



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

COUNCIL CHAMBER
September 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Elsing at 7:00p.m. The following were present:

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Glenn Gurney
Jeffrey Elsing
Duane D. Hyatt

Brent McCurdy
Aurelle Genzlinger

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Mayor Ken Schauder Bradley E. Cranch, Derek Zecher, Solicitor R. Rex Herder, Russell Cooper, Cpl. Douglass Hotchkiss. Councilman Ric Asplundh and Councilman Mark Pennink were excused.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Jeff Elsing announced that an executive session would be held by Borough Council immediately following this meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

MINUTES

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

TREASURER’S REPORT

General Fund Revenue for August was \$96,272.58. General Fund Expenses were \$75,067.32. Net Income was \$21,205.26.

Sewer Fund Revenue for August was \$93,016.60. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$44,658.19. Net Income was \$48,358.41.

Today PLGIT paid .01%. PLGIT PRIME paid .04%.

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

\$	1,759.25	in Real Estate Tax receipts
\$	35,183.75	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	9,858.47	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$	1,741.45	in Comcast Franchise Fees
\$	2,694.98	in Verizon Franchise Fees
\$	2,801.73	in Fines
\$	125.00	in Zoning Permits
\$	30.00	in Fireworks Contributions
\$	240.00	in Road Opening Permit Fees
\$	1,841.95	in Building Permit Fees
\$	25.00	in Grading Permit Fees
\$	4,500.00	in Sewer Administrative Support
\$	1,712.88	in Insurance Dividends

Included in the Sewer Fund Cash Receipts were:

\$	75.00	in Sewer Certification
\$	6.97	Interest Income
\$	39,387.14	in Category 2 Usage Fees
\$	38,031.00	in Category 3 Usage Fees
\$	15,355.00	in Category 4 Usage Fees
\$	161.49	in Lower Moreland Sewer Usage Fees

The General Fund Balance Sheet reflects Borough Council’s decision in May to forgive the Due-From Sewer debt of \$138,500. The Sewer Fund Balance Sheet also reflects the loan forgiveness.

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported \$1,759.25 in Real Estate Taxes collected in July; \$48,710.90 remains uncollected.

BILLSGENERAL FUND BILLS

Alderfer Glass Co	\$795.00
Aqua PA	37.98
Armour & Sons Electric Inc	297.00
Bradley E Cranch	74.19
Bruce S Morrison DO	185.00
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	35,392.23
Building Inspection Underwriters Inc	1,950.00
Chuck's Service Center	416.54
Cranch Landscapers LLC	350.00
DeLage Landen	424.00
Eastburn & Gray	2,220.00
Field Services LLC	1,475.00
Frank A Malizia Jr Inc	650.00
Home Depot	695.58
Independence Blue Cross	5,795.46
John P Fraunces Ed D	525.00
Joseph Bresnan Esq	78.25
Ken Johnson	227.95
Kenneth J Schauder Inc	820.00
Lower Moreland Township	14,171.99
McCann Associates	971.25
Mike's Lock Shop	5,398.76
Peco Energy	1,056.07
Petty Cash – Steve Gray	238.27
Petty Cash – Victoria Trost	120.00
PSAB	25.00
Standard Insurance Company	1,352.05
TGI Office Automation	77.99
The Harrison Group	150.00
The Vanguard Group	1,156.65
TruGreen Processing Center	914.00
USA Payroll	333.41
Verizon Wireless	317.20
Viacairn	161.70
Victoria Trost	69.99
Wawa – Wright Express	<u>621.02</u>
TOTAL	\$79,544.53

SEWER FUND BILLS

Waste Management	\$29,637.21
Berardelli Pool Supplies LLC	1,187.48
Home Depot	410.91
Independence Blue Cross	551.32

Kenneth J Schauder Inc	675.00
Lower Moreland Township	161.49
MJ Reider Associates Inc	494.00
Mac Medical Gases Inc	7.00
McGovern Environmental LLC	720.00
Peco Energy	153.86
SCP Distributors LLC	1,905.20
The Harrison Group	30.00
UMHJSA	4,316.00
USA Blue Book	232.35
USA Payroll	142.11
Verizon	80.68
Verizon Wireless	84.66
Wawa – Wright Express	206.89
Wind River Environmental LLC	<u>4,412.75</u>
TOTAL	\$45,408.91

BMO MASTERCARD

General Fund

Uniform Construction Code PA DCED	\$126.00
Amazon.com	91.62
Target.com	167.39
Adobe AcroPro	14.99
PTC EZ Pass	88.40
Edible Arrangements	153.99
Sam’s Club	<u>66.25</u>
TOTAL	\$708.64

BMO MASTERCARD

Sewer Fund

USPS	\$71.00
Bolt Depot	21.98
Amazon.com	96.24
Giant Food	11.88
Lindsay Sales & Service	<u>153.00</u>
TOTAL	\$354.10

On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council unanimously voted to authorize payment of the bills as shown on the above lists for General Fund and Sewer Fund, which is made a part of these minutes.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Swear-In Civil Service Commission Member Alex Rogers

President Jeffrey Elsing reported that the resignation of Civil Service Commission Member Kyle Genzlinger opened a position and that Alternate Civil Service Commission Member Alex Rogers was willing to accept the position on the Commission.

Mayor Ken Schauder administered the Oath of Office to new Civil Service Commission Member Alex Rogers.

Swear-In New Part-Time Police Officers

Mayor Ken Schauder administered the Oath of Office to new Part-Time Police Officers Mitchell Meed and Michael Karminski. The new officers were welcomed by Borough Council.

Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust Presentation – Grassland Project

President Elsing introduced Chris Mendel, Executive Director of the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust (PERT). Mr. Mendel gave a presentation of the proposed Grassland Project which would include Borough Park meadow and lands of the General Church at Cairncrest and the B-99 Lands owned by the Academy of the New Church. The Grasslands Project involves protecting the habitat of bugs and birds. In order to protect the food source, the grasslands would be mown only once a year. Currently, the Borough is mowing the park twice per year in an effort to protect newborn animals during the spring and summer. The purpose of the presentation is to determine if Borough Council is interested in moving the grassland project conversation forward. PERT has started a review of grass and insects during the current growing season and will continue the assessment for the number of cuttings. Mr. Mendel offered the services of the Trust to obtain grant funding if needed and available. Mr. Hyatt stated that the Academy is already on-board for this project.

MAYOR’S REPORT - None

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

President Jeffrey Elsing reported the following activity for August:

Alarms	12
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	05
Assist Other Police Agencies	52
Miscellaneous Activity	65
Public Service Calls / Assist Citizens	05
Special Traffic Details	04
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	15
Traffic Citations	61
Vehicle Accidents	01
Vehicle Investigations	84

On Tuesday August 3rd at 9:15am, police took a report of an attempted theft of a catalytic converter from a vehicle that occurred sometime during the overnight hours while parked on the street in the 2500 block of Woodland Road. The catalytic converter had been partially cut from the exhaust system; however, it was not removed from the vehicle.

On Wednesday August 4th at 2:40pm, police responded to the 2900 block of College Drive to take a report of an unemployment scam. Police were advised by an employee of the Bryn Athyn College that someone had filed a claim for unemployment in her name. The unemployment office and the credit reporting agencies were advised of the same. This case remains under investigation.

On Saturday August 7th at 12:19pm, police observed a vehicle driving with a broken muffler that was dragging on the ground. The vehicle was stopped at 901 Cathedral Road. Upon investigation, police learned that the driver was driving a vehicle that was not equipped with the Ignition Interlock system, which was in violation of a state-imposed DUI penalty to the 27-year-old resident of Philadelphia. The driver was charged with a Misdemeanor, which will extend the amount of time that he must drive with the Ignition Interlock system for an additional year.

On Monday August 9th at 1:01am, police assisted a 20-year-old individual who appeared to be dealing with a mental health crisis in the 2700 block of Buck Road. The individual was transported to Abington Memorial Hospital where they were able to speak with a mental health professional.

On Saturday August 21st at 7:43pm, police came upon an individual in the area of Huntingdon Pike and Tomlinson Road who was requesting a ride home from police. Before being able to safely transport the 35-year-old male to his home in Southampton, the officer patted him down to ensure that he was not in possession of any weapons. During the pat-down, the officer felt an object in the pocket of the subject's shorts that appeared to be a crack pipe. Further investigation confirmed that the object was a crack pipe which contained black and white residue, as well as copper wool, which is used in crack pipes. The search incident to arrest also found that the subject had crack cocaine in his possession. The subject was charged with Possession of Drugs and Drug Paraphernalia.

On Saturday August 28th at 2:01am, police stopped a vehicle in the 1800 block of Byberry Road due the vehicle registration being suspended. While speaking with the driver, police observed drugs and drug paraphernalia inside of the vehicle. The driver, a 22-year-old resident of Philadelphia, showed signs of being under the influence of a controlled substance. Field sobriety tests were conducted and the subject was taken into custody for suspected DUI. The driver was transported to the Lower Moreland Police Station where he consented to have his blood drawn by Bryn Athyn Ambulance paramedics. The results of the blood test are pending.

On Saturday August 28th at 9:46pm, police conducted a vehicle stop at Buck Road and Byberry Road that resulted in the arrest of a 42-year-old male resident of Horsham who

was wanted on an active warrant out of Bucks County. The subject was subsequently turned over to the Bucks County Sheriff's Department.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Derek Zecher reported 41 Fire Calls in August, 7 in Bryn Athyn. Calls included wires down and fire alarms related to weather events; 147 EMS Calls reported in August, 7 in Bryn Athyn. There were 94 Transports to hospital and 71 Blood Draws. BAFC members participated in water rescue training with Huntingdon Valley Fire Company. There were 13 water rescue incidents on September 1, 2021 during the Hurricane Ida weather event. Other incidents included a smoking HVAC motor at Masons Mill Business Park, a near-miss at a Buck Road residence involving a burned and blackened power strip. BA Fire Company assisted Huntingdon Valley Fire Company with a house fire on Wright Drive.

Bryn Athyn representatives met with Lower Moreland and HV Fire Company to continue the discussion on combining firefighting efforts.

Chief Zecher reported that as a result of Hurricane Ida, the dry hydrant on Creek Road is completely inaccessible due to downed trees. Chief Zecher will inspect the area for emergency access.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Schauder reported that the team met last week with the Lower Moreland Emergency Management team. Mr. Schauder noted that there were many complications during the September 1 storm, which caught the teams off guard. Communications was the main problem. The joint Emergency Management team will review procedures. Mr. Schauder noted that Lower Moreland has remote command post capability.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Act 50 of 2021 – Small Wireless Facilities

Solicitor Herder reported that Act 50 of 2021 establishes standards for deploying Small Wireless Facilities to support the 5G wireless service. The Small Wireless Facilities (SWFs) consist of a small antenna on an existing utility pole with a small box. Mr. Herder reported that SMWs must be permitted in all zoning districts. A municipality cannot regulate to impede deployment. We can require a permit with application fees ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 depending on the number of antennas. We can charge a \$270 per year fee per antenna. The SMW provider can request replacement or a new pole, which the municipality cannot stop.

Solicitor Herder stated that the Borough must enact an ordinance in order to be able to require permits, charge fees and set aesthetic standards. Mayor Schauder suggested making an ordinance to handle future technology. Mr. Elsing suggested that the Solicitor start work on an ordinance for basic fees.

Borough Council instructed the Solicitor to create an ordinance addressing the permit, annual fee and standards for the SWFs.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT

Police Pension Audit

Manager Vikki Trost reported that the PA Auditor General has issued their audit report for the Police Pension Plan for the years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020. Copies were emailed to each member of Council last week.

Borough Park

A request was received from a person to have a wedding in Borough Park. The wedding reception will be held at Cairnwood. Mr. Elsing and Mrs. Trost will work on setting up a policy for events in the park. Mr. Herder noted that an ordinance is needed.

Delinquent Sewer Accounts

Two accounts remain delinquent after notification by certified mail. They will be turned over to collections this week.

Borough Hall Flooding

Borough Hall flooded again on September 1 when the garage drain backed-up from the storm due to Hurricane Ida. The damage was mitigated by the quick action of the members of the Fire Company who put up bags to divert the water away from the stairs to Borough Hall and to the Fire House. The Facilities Committee is working on a plan to prevent future backups from the garage drain. The insurance adjuster is coming out next week to inspect the damage. The floors were dried thanks to the prompt service from Josh Stryjak at GreenTec Restoration. Vikki has arranged for repairs to the wallpaper and cove base.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

School Crossing Huntingdon Pike

Chairman Jeff Elsing reported that a request for improvements on Huntingdon Pike at the Academy school crossing was received. A pedestrian signal like the one installed on Byberry Road at the Pennypack Trail was requested, or at minimum line painting on Huntingdon Pike. Mr. Elsing reported that there are existing school flashing lights and crossing guards are posted at the school crossing. Road lines are scheduled to be painted this month. PA Dot will be contacted regarding the school crossing.

Tomlinson Road School Zone Extension

Mr. Elsing reported that we are waiting for an estimate from Armour & Sons to move the existing school flashing light/pole to extend the length of the school zone.

Police Department

Mr. Elsing thanked Corporal Hotchkiss for assisting with the part-time officer interviews.

There are now two open positions for Alternate Members of the Civil Service Commission. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Elsing or Vikki Trost.

The Civil Service Commission has completed testing for full-time police officers and have prepared a list of potential candidates. There are four candidates on the list.

Chairman Elsing reported that retired officer Dennis Burns passed away on August 9, 2021. Mr. Elsing thanked Cpl. Doug Hotchkiss for organizing a full police escort for the funeral.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Genzlinger reported that there are no issues reported with the Aqua PA water main replacement project with started in the Borough on August 31.

Paving on Cathedral Road has been cancelled due to the Aqua PA project. Nick Rose is working on the Tomlinson Road bid package. Survey work is planned before the Alden Road bid package can be completed. Road edges were paved on Masons Mill Road last month.

It was noted that a tree fell across Cathedral Road as a result of Hurricane Ida, blocking Quarry Road access. Clayton Schmucker was hired in an emergency to clear the tree to re-open the road, since other tree service companies did not respond to calls. It was noted that Clayton Schmucker is Mark Pennink's nephew to avoid any conflict of interest. There is no conflict of interest as this was an extreme situation. A list of contractors will be published.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman Duane Hyatt presented the 2022 Budget Calendar which is included in these minutes. The Finance Committee (Duane Hyatt, Glenn Gurney, Jeffrey Elsing, Chris Carter, Vikki Trost) has requested that proposed 2022 budget requests be submitted to Vikki Trost as soon as possible.

Mr. Hyatt noted that the Finance Committee is preparing a list of potential projects for the 2021 and 2022 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Joe Duda, the actuarial

consultant for the Police Pension will present his annual report to the Finance Committee on September 21, 2021.

2022 BUDGET PREPARATION CALENDAR

- 8/17/2021 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING Begin Budget Discussion
- 9/13/2021 COUNCIL MEETING Chairman requests Budgets from Department Heads
- 9/21/2021 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING Budget Discussion
- 10/4/2021 COUNCIL MEETING
- 10/19/2021 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING Budget Presentations by Departments
- 10/20 –
10/31/2021 FINALIZE BUDGET IN COMMITTEE
- 11/1/2021 COUNCIL MEETING Council Reviews Final Draft
- 11/2/2021 ADVERTISE BUDGET IN NEWSPAPER AT LEAST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO ADOPTION ON 12/6/2021
- 11/16/2021 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
- 12/6/2021 COUNCIL MEETING Council Adopts Budget by Motion
- 12/21/2021 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
- 1/3/2022 COUNCIL MEETING Council Adopts Tax Rates by Ordinance

LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE - None

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - None

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

ZONING OFFICER

Vikki Trost reported that there were two (2) Zoning Permit applications approved in August. Eight (8) Building Permits were issued. One (1) Grading Permit was issued.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Chairman Glenn Gurney reported that the plant and pump stations came through the significant rain event on September 1st - without difficulty.

Maintenance pumping of Category 2 properties for this year is nearly completed.

Annual maintenance of equipment at the plant continues.

Repair of a pump at the College Park Pump Station was completed.

The Sewer Administrator will prepare a proposal for a new Generator to run the plant – in the event of power outages.

BOROUGH ENGINEER - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - None

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 4, 2021 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary