



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

COUNCIL CHAMBER
March 1, 2021

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
Duane D. Hyatt

Brent McCurdy
Mark Pennink
Aurelle Genzlinger

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Bradley E. Cranch, Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder.

MINUTES

On a motion by Glenn Gurney, seconded by Aurelle Genzlinger, Council voted unanimous approval of the February minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Vikki Trost reported General Fund Revenue for February was \$390,492.29. General Fund Expenses were \$71,643.71. Net Income was \$318,848.58.

Sewer Fund Revenue for February was \$6,278.39. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$17,724.96. Net Income was -\$11,446.57.

Today PLGIT paid .01%. PLGIT PRIME paid .05%.

Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	243,792.38	in Current Year Real Estate Taxes
\$	78,945.66	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	11,830.18	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$	4,067.00	in Transfer Tax receipts
\$	2,119.05	in Fines
\$	50.00	in Zoning Permits
\$	1,642.49	in Comcast Franchise Fees
\$	2,844.03	in Verizon Franchise Fees
\$	30.00	in Police Report Fees
\$	583.00	in Building Permit Fees
\$	44,550.00	in Contributions - Woodmount

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$	5,188.83	in Masons Mill Usage Fee receipts
\$	951.76	in Finance Charges
\$	62.80	in Late Fees
\$	75.00	in Sewer Certification Fees

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported \$411,104.28 in Real Estate Taxes collected in February; \$700,622.30 remains uncollected.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND BILLS

A & T Auto & Truck Repair, Inc.	\$838.89
Aqua PA	23.99
Bradley E Cranch, Tax Collector	301.26
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	65.00
Building Inspection Underwriters Inc.	160.00
Chuck’s Service Center, Inc.	716.95
Courier Times Inc.	493.71
Davidheiser’s Inc.	196.00
DeLage Landen	791.50
Doug Hotchkiss	115.93
Eastburn & Gray PC	637.50
Gustafson Auto Body	500.00
Independence Blue Cross	5,795.46
Joseph Bresnan, Esquire	465.00
Kenneth J Schauder Incorporated	1,065.00

Kimberly A. Bursner	418.00
Mac Medical Gases, Inc.	31.00
Montgomery County Law Library	50.00
Weldon Auto Parts	39.98
Peco Energy	1,069.69
Petty Cash – Steve Gray	313.10
Petty Cash – Victoria Trost	55.00
Primerica	4,023.00
RNK Electric LLC	437.29
Shapiro Fire Protection Co.	26.85
Standard Insurance Company	1,239.31
Staples	53.18
TGI Office Automation Inc.	7.57
The Harrison Group	150.00
The Vanguard Group	921.41
USA Payroll	447.05
Verizon Wireless	185.54
Victoria Trost	372.00
Viacairn	161.70
<u>Wright Express</u>	<u>1,086.01</u>
Total	\$23,253.87

SEWER FUND BILLS

Home Depot	\$309.49
Independence Blue Cross	551.32
MJ Reider Associates Inc.	494.00
Mac Medical Gases Inc.	28.50
McGovern Environmental LLC	315.00
Peco Energy	1,252.89
Portnoff Law Associates LTD	182.01
Robert Genzlinger	398.32
Scott’s Emergency Lighting & Power	725.00
The Harrison Group	30.00
UMHJSA	5,188.83
USA Payroll	110.84
Verizon	65.71
Verizon Wireless	61.80
<u>Wright Express</u>	<u>99.10</u>
Total	\$9,812.81

BMO MASTER CARD – February 2021

GENERAL FUND

Adobe AcroPro	\$14.99
Yearli.com	5.49
<u>Amazon.com</u>	<u>70.93</u>
Total	\$91.41

BMO MASTERCARD – February 2021

SEWER FUND

Giant	\$29.39
Auto Plus	7.94
Staples	52.96
Amazon.com	59.88
Ken’s Distributing Company	153.00
Total	\$303.17

BMO MASTERCARD – January 2021

GENERAL FUND

Adobe AcroPro	\$14.99
Amazon.com	126.70
PA Uniform Construction (DLI)	265.50
Yearli.com	38.43
Total	\$445.62

BMO MASTERCARD – January 2021

SEWER FUND

WW Grainger	\$58.81
BatterySharks.com	137.75
Total	\$196.56

Council discussed adopting a standing resolution authorizing payment of certain recurring monthly bills. The Finance Committee will discuss.

On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council unanimously voted to authorize payment of the bills as shown on the attached list, which is made a part of these minutes.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT - None

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Public Safety Chair Jeff Elsing reported the following activity in February:

Alarms	05
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	09
Assist Other Police Agencies	22
Miscellaneous Activity	22
Public Service Calls / Assist Citizens	04
Special Traffic Details	12
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	06
Traffic Citations	43
Vehicle Accidents	02
Vehicle Investigations	69

On Sunday February 7th at 2:45am, police stopped a vehicle in the 2700 Block of Huntingdon Pike that was observed swerving in and out of the Southbound lane and nearly hitting the curb. Further investigation resulted in taking the 32-year-old female resident of Philadelphia for a blood test on suspicion of DUI. The lab results showed a Blood Alcohol Level of 0.16%.

On Tuesday February 9th at 5:30pm, a license plate was found lying in the roadway in the area of Alden and Fetters Mill Road. Police returned the license plate to a local resident who had secured the plate on their vehicle with twisty ties, which was the reason for the plate falling off.

On Friday February 19th at 1:13am, police stopped a vehicle in the 1800 block of Byberry Road due to the vehicle displaying a registration that did not belong on the vehicle. The vehicle was impounded until a search warrant could be obtained due to there being suspicion of drugs inside of the vehicle. After obtaining a search warrant, police searched the vehicle and found five plastic containers full of marijuana, plastic bags with marijuana residue labeled as “Strain Rx” and several other items of drug paraphernalia. The 43-year-old male resident of North Wales was charged with Possession of Drugs, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Fraudulent Use of a Registration Plate, Driving a Vehicle With a Suspended Registration, Driving With a Suspended License, Displaying a Suspended Driver’s License and Driving Without Insurance.

On Saturday February 20th at 12:40pm, police took a report of a stolen license plate. The local resident stated that he forgot to remove the license plate from the vehicle that he sold. The resident contacted the person who purchased his vehicle. He was assured that the license plate would be discarded by the new vehicle owner. Someone other than the new vehicle owner came into possession of the tag that was supposed to have been discarded. The unidentified person has since been using the license plate on a red Ford 150 pick-up truck, which was identified by EZ pass when the Bryn Athyn resident received a violation for non-payment from EZ pass while the currently unknown person was unlawfully using the license plate. Police entered the registration into NCIC as a stolen license plate.

On Monday February 22nd at 8:09am, police responded to the Masons Mill Business Park to take a report of Illegal Dumping. Management at the Business Park provided

video evidence of someone dumping three green trash bags into their dumpster on Sunday February 21st at 10:49am. The trash bags were full of household waste and also three separate bills that identified the driver of the vehicle, along with his phone number and address. The offender, a 55-year-old male resident of Upper Moreland Township was cited for the violation.

Mr. Elsing reported that the Police Department has received the full backing and approval of BAPD Policies from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Mr. Elsing thanked Chief Steve Gray for taking the extra step to keep policies up to date. Mr. Elsing also expressed thanks to the Public Works Department for snow clearing last month, the worst we've seen in years.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Mayor Ken Schauder reported 34 Fire Calls in February, 31 in Lower Moreland, 2 in Bryn Athyn and 1 in Bucks County; 135 EMS Calls in February, 91 in Lower Moreland, 5 in Bryn Athyn. There were 5 cardiac arrest calls, a high number; 2 of those calls were snow shoveling related.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Schauder reported that the team met in February discussing storm management, noting that everyone said that the snow plow crew did a great job clearing snow last month.

Mayor Schauder explained that it is important to adopt emergency declarations for small storms as well as larger storms. The Borough is included in a countywide tally for damage assessment and recoverable costs.

The next meeting will be held in April.

MAYOR'S REPORT - None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT - None

Vikki Trost reported that an Audit was completed for 2020 Workers Compensation insurance policy.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chairman Jeff Elsing again thanked the Public Works Department and everyone for diligence keeping roadways clear. There is a need to look more closely at the sidewalk clearing, reminding residents to clear sidewalks within the first 24 hours.

Mr. Gurney noted that the Borough Park sidewalk was not shoveled. Bradley Cranch noted that a complaint was received after the first storm and his crew shovels now after every storm now. Mr. Elsing thanked Mr. Cranch and noted that we will keep on top of that.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Snow Removal

Chairman Mark Pennink reported that the snow removal last month was difficult since the storms were so close together, with one storm lasting two and a half days, along with the breakdown of the salt spreader and a plow. This was probably the worst snow in five years.

2021 Paving Project

Mr. Pennink got paving bids back from Lower Moreland. This year the plan is to mill and pave Cathedral from Huntingdon Pike to Glencairn driveway; bid is \$38,000. Also, the Masons Mill edge repair, the entire length. After this work, Masons Mill Road will be in very good condition. Buck Road is getting bad from Byberry Road to the Junge driveway, but Aqua PA has a project in that area, so we will not be doing much on Buck Road this year. Aqua PA will perform restoration when they are finished. The total bid came in at \$80,000.

Mr. Pennink included alternates in the bid proposal and asked for Council's direction. One alternate bid is for Quarry Road from Borough Park to the newly installed Do Not Enter signs. That bid came in at \$25,000, which may end up being \$5,000 to \$10,000 more to go to the end of the Borough owned road. The road has not been paved since before 1993. The road is serviceable and will need to be done at some point. It is not heavily used and has few potholes. Council agreed to use those funds elsewhere.

Chairman Pennink noted that Cathedral Road was last paved in 2001, but he would like to contact Aqua PA before doing any work, since there have been several water main breaks on the road.

Alden Road Project

Nick Rose met with Mr. Pennink and Mrs. Genzlinger regarding the Alden Road project. Following the results of two questionnaires and a public meeting with residents, the committee is ready to make a recommendation on the Alden Road project and turned to Aurelle Genzlinger for the recommendation. Mrs. Genzlinger reported that the consensus from residents is that we repair the road as-is, which includes repairing all of the concrete

on either side. We would do something on the side walk at the top of Alden Road at Sylvia Cooper's property to make it safer to get around that wall and down the road. We would try to repair driveway entrances as best we can. There was a strong leaning against a complete re-do and the other options in between were all evenly spread out. We've given it a lot of time and attention. Mrs. Genzlinger invited anyone interested to review the numbers with her. Mr. Pennink noted that most residents did not want to give up property for sidewalk or curb improvements. Mrs. Genzlinger reported that there was disagreement among residents on whether or not a sidewalk was needed. Nick Rose has not yet worked up cost estimates for the proposed work. Mr. Pennink added that drainage issues will be addressed and the center of the road will be re-paved, as well. A stop sign at Rose Lane and speed bumps will also be considered, along with digital speed signs. Mr. Gurney commended the efforts of the committee on this project. Mr. Pennink suggested that Council make a decision at the April meeting. Council requested that Nick Rose prepare rough cost estimates. Mr. Hyatt suggested a letter be sent to residents with the committee's recommendation announcing that a vote will be made at the April meeting. Mrs. Genzlinger will prepare the letter to residents. Council commended Mrs. Genzlinger and Mr. Pennink on their work and diligence involved in this project.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman Duane Hyatt reported that the Finance Committee met in February and discussed several housekeeping items. A public hearing is scheduled tonight to set the 2021 Sewer Rates.

PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 698

President Jeff Elsing opened the public hearing on proposed Ordinance No. 698 Setting Sewer Usage Rates for 2021. Mr. Elsing read the ordinance aloud. The hearing was opened to the members of Council for discussion. Hearing none, the hearing was opened to public comment. Hearing none, the public comment period was closed and the discussion brought back to the Council table. Hearing no comments or questions, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Ric Asplundh, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Borough Council voted unanimously in favor, by show of hands, to adopt Ordinance No. 698 Setting Sewer Rates for the Funding of the Borough Wastewater Treatment System for the Fiscal Year 2021.

**BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
ORDINANCE 698**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN SETTING SEWER
RATES FOR THE FUNDING OF THE BOROUGH WASTEWATER TREATMENT
SYSTEM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021.**

*In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance 698 concerning the method of setting fees for users of the Borough wastewater treatment system, the Council of the Borough of Bryn Athyn does hereby **ENACT** and **ORDAIN** as follows:*

Section 1. Rates. *The sanitary sewer user rates for the funding of the operation and maintenance of the Borough wastewater treatment system shall be as follows:*

Category 2 – Rate per 100 gallons of water used by customer \$1.325

Category 3 – Rate per 100 gallons of wastewater received at treatment plant \$4.239

Category 4 – Rate per 100 gallons of wastewater received at treatment plant \$4.239

Section 2. Effective Date. *This Ordinance shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in effect until superseded by further ordinance of Council.*

Section 3. Repealer. *All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith or in conflict with any of the specific terms enacted hereby, to the extent of said inconsistencies or conflicts, are hereby specifically repealed.*

ENACTED and ORDAINED this first day of March, 2021.

BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN

Mr. Hyatt reported that the year-end results for 2020 indicate a substantial surplus which will cover the budgeted transfers for vehicle reserves. Mr. Hyatt proposed that Borough Council provide a one-time bonus for Borough Police Officers - \$1,000 for each full-time officer and \$500 for each part-time officer. Mr. Hyatt explained that we have all had a difficult year and we would like to show our appreciation for our police force and all they do for our community, hoping that this will boost their morale. Mr. McCurdy, Mr. Gurney, Mr. Elsing voiced their support for the one-time only bonus. Mr. Hyatt noted that the net pay would be \$1,000 and \$500 for the officers, we would cover the taxes.

On a motion by Brent McCurdy, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council voted unanimously in favor to pay a One-Time Only Appreciation Bonus in the amount of \$1,000 for Full-Time and \$500 for Part-Time to the Bryn Athyn Police Officer employees.

LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Aurelle Genzlinger reported that Alden Road residents should receive a letter this month outlining the recommendations of the Alden Road Project committee and the expected vote at the April meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - None

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT - None

ZONING OFFICER

Vikki Trost report that there was one (1) Zoning Permit application approved in February. Three (3) Building Permits were issued. One (1) Grading Permit was issued.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Chair Glenn Gurney reported that the PA DEP annual inspection of the sewage treatment plant went very well; the inspection report is expected soon.

The quarterly sewer bills are ready to be mailed following the adoption of Ordinance No. 698. Mr. Gurney asked Mr. Herder to prepare a letter to users explaining the new rates. Mr. Herder will prepare a draft letter for review. It was noted that the rate per gallon has increased 25% for Category 2 and 50% for Categories 3 and 4 based on water usage. The letter will explain that an engineer was hired to review the billing calculation process. Mr. Herder will send the letter to all Council members for review prior to sending the letter.

Mr. Gurney reported that the Chapter 94 report, due March 31, is in progress.

BOROUGH ENGINEER - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Greg Jackson, Buck Road resident, stated that he is happy that the police have increased the number of speeding tickets issued. Many days his family experiences dangerous speeds of drivers passing their driveway. Mr. Jackson may request some type of

mitigation due to the blind areas and speeding cars. He noted that the southbound traffic slows down due to the digital speed sign, but the northbound drivers do not. Mr. Elsing suggested directing the police to provide additional enforcement and set up the portable digital speed sign for northbound traffic. Mr. Gurney noted that the signs are useful on Buck and Tomlinson Roads, along with police presence on those roads. Mr. Elsing added that while traffic volume has decreased on those roads, that the number of traffic incidents and speeding incidents has increased significantly. Mr. Jackson noted that the increased volume and speeding starting when construction was going on down the hill and he believes the lower speed limit on Huntingdon Pike may have a part in the increased speeding on Buck Road.

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary