

Borough of Bryn Athyn
Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2024
6:00pm

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Duane Hyatt at 5:04pm.

MINUTES

The November meeting minutes were approved.

PROJECTS UPDATE:

Sewer Plant Generator

Glenn Gurney reported that he received engineering specs for the generator from Keystone Engineering Group. The specs have been forwarded to Rex Herder for inclusion in the bid package. Though the Keystone contract does not include bid spec preparation, Jeff Elsing would like for Keystone to review the completed bid package. Vikki Trost will obtain the Prevailing Wage Statement closer to the date of advertisement for the bid package. The Committee will recommend that Council approve moving forward with the bid advertisement at the February meeting of Borough Council, with the bid opening at the March Council meeting.

Sidewalks

Duane Hyatt raised the issue of vehicles being parked on sidewalks. Vehicles need to park so that the sidewalks can be utilized by pedestrians which is their actual purpose. Making the Loop one-way with parking was discussed. Mr. Gurney suggested painting a line to delineate parking. Mr. Elsing will talk to the police officers about this problem. It was also suggested that vehicles can park with one tire in the gutter or on the grass.

Police Pension

The 2023 year-to-date statement was reviewed. Duane Hyatt and Vikki Trost will discuss reallocation of funds as needed.

Police Car Purchase

Jeff Elsing reported that Solicitor Rex Herder advised that Council can ratify the decision to purchase the new Chevy Tahoe at the next meeting. Duane Hyatt and Vikki Trost will rework the Police Car Reserve plan.

Mr. Elsing reported that the 2018 Police Car is in the worst shape and has the highest mileage compared to previous vehicles. Mr. Hyatt and Mr. Gurney agreed that this car will need to be sold due to the low balance in the Police Car Reserve fund. There was not enough budgeted the past few years and the current vehicle costs have increased dramatically. The 2021 allocation was not transferred to the reserve fund.

Vacancy on Finance Committee

Mr. Hyatt is still hoping that Derek Glunz will agree to join the committee.

New Items

New Chief Hire – The preferred candidate has been notified and has received a copy of the proposed Chief of Police contract. He will be offered a conditional offer of employment at the February meeting of Borough Council and will undergo physical and psychological evaluations as well as a background check. Mr. Elsing has contacted the LMPD Chief Scirotto to conduct the background investigation.

Health Insurance – Alessandro Cricelli, part-time officer, has long been working full-time hours and has requested health insurance coverage. We received a quote from our current health insurance company to cover Alex at a cost of \$33,000 annually. Alex has searched for individual coverage for himself and proposed a plan that would cost less than \$750 per month (< \$9,000 per year). Mr. Elsing noted that the Borough should adopt a formal Employee Handbook to outline employee expectations and benefits offered.

Sewer Billing – Mr. Gurney would like to hire Bill Brown to review the allocation breakdown of plant expenses for the 2025 Budget.

LM/BA Fire and Emergency Services – An Intergovernmental Agreement will be presented to Borough Council in February to establish a new entity for the fire and emergency services for Bryn Athyn and Lower Moreland. Duane Hyatt would like to see a data analysis before the Borough signs the agreement. Mr. Elsing noted that Mark Showmaker was hired to consult and guide the municipalities. Jeff Elsing reported that Lower Moreland is purchasing a new ladder truck. The question “What does fire protection look like in five years?” was raised.

Public Relations – It was suggested that Steve Huntzinger continue the ‘Boro Happenings’ column weekly in the Bryn Athyn Post to keep residents informed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58pm.

For the next meeting:

- 1. Vikki will send a meeting reminder to the Committee prior to the meeting.***

Next meeting date: February 20, 2024 at 6:00pm in Borough Hall.