

Borough of Bryn Athyn  
Finance Committee  
Meeting Minutes

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June 25, 2019  
6:00pm

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Duane Hyatt at 6:09pm.

**Previous Meeting Minutes**

The March 19, 2019 meeting minutes were approved and accepted.

**SEWER DELINQUENCIES**

Vikki Trost reported that Solicitor Rex Herder confirmed that the Borough can shut off water for delinquent sewer bills.

Vikki will consult with Rex Herder to set up the procedure for water shut-off.

**SEWER PROJECT**

Glenn Gurney reported that the blower and equalization project at the sewer plant is complete. There will be several more invoices to pay. There was an open house at the plant before the June 3 Council meeting where the new systems were displayed.

Mr. Gurney reported that there are numerous maintenance items to complete; several trial systems have proven to work well and should be set up more professionally (i.e. replace wooden boxes with steel boxes, etc.)

The Committee discussed the new sewer billing model implementation. The model was created last Fall and should be implemented prior to the beginning of 2020 Budget time in September. Mr. Gurney will remind Reid Heinrichs to work on the billing model.

Mr. Gurney noted that he is still working on the numbers for the back-up blower replacement and that he will submit a written request to the Academy for funding.

## **TAX EXEMPT SPREADSHEET**

Vikki Trost distributed a detailed list of tax-exempt properties in the Borough, along with their assessed values and lost tax revenue, a more detailed version of last month's report. The list includes properties owned by the Academy of the New Church, the Bryn Athyn Church, The General Church of the New Jerusalem, The Lord's New Church and the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust.

It was noted that the tax revenue from the Academy exempt properties would be \$415,788 and that the Academy's annual contributions to the Borough in lieu of taxes is less than \$40,000. The Committee discussed the impact the tax-exempt properties have on Borough services and suggested that Chief Steve Gray meet with Jim Kalavik the campus safety director on a regular basis and that Chief Gray include impact of campus calls on his budget. Chris Carter asked what impact does Academy growth have on each Borough department.

Mr. Hyatt pointed out there are other ways in which the Academy contributes to the Borough that are not direct cash payments but do not appear on the spreadsheet. One major example is the Borough and Fire Company's use of Borough Hall is leased for an annual rental of \$1 plus utilities.

## **NEW ITEMS**

Jeff Elsing reported that the 2013 Police vehicle has had costly mechanical issues and asked Mr. Hyatt for a copy of the police car purchase schedule. The mechanical issues could decrease the value of the car, so it may be time to purchase a new vehicle.

## **OLD ITEMS**

Vikki Trost reported that Kim Forsyth is working on the breakdown of the Due to General/Due from Sewer balance.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm.

### ***For the next meeting:***

- 1. Vikki will consult with Solicitor Herder about setting up water shut-off procedure for seriously delinquent accounts***
- 2. Vikki will light a fire under Kim K for the Due From Sewer breakdown.***
- 3. Glenn Gurney will prepare a request for funds to the Academy for the blower upgrade.***
- 4. Glenn Gurney will remind Reid Heinrichs to work on the new billing model.***
- 5. Vikki will send a reminder to the committee regarding the next meeting on the Friday prior to the meeting.***

***Next meeting date: July 16, 2019 at 6:00pm in Borough Hall.***