

Borough of Bryn Athyn  
Finance Committee  
Meeting Minutes

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October 22, 2025  
5:00pm

In attendance:        Duane Hyatt, Chair                                Jeff Elsing  
                                 Vikki Trost    Glenn Gurney

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Duane Hyatt at 5:00pm.

MINUTES

September Minutes were approved.

2026 BUDGET

1. Police Pension – Joe Duda reported via zoom that the pension fund has had a tremendous return, up 50% in one year. The plan is overfunded by almost two million dollars. The 2026 MMO is zero. Joe recommended lowering the interest rate from 5.5% to 5.0% which is the lowest percentage permitted by Act 205. Joe included in his report a risk measurements statement. Since the fund is way overfunded, there is a lot of flexibility. The Pension Committee will decide by March 31, 2026 on reducing the interest rate.

The Committee indicated that the new police contract request included elimination of the 3.5% employee contribution. The officers also requested a reduction in age and years served (age 50, served 20). Joe advised that the minimum years served is 25 years. Joe will prepare a report on the officers' requests. A meeting of the pension committee will be scheduled.

2. Fire Company – Ken Schauder, Lach Brown and Mark Showmaker presented the Feters Mill Fire & Rescue combined budget for 2026. They recommended adding 4 additional fire fighters – 1 to each of 4 platoons, which would then be 5 on each shift. They noted that it is important to bring the salary levels up to compete with the surrounding area. The new salaries would be \$62,000 for an EMT/FF and \$79,000 for a Paramedic/FF. This will help to retain current employees. The FMFR budget is a combination of BAFC and HVFC budgets. The current BAFC officer stipends will go away.

The new FMFR and new Relief Association will both be 501(c)3 organizations. The FMFR 2026 Operations Budget will be \$2,751,938 of which Bryn Athyn will contribute 10%. This does not include any contribution to apparatus or the new building.

3. Public Works – Mark Pennink presented his budget which includes paving Masons Mill Road and a part of Cathedral Road in 2026.

We will make capital budgeting easier by preparing a Capital Budget for 2026.

4. Police Department – Briggs Odhner explained that 2025 was a difficult year for staffing after losing Alex Cricelli in January, and Ken Johnson resigning and using up so many accumulated days. The new part-time officers will pick up most of the overtime in 2026. Overtime will be managed down now that the department is back to five full-time officers.
5. Sewer Department – No budget was submitted. Glenn Gurney reported that the 2026 budget should be in the ballpark of the 2025 budget. Suggested increase to 429.125 Facility Maintenance \$3,000 and 429.701 Salary \$3,000. They are waiting for flow rates. Bill Brown confirmed that the current billing formulas are still good.
6. Administrative – Vikki is still working on the insurance numbers.
7. General Fund Budget Review - Vikki will check on the general liability costs for the FMFR budget. Capital projects will be removed from the annual budget. Salaries will be increased by 4% in anticipation of the new police contract. Vikki will add 2026 insurance numbers. Vikki will check on the municipal building utility costs to verify that we have received current billing from ANC. Police gasoline expense will be reduced to \$10,000 since gas prices are going down. Police car reserve will be increased to \$13,500. Fire stipends will be eliminated.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

***For the next meeting:***

1. ***Vikki will make noted adjustments to the General Fund Budget spreadsheet and distribute to the Committee before the November 3 Council meeting.***
2. ***Vikki will send a meeting reminder to the Committee prior to the meeting.***

***Next meeting date: November 18, 2025 at 5:00pm in Borough Hall.***