreland moving forward is:

75/25% split for all LMBA operations costs for Chief Mark Showmaker

85/15% split for all capital and operations costs associated with FMFR

The 85/15 split seems to align with all statistics and figure with a municipality the size of Lower Moreland compared with Bryn Athyn. Note - This is still up for discussion.

There is money is reserve for the \$43,186 fire truck contribution, the Borough has been planning and saving for a new truck. We have almost \$200,000 in Reserves. The Toyne Fire truck will not be replaced in 2027 as originally planned.

Mr. Elsing stated that Lower Moreland Township will move forward with Fethers Mill Fire Rescue. Bryn Athyn Fire and EMS intends to be part of Fethers Mill Fire Rescue.

Bryn Athyn Borough must provide fire and emergency services to residents and Council really needs to look at the future of fire services for the community.

Borough Council needs to plan and realize what is at stake. Chief Ken Schauder added that Bryn Athyn Fire Company wants to move forward working with Bryn Athyn Borough, Lower Moreland Township and Huntingdon Valley Fire Company.

Chairman Elsing noted that Bryn Athyn Fire Company is an independent organization and can quit the Borough and the Borough would have to find other fire services. It would not be easy to replace BAFC. Mr. Elsing would like to have others on Council offer other perspectives.

Since there are three members of Council missing tonight, the positions on the new consolidation committee will be filled after all members of Council have been given the opportunity to participate. Mr. McCurdy asked what the commitment would be for the new committee. Mr. Asplundh offered to participate on the new committee. Mr. McCurdy expressed interest but suggested that someone who was more available should fill the last position on the committee. Mr. McCurdy noted that this is an important decision that if wrong could cost the taxpayers a lot of money or put the community in an unsafe situation. Chief Schauder noted that he and President Lach Brown would never put the community in an unsafe situation.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mr. Elsing reported that the Tomlinson Road Sidewalk project is active on PennBid and bids are due on October 15. The Alden Road Improvement project should be posted on PennBid by October 18.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the September Finance Committee meeting were distributed to members of Council.

LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

Chairman Ric Asplundh reported that the field was mowed in early July and October.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE - None

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - None

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT - None

ZONING OFFICER

Vikki Trost reported that there was one (1) Zoning Permit application approved in September. Two (2) Building Permits were issued. No (0) Grading Permits were issued.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Chairman Glenn Gurney reported there will be additional costs relating to the generator project for a Peco natural gas line. Peco will not dig the trench for the gas line. Mr. Gurney has received a price of \$12,500 to dig the trench.

On a motion by Brent McCurdy, seconded by Jeffrey Elsing, Council voted unanimously in favor to approve the unbudgeted expenditure of \$12,500 to dig the trench required for the natural gas line to fuel the new sewage treatment plant generator.

Reid Heinrichs reported that the temporary Verizon internet connection will no longer be needed as the permanent internet service is now available. Bill Brown has not completed the review of the sewer usage billing formula. Septic tank pumping has caused a lot of odors. Mr. Gurney reported that a resident was complimentary to Reid Heinrichs.

BOROUGH ENGINEER

Nick Rose reported that the Alden Road bid specs will be ready in a few days.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

The Alnwick Grove Historical Society held a ceremony honoring member Bonnie Rivera who passed away.

Tom Kline requested that Borough Council reduce the brightness of the street light on Pole #70 on Alnwick Road.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - None

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 4, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary