



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

COUNCIL CHAMBER
July 10, 2023

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

Brent McCurdy
Duane D. Hyatt

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder. Councilmembers Mark Pennink and Aurelle Genzlinger were excused.

President Jeff Elsing requested a moment of silence in memory of Chris Carter who passed away last month. Mr. Elsing noted that Chris Carter touched every person in the Borough and will be greatly missed.

MINUTES

Solicitor Rex Herder noted that the June 5, 2023 minutes contain provisions regarding the hours of operations for the new thrift shop, but it does not refer to any special events to be held at the property. Brenna Synnestvedt explained that the thrift shop stays open late several times a year for special sale events. Council agreed to defer this amendment to the next meeting in August.

On a motion by Glenn Gurney, seconded by Brent McCurdy, Council voted unanimous approval of the June minutes.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer Vikki Trost reported General Fund Revenue for June was \$230,255.90. General Fund Expenses were \$156,847.29. Net Income was \$73,408.61.

Sewer Fund Revenue for June was \$7,827.81. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$36,663.49. Net Income was -\$28,835.68.

Today PLGIT paid 4.95%. PLGIT Prime paid 5.25%.

The second page of this report shows the cash balances to date. Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$ 16,379.27	in Real Estate Tax receipts
\$ 7,859.15	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$ 10,290.00	in Real Estate Transfer Tax receipts
\$ 378.83	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$ 22.00	in Fireworks Contributions
\$ 2,000.00	in Grading Permit Fees
\$ 1,818.84	in Fines
\$ 15.00	in Police Report fees
\$ 350.00	in Zoning Permit Fees
\$ 190,862.31	in Building Permit Fees
\$ 240.00	in Road Opening Permit Fees

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$ 6,656.87	in Masons Mill Pass-thru receipts
\$ 431.05	in Finance Charges
\$ 739.89	in Late Fees

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported \$5,683.33 in Real Estate Taxes collected in June; \$57,693.00 remains uncollected.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND BILLS

21 st Century Media	\$508.79
Academy of the New Church	1,968.24
Am-Trust North America	5,957.42
Aqua Pennsylvania	3,302.37
Auto Spa Xpress	35.00

Bryn Athyn Fire Company	37,500.00
Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc.	1,468.00
Cranch Landscapers, LLC	615.00
DeLage Landen	175.00
Department of the Treasury	15.00
Eastburn & Gray, PC	8,010.00
Frank A Malizia Jr. Inc.	725.00
George Allen Portable Toilets	630.00
Guardian Dental Insurance	4,115.66
Independence Blue Cross	6,840.29
Joseph Bresnan, Esquire	225.00
Kenneth J. Schauder, Incorporated	1,080.00
Kimberly A. Bursner	345.00
Kimberly Kleinguenther	993.75
LOCALiQ	75.34
Lower Moreland Township	29,179.81
NAPA Weldon Auto Parts	45.58
Paychex of New York LLC	163.06
Peco Energy	1,357.09
Petty Cash – Steve Gray	352.53
Petty Cash – Victoria Trost	60.36
Pioneer Auto Body & Repair	867.16
PSAB	45.00
T & G Industries Inc.	279.00
TCCI Excavation	87,813.27
TD Bank	16,959.40
TGI Office Automation	130.65
The Vanguard Group	1,322.84
TruGreen Processing Center	1,022.08
Verizon Wireless	242.04
Victoria Trost	243.35
Wawa – Wright Express	1,978.95
Woodrow & Associates	106.75
TOTAL	<u>\$216,753.78</u>

SEWER FUND BILLS

Academy of the New Church	\$835.62
Am-Trust North America	1,219.58
Department of the Treasury	3.00
EEMA	1,155.39
George Allen Wastewater Management	3,795.00
Independence Blue Cross	658.51
Kimberly Kleinguenther	150.00
Mac Medical Gases	41.00
MJ Reider Associates, Inc.	503.90
McGovern Environmental, LLC	441.45

Paychex of New York LLC	107.01
Peco Energy	407.53
Schauder Incorporated	750.00
SCP Distributors LLC	2,493.90
USA Blue Book	136.95
Verizon	82.26
Verizon Wireless	114.37
Verizon Internet	509.55
Wawa-Wright Express	370.17
TOTAL	<u>\$13,775.19</u>

BMO MasterCard

General Fund	
Adobe AcroPro	\$19.99
Google Workspace	57.00
21 st Century Newspapers	28.00
Amazon.com	114.45
Quipply.com	369.78
Venmo	15.89
GoToMyPC.com	420.00
Amazon Prime Membership	100.00
TOTAL	<u>\$1,125.11</u>

Sewer Fund	
Google Workspace	3.00
Harbor Freight Tools	28.59
Amazon.com	33.67
Amazon Prime Membership	79.00
USPS	7.56
Battery Sharks	174.90
TOTAL	<u>\$326.72</u>

Vikki Trost will ask Lower Moreland Township to submit the trash collection bills sooner.

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

PRESENTATION BY PENNYPACK ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION TRUST

Chris Mendel presented an update on the “Managing Turf and Meadows for Insect Pollinators” program that is happening in the Borough Park as well as Academy of the New Church and Bryn Athyn Church properties in the Borough. Mr. Mendel noted that the project has been very successful, citing the attraction of various species of vegetation, insects, honeybees, butterflies, and moths. Mr. Mendel offered to assist with a Tree

Vitalize grant to plant a swale; this would not be cost free. Mr. Mendel suggested that not mowing certain spots in September would give insects a better chance for spring. This not-mowed section would be rotated each year. Chris Mendel and Ric Asplundh will be in contact to discuss the mowing program.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Operations List Vacancies

President Jeff Elsing reported that there are vacancies for the position of Zoning Hearing Board Member and Finance Committee Member. Solicitor Herder will verify whether the Finance Committee member must be a resident of the Borough.

Bryn Athyn Church Elementary School

Mr. Elsing thanked Nick Rose and the Elementary School Committee for meeting with Borough representatives on June 21, 2023 to explain the timing and phases of the new school project. One item of significance discussed was “safe passage” on the sidewalks on both sides of Tomlinson Road during the two-year period of construction. It was agreed that a temporary chain link fence will be installed from Sycamore Road to Cherry Lane on the north side of Tomlinson Road, and that school crossings across Tomlinson Road will be removed at Marlin Road. Mr. Gurney expressed his concern about the safety of pedestrians along Tomlinson Road. Mr. Elsing assured that Public Safety is working with the Elementary School to make sure that there is a safe sidewalk; speed enforcement details will be added.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Chief Steve Gray reported the following activity for June:

Alarms	07
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	07
Assist Other Police Agencies	30
Miscellaneous Activity	73
Public Service Calls / Assist Citizens	02
Special Traffic Details	07
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	06
Traffic Citations	45
Vehicle Accidents	05
Vehicle Investigations	94

On Saturday June 3rd at 12:50am, Police stopped a vehicle in the 1800 block of Byberry Road due to the registration showing that an active bench warrant had been issued for the vehicle owner out of Bucks County for failure to appear at a DUI hearing. Upon further investigation, police confirmed that the driver was the wanted person. Police detected a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the driver’s breath. Field sobriety tests were conducted which resulted in the driver being taken into custody for suspected DUI

and for the warrant. Blood test results showed that the driver's BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) was .16%. Bucks County Sheriff's Deputies arrived and took the man into custody for the warrant that had been issued for him in their county.

On Saturday June 3rd at 7:50pm, Police stopped a vehicle in the 1800 block of Byberry Road due to the registration on the vehicle showing that an active bench warrant had been issued for the vehicle owner out of Philadelphia for a Felony Possession with the intent to deliver charge. Police confirmed that the driver was the wanted person, who was then taken into custody. The wanted person was working as a Lyft driver and had a passenger in the rear seat of the vehicle. Lyft sent another driver to the location who transported the passenger to her destination. The driver was turned over to Philadelphia Police.

On Thursday June 8th at 4:27pm, police responded to 801 Tomlinson Road to investigate a report of an aggressive deer who was chasing people. When police approached the deer on foot, the deer ran the other way and could not be located. Police contacted the Game Warden who was already aware of the deer. The Game Warden said that it was a mother deer protecting her newborn fawns. The Game Warden requested that we not shoot the deer, unless necessary. This same situation occurred about the same time last year at the same location.

On Monday June 12th at 2:15am, Police stopped a vehicle in the 2900 block of Huntingdon Pike due to speeding and for driving into the opposing lane several times. Further investigation resulted in the driver; a 38-year-old male resident of Philadelphia being taken into custody for suspected DUI. Blood test results showed that the driver's BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) was .30%.

On Wednesday June 28th at 12:25am, Police conducted a vehicle stop in the 2900 block of Huntingdon Pike due to improper use of high beams. Further investigation resulted in the arrest of a 31-year-old resident of Hatboro due to suspicion of DUI. We are still awaiting the blood results from the lab.

On Thursday June 29th at 4:12pm, police conducted a vehicle stop in the 3000 block of Buck Road due to the registration showing that there was a warrant out of Bucks County for the owner of the vehicle. The driver, a 31-year-old resident of Southampton, was taken into custody and turned over to the Bucks County Sheriff's Office.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Ken Schauder reported 42 Fire Calls in June, 32 in Lower Moreland, 8 in Bryn Athyn and 2 in Bucks County.

There were 161 EMS Calls in June, 104 in Lower Moreland, 7 in Bryn Athyn, and 50 in other municipalities.

There were 92 Transports to Hospital, 70 in Lower Moreland, 5 in Bryn Athyn, 11 in Abington, 4 in Upper Moreland and 2 in Bucks County.

There were 8 DUI Blood Draws for 6 police departments.

Chief Schauder reported tht the 2023 Year to Date Financial Statements have been distributed to Borough Council, indicating a loss of \$163,000 to June 30, 2023.

Chief Schauder reported that that the fireworks went well.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Emergency Management Coordinator thanked everyone for a successful fireworks event.

MAYOR’S REPORT - None

SOLICITOR’S REPORT - None

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT - None

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

4th of July Events

Chairman Jeff Elsing reported that there were no issues during the fireworks and 4th of July events, thanking everyone involved. Mr. Elsing reported that \$2,900 in donations were received through Venmo. PayPal or other payment options will be discussed with the Finance Committee.

Parking along Alnwick Road for Borough Park

Mr. Elsing reported that vehicles have been parked on private property along Alnwick Road and that parking tickets were issued. The tickets have been converted to warnings; however, it was announced that parallel parking only is permitted along Alnwick Road across from the Borough Park. A notice will be put in the Bryn Athyn Post. Mr. McCurdy suggested temporary “no-parking” signs.

Solicitation Ordinance

Mr. Elsing reported that numerous calls were received recently concerning persons soliciting door-to-door in the Borough. Chairman Elsing recommend that Council review and consider adopting an ordinance regulating solicitation in the Borough. An ordinance would require identification of the persons knocking on doors, along with registration, and a permit fee. Mr. McCurdy noted that residents can not answer their doors or put up

signs. Mayor Schauder added that as a matter of safety, he would want to know who is knocking on doors to prevent bad situations, noting that all other municipalities have solicitation ordinances. Solicitor Herder noted that the ordinance proposed was adopted by Abington Township. Mr. Elsing asked members of Council to review the ordinance and consider for discussion.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Municipal Building Area Drainage Project

In the absence of Chairman Mark Pennink and Mrs. Genzlinger, President Elsing reported that the Municipal Building Drainage project is nearly complete. Change Order No. 04 has been submitted by Twining Construction to adjust for delays experienced due to the Peco gas line mis-marking by PA One Call. Mayor Schauder noted that Twining Construction has done a super job.

On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Jeffrey Elsing, Council voted unanimously in favor to adopt TCCI Change Order No. 04 in the amount of \$7,329.23.

Bradley Cranch commented that there were no issues at the municipal building with last night's storm, though it was not a very long storm. President Elsing declared the project a success.

Alden Road Sidewalk

Mr. Elsing reported that the Alden Road sidewalk was completed by NJS Concrete, LLC. A minor field change was made.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - None

LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE - None

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - None

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT - None

ZONING OFFICER

Vikki Trost reported that there were two (2) Zoning Permit applications approved in June. Three (3) Building Permits were issued. Two (2) Grading Permits were issued.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Chairman Glenn Gurney reported that routine maintenance pumping is ongoing.

Mr. Gurney reported that it was discovered after the installation of the new electric line and new transformer at the sewage treatment plant, that the grounding from the transformer to the STP is non-existent. Keystone Engineering has offered to design proper grounding and clean-up of the service line for a service fee of \$9,000. Mr. Gurney noted that \$6,500 (not to exceed) was previously approved for Keystone Engineering, bringing the total not exceed to \$15,500. Mr. Gurney noted that the analysis of the future gas service line is included in that number. Mr. Hyatt noted that the Finance Committee should discuss next week. Mr. Elsing was in favor of moving ahead.

Mr. Herder cautioned that according to the Sunshine Act a written motion should be prepared in advance of a decision. This topic was not included in the agenda for this meeting.

Mr. Hyatt commented that this is part of two ongoing projects which should keep going and bring a report to Council next month.

BOROUGH ENGINEER

Borough Engineer Nick Rose reported that the municipal line at Byberry Road has been staked, noting that the Pennypack Trail crossing is not in Bryn Athyn Borough.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - None

President Elsing announced that an Executive Session would be held immediately following this meeting to discuss a personnel issue.

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary