



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRYN ATHYN BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL CHAMBER

May 4, 2026

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

David Steen
Mark Pennink
Steven Huntzinger

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder. Councilman Brent McCurdy was excused.

MINUTES

On a motion by Glenn Gurney, seconded by Jeffrey Elsing, Council voted unanimous approval of the April minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund Revenue for April was \$619,903.80. General Fund Expenses were \$217,481.12. Net Income was \$402,422.68.

Sewer Fund Revenue for April was \$425.45. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$34,009.25. Net Income was -\$33,583.80.

Today PLGIT paid 3.50%, PLGIT Prime paid 3.75%.

Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	605,369.89	in Real Estate Tax receipts
\$	8,704.32	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	928.94	in Local Services Tax receipts

\$	490.00	in Transfer Tax receipts
\$	858.25	in Fines
\$	924.00	in Building Permit receipts
\$	240.00	in Road Opening Permit fees
\$	2,246.40	in Insurance Dividends

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$	301.50	in Category 2 Usage receipts
\$	88.95	in Category 4 Usage receipts
\$	35.00	in Sewer Certification Fees

TAX COLLECTOR - None

BILLS

GENERAL FUND BILLS

Academy of the New Church	\$2,433.74
Aqua PA	3,710.30
Armour & Sons Electric, Inc.	683.80
Auto Spa Xpress	56.00
Bruce S. Morrison, DO	185.00
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	346.58
Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc.	168.00
Circle Cycle Bike Shop	57.24
Davidheiser's Inc.	70.00
DeLage Landen	175.00
Independence Blue Cross	4,919.35
Lower Moreland Township	36,590.79
McDonald Uniform Company	199.98
Michael Hayes	30.00
Mira Yardumian	66.56
Montgomery County Dept. of Public Safety	1,125.00
PA Association of Municipal Administrators	150.00
Paul M. Dikun, CAC, Ed.D, Ph.D	450.00
Peco Energy	1,715.95
Petty Cash – Brigdon Odhner	124.81
Petty Cash – Victoria Trost	40.00
Pioneer Auto Body & Repair	638.64
T & G Industries Inc.	279.00
TCP	2,184.00
TGI Office Automation	103.79
Total Turf Landscape Services	725.00
USA Today Media Corp.	388.03
Verizon Wireless	277.77
Victoria Trost	50.00

Wawa Wright Express	1,594.72
TOTAL	\$59,539.05

SEWER FUND BILLS

Academy of the New Church	\$1,338.19
Aqua PA	254.40
BanCorpSV	3,611.75
Berardelli Pool Supplies, LLC	1,699.90
Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc.	2,375.00
Home Depot	316.42
Independence Blue Cross	767.55
Lower Moreland Township	88.95
MJ Reider Associates, Inc.	1,052.20
Mac Medical Gases Inc.	5.00
Paychex of New York	56.16
Peco Energy	436.76
Regan Masonry	8,500.00
The Harrison Group	25.70
USA Blue Book	321.76
Verizon	79.00
Verizon Wireless	39.55
TOTAL	\$20,968.29

BMO MASTERCARD

<u>Borough Office</u>	
Adobe AcroPro	\$19.99
21 Century Media	52.00
USAT Media Co.	16.99
Google Workspace	756.00
Amazon.com	223.83
TOTAL	\$1,068.81

Police Department	
Google Workspace	\$840.00
SP Stallard Tech	4,892.59
Amazon.com	85.31
Cabela's	557.74
3 rd Street Café	27.85
CowellTactical.com	1,242.00
UPS Store	50.98
TOTAL	\$7,696.47

<u>Sewer Department</u>	
Google Workspace	\$84.00
Amazon.com	533.96
SimplyPumps.com	150.03

eBay.com	892.17
Supply Online	1,727.96
SupplyHouse.com	66.37
AWX Conversions Tech	50.83
TOTAL	\$3,505.32

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jeff Elsing reported that the yard waste collection program started on May 1 and will continue every other Friday through November. President Elsing reported that in the first collection less than 25% of Borough households participated.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Brigdon Odhner reported the following activity for April:

All Police Activities	777
Alarms	14
Assist Other Agencies	24
Vehicle Accidents/ disabled	10
Animal Complaints	3
Traffic Stops	24
Theft	1
Community Policing	3

- One week left of training officer Seliskar, who has been acclimating nicely.
- Dog walking trespasser at Masons Mill Business Park was contacted and agreed to not come back.
- Recovered a bag containing 14 passports; investigation revealed no suspicious circumstances, and all items were returned to the owner.
- Officer Selisker's training is going well.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Ken Schauder reported 53 Fire Calls in April, 41 in Lower Moreland, 6 in Bryn Athyn, 6 in Other Municipalities. There were 208 EMS Calls in April, 107 in Lower Moreland, 7 in Bryn Athyn and 94 in Other Municipalities. 127 patients were transported to hospitals, 80 in Lower Moreland, 4 in Bryn Athyn, 18 in Abington, 12 in Upper Moreland and 12 in Other Municipalities. The second ambulance was called out 29 times in April. Two times the ambulance was unavailable during the month.

CHIEF OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Chief Mark Showmaker reported the following activity for April:

This report summarizes departmental activities for the month of March and through the date of submission. March was an active month focused on governance meetings, emergency response, training continuity, and ongoing administrative initiatives.

Meetings and Coordination

- *Attended Bryn Athyn Borough Council meetings and Lower Moreland BOC Meeting*
- *Participated in the Monthly Fire Marshals Meeting.*
- *Attended the Bryn Athyn Fire Company Board of Directors meeting.*
- *Participated in county-level meetings, including Emergency Medical Association meetings,*
- *Met with BAFC and HVFC officers regarding operational and administrative matters.*
- *Attended New Fire Station weekly work group meetings*
- *Meeting with BAFC Office Manager regarding ESO reports and creation of new reports*
- *Meeting with Local Career Fire Chiefs regarding common issues*
- *Unannounced meeting with HVFC President regarding use of equipment refusal for new engine.*

Training and Professional Development

- *Joint training drills continue for 2026.*
- *Individual training sessions and daily career staff training continued without interruption.*
- *Attended Mandatory CPR training*
- *Emergency Management training at Montco EMA*

Administrative and Operational Updates

- *Traveled to Glick Fire Equipment to drop off equipment to be installed on new engine*
- *Coordinated with both Deputy Fire Chiefs regarding equipment locations and installation on new engine.*
- *Addressed multiple personnel-related matters and conducted employment interviews to fill an existing vacancy.*
- *Continued participation in weekly meetings and work assignments related to the new fire station project, which continues to advance positively.*
- *Evaluated IT and Audio-Visual equipment and items for the new Fire Station project.*
- *Continued development of future volunteer officer position descriptions and qualification requirements in preparation for a consolidated and streamlined command structure.*

- *Worked on and developed written report for Stipend Stats as requested at last meeting*
 - *Completed work on Firefighter Tax Rebate program*
 - *Worked on several apparatus and ambulance repair issues this month*
 - *Engine 19-1 BAFC tentative sold pending BOD sale approval. (Fleet Reduction)*
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Response Performance Overview

*Response performance is measured against the adopted standard of **9 minutes from dispatch to on-scene** with a minimum of **four interior firefighters**, achieved **90% of the time**.*

- *HVFC Station data was manually extracted during NIEMS/NIERS system transition.*
 - *Attached is an interim sample report from BAFC Stats until ESO report can be formatted.*
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Notable Fire Incidents

3-1-26 Dwelling Fire, 2139 Packard Ave. LM Twp. Chimney Fire with Extension

3-2-26 Dwelling Fire, 2080 Buttonwood Ln. BA Borough. Large Attached Garage Fire

3-5-26 Apartment Fire, Blair Mill Village Apts. Horsham Both Stations

3-7-26 Chimney Fire, 371 Keats Ct. LM Twp. Chimney Fire no extension

Emergency Medical Services – BAFC

- *Bryn Athyn: 10*
- *Lower Moreland: 119*
- *Other jurisdictions: 74*
- *Total EMS responses (February): 203*
- *Year-to-date EMS responses: 631*

Fire Responses

- *BAFC February fire responses: 34*
- *BAFC year-to-date fire responses: 126*
- *HVFC February fire responses: 34*
- *HVFC year-to-date fire responses: 118*

Conclusion

March reflected continued progress across operational readiness, administrative initiatives, and capital projects. Ongoing projects, including the new fire station and fleet modernization efforts, remain on track. I appreciate the continued support of the Board and Council and thank our career staff and volunteers for their professionalism and commitment to service.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Ken Schauder reported that the Emergency Management team will meet next month to plan for the Independence Day activities.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Schauder reported that he attended the Montgomery County Boroughs Association meeting last month. The speaker at the meeting was a representative of the Valley Forge Tourism Association. They collect a 4% hotel fee which brings in \$12million for advertising for the Tourism Association.

Next month Mayor Schauder and Manager Trost will attend the PA State Association of Boroughs Annual Conference in Hershey.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Pension Audit

The Auditor General has begun a five-year audit of the Police Pension Plan for the years 2021 through 2025. I have submitted the required information and expect to hear the results soon.

Liquid Fuels Audit

The Office of the Auditor General has completed a two-year audit for the years 2024 and 2025. There were remarks concerning the services provided by Armour and Sons for accumulated traffic signal repairs going over the telephone-bid threshold. If it becomes a finding the funds will have to be returned to the Liquid Fuels account.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Amended Police Contract

Chairman Jeff Elsing reported that a minor edit was made to the current police contract which will be signed tonight.

Independence Day

Mr. Elsing reported that fireworks are planned for Friday, July 3. The new vendor has submitted required insurance and permit documents.

Fetters Mill Fire Rescue Update

Chairman Elsing outlined the progress of the consolidation efforts from 2008, noting that consolidation was recommended by every study that has been completed. Mr. Elsing borrowed Lower Moreland Township Manager Chris Hoffman's project timeline as follows:

- The Borough and Township hired Mark Showmaker as Chief of Emergency Services to bring the two fire companies together towards consolidation.
- The service model has been to take the best of both companies and consolidate.
- A staffing program has been budgeted and implemented to include both career employees and volunteers.
- Station 19 (HVFC) and Station 19-1 (BAFC) have been created.
- A fleet reduction plan has been implemented – Engine 19-1 is under contract for sale and new Engine 19 will arrive in two weeks.
- Consolidation documents have been delivered to both companies for review. These include separate agreements for the relief associations.
- Fetters Mill Fire Rescue will be funded by both municipalities – 90% Lower Moreland; 10% Bryn Athyn.
- Fetters Mill Fire Rescue will employ career staff.
- A Board of Directors will be created with five members representing both municipalities and liaising between both municipalities. Bryn Athyn will appoint members to the Board of Directors.
- A new fire station is being planned at Buck Road and Huntingdon Pike.
- A potential connection to the Bryn Athyn Sewer System is being considered for the new fire house building.

Councilman Mark Pennink cautioned against chemical contamination entering the Borough sewer plant.

Councilman Steve Huntzinger noted that he is not opposed to the consolidation plan but stated that we have moved forward to a point of no return and questioned if other alternatives have been considered. Mayor Schauder stated that Bryn Athyn Borough Council voted to move forward with consolidation after extensive studies, noting that not consolidating will be cost-prohibitive. Mayor Schauder added that the Borough will do better with representation on the Board of Directors of Fetters Mill Fire Rescue than by contracting fire services with Lower Moreland Township. Mr. Elsing responded that a Borough Consolidation Committee met for 16 months and recommended consolidation. The Borough Finance Committee recommended consolidation. Mayor Schauder will provide a copy of the white paper that BAFC developed explaining the benefit of consolidation to Borough residents.

Alnwick Road resident Sarah Elsing suggested holding a town-hall meeting for Borough residents.

Mr. Elsing clarified that Lower Moreland Township owns the real estate for the proposed fire house. Bryn Athyn will contribute 10% towards the cost of the fire house. Lower Moreland may add additional buildings to the site.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Chairman Mark Pennink reported that Aqua PA is continuing the water main replacement project on the Loop starting residential connections this week. Aqua PA will repair the road when the work is completed.

Mr. Pennink reported that PECO is starting work on Cairnrun Circle and Quarry Road.

2026 Paving

Mr. Pennink reported the bid price from Lower Moreland for paving Tomlinson Road is \$35,000; \$65,000 was budgeted for paving this year and he will consider paving in front of the fire house. Mayor Schauder reported that the Academy of the New Church will pave the parking lot this year and that the Bryn Athyn Fire company got a price to pave in front of the fire house. The Bryn Athyn Fire Company Board of Directors will vote on the paving project on Wednesday.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - None

LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman Steve Huntzinger reported that Mr. Elsing responded to a resident with traffic concerns when the bridge reopens. Mr. Elsing reported that many residents have expressed concern and that he is working with Chief Odhner on target enforcement when the bridge reopens. Mr. Elsing noted that passive traffic controls slow some people down including raised crosswalks and speed humps. Data has been collected, letters have been sent to Montgomery County, and PA Dot assistance requested to prepare for the reopening of the bridge in December 2026.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - None

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT - None

ZONING OFFICER

Vikki Trost reported that there were no Zoning Permit applications approved in April. Three (3) Building Permit were issued. No Grading Permits were issued. Two (2) Road Opening Permits were issued.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Reid Heinrichs reported that routine maintenance and some replacements at College Park pump station were completed last month. Maintenance pumping is underway. A meeting of the Sewer Committee will be scheduled in the next couple of months.

BOROUGH ENGINEER - None**OLD BUSINESS - None****NEW BUSINESS - None****QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Fetters Mill Road resident Gwen Rhodes brought to Council's attention the complaints by residents regarding noise and signs from protesters that occupy the intersection of Huntingdon Pike and Alnwick/Tomlinson Roads every Friday evening. President Elsing responded that he is working with the group regarding signs, noting that PA Dot rules do not permit signs posted in the right-of-way of state roads. The Academy of the New Church also has policies regarding their properties. Mr. Elsing noted that people have the right to stand and hold signs in the right-of-way. It was noted that the horn blowing of passing cars is very obnoxious and disruptive to residents in the Borough. Mrs. Rhodes noted that many people think that the church, school and Borough residents support their message. Mr. Elsing noted that the only complaint received is noise. Protesting is not a Borough matter until a law is broken.

Another resident asked if speed bumps are planned for Alden Road. Mr. Pennink responded that stop signs have been approved by ordinance and will be placed. Additionally, parked cars will slow traffic. Mr. Elsing noted that speed will be measured on Alden Road and reminded everyone that there is no parking permitted on any Borough sidewalk.

Alden Road resident Nina Finkeldey reported that the property at the Fetters Mill Bridge which burned down has been purchased by Lower Moreland Township.

There was no further business being presented, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 8, 2026 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary