

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

COUNCIL CHAMBER
March 3, 2025

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

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Ric Asplundh
Jeffrey Elsing
Duane D. Hyatt

Mark Pennink
Steven Huntzinger

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder. Councilman Brent McCurdy and Glenn Gurney were excused.

MINUTES

On a motion by Steve Huntzinger, seconded by Duane Hyatt, Council voted unanimous approval of the February minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund Revenue for February was \$247,475.89. General Fund Expenses were \$87,360.15. Net Income was \$160,115.74.

Sewer Fund Revenue for February was \$100,864.00. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$16,189.27. Net Income was \$84,709.73.

Today PLGIT paid 4.19%. PLGIT Prime paid 4.49%.

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

\$	166,993.01	in Real Estate Tax receipts
\$	11,270.00	in Transfer Tax receipts
\$	54,383.86	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	8,764.70	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$	1,352.30	in Fines
\$	1,479.30	in Comcast Franchise Fee receipts
\$	2,736.97	in Verizon Franchise Fee receipts
\$	120.00	in Road Opening Permit receipts
\$	110.00	in Building Permit receipts
\$	261.25	in Fireworks Contributions

Included in the Sewer Fund cash receipts were:

\$	\$47,860.00	in Category 2 Sewer Usage receipts
\$	44,980.00	in Category 3 Sewer Usage receipts
\$	8,024.00	in Category 4 Sewer Usage receipts
\$	35.00	in Sewer Certification receipts

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported \$209,684.14 in Real Estate Taxes collected in February.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND BILLS

Academy of the New Church	\$4,606.82
Aqua PA	21.89
Brigdon Odhner	1,582.00
Bruce S. Morrison, D.O.	185.00
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	257.73
Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc.	830.00
Cargill, Incorporated	3,587.14
Chuck's Service Center, Inc.	1,219.11
Cranch Landscapers, LLC	175.00
DeLage Landen	175.00
Eastburn & Gray PC	592.50
Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin	49.50
Independence Blue Cross	7,110.15
Inside The Tape, LLC	310.00
Kimberly A. Bursner	432.00

McDonald Uniform Company	41.30
Montgomery County Borough's Association	100.00
Nobre Computers	300.00
Petty Cash – Brigdon Odhner	175.25
Pioneer Auto Body & Repair	119.98
RNK Electric LLC	793.10
Standard Insurance Company	1,387.98
T & G Industries Inc.	279.00
Tanner's Lawn & Snow Equipment, Inc.	346.98
TGI Office Automation	36.72
The Vanguard Group	1,335.03
Total Turf Landscape Services	2,170.00
Verizon Wireless	292.89
Victoria Trost	625.60
Woodrow & Associates	306.95
<u>Wawa – Wright Express</u>	<u>820.74</u>
TOTAL	\$30,265.36

SEWER FUND BILLS

Academy of the New Church	\$2,034.56
GS Developers	12,600.00
Home Depot	800.43
Independence Blue Cross	704.06
Industrial Chem Labs & Services Inc.	102.03
MJ Reider Associates, Inc.	803.80
Mac Medical Gases, Inc.	41.00
Paychex of New York	87.50
Peco Energy	621.30
SCP Distributors LLC	2,621.50
Total Turf Landscape Services	4,900.00
Verizon – Internet	71.10
Verizon	94.61
Verizon Wireless	42.57
<u>Wawa – Wright Express</u>	<u>145.62</u>
TOTAL	\$25,670.08

BMO MASTERCARD**General Fund**

Google Workspace	\$136.80
Adobe AcroPro	19.99
21 Century Media	14.00
Gannett Newspapers	14.99
Wegmans	132.21
Yearli.com	8.38
Amazon.com	345.24
PSAB	250.00

Reservations Hershey	5.00
Flowers by Legacy	186.42
Classic Firearms	501.08
Staples.com	179.34
USPS	382.00
Intuit.com	1,058.94
PA UCC	54.00
PTC EZ Pass	70.00
TOTAL	\$3,358.39

Sewer Fund

Google Workspace	\$7.20
Amazon.com	1,427.83
Giant Food	32.13
eBay.com	1,013.99
Yearli.com	4.20
PTC EZ Pass	35.00
TOTAL	\$2,520.35

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

OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Ken Schauder administered the oath of office to Johnny Huff as a member of the Bryn Athyn Fire Police.

PRESIDENT'S REPORTPublic Hearing - Ordinance No. 710 Setting Tax Collection Fees

President Jeff Elsing opened the public hearing for proposed Ordinance No. 710 authorizing the Borough Tax Collector to collect fees for providing duplicate tax bills and for providing assessment information to third parties. Mr. Elsing pointed out that the proposed fee for duplicate tax bills is \$10 per bill and the proposed fee for providing information to third parties, such as mortgage companies, is \$5 per parcel. The hearing was opened to discussion by members of Borough Council. Hearing no questions, the hearing was opened to the audience for public comment. Resident Edmund Rhodes questioned the amount for the \$5 fee being enough to cover providing information to third parties. Tax Collector Bradley Cranch responded that \$5 is the standard fee among tax collectors for that service. Hearing no further questions or comments, the public

comment period was closed. There were no further comments or questions from members of Council and the public hearing was closed.

Council voted unanimously by roll call vote to adopt Ordinance No. 710 authorizing the Borough Tax Collector to charge a per parcel fee of ten dollars for the preparation of duplicate tax bills, and a per parcel fee of five dollars for providing tax assessment information to third parties.

*Roll Call: Mr. Pennink – Yes Mr. Elsing – Yes
 Mr. Huntzinger – Yes Mr. Asplundh – Yes
 Mr. Hyatt - Yes*

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

ORDINANCE NO. 710

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR TO CHARGE A PER PARCEL FEE FOR THE PREPARATION OF DUPLICATE TAX BILLS, AND A PER PARCEL FEE FOR PROVIDING TAX ASSESSMENT INFORMATION TO THIRD PARTIES

WHEREAS, taxpayers or a taxpayers' banks or lending institutions on occasion request the Tax Collector of the Borough of Bryn Athyn (the Tax Collector) to prepare and provide a duplicate tax bill or bills to a taxpayer or the taxpayer's bank or lending institution; and

WHEREAS, qualified third parties, including mortgage companies, occasionally request the Tax Collector to provide the amount of tax assessed against certain parcels; and

WHEREAS, the preparation and provision of such duplicate bills and the provision of the amount of tax assessed against certain parcels is outside the normal duties of the Tax Collector; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to designate the Tax Collector as the Borough official responsible for the preparation and provision of duplicate tax bills and for providing the amount of tax assessed against certain parcels; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to establish a reasonable service fee payable to the Tax Collector for the preparation and mailing of such duplicate tax bills and the provision of such tax assessment information; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Bryn Athyn deems a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) for providing duplicate tax bills to be fair and reasonable and necessary for the ongoing proper management, care and control of the Borough and its finances; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Bryn Athyn deems a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) for providing tax assessment information to third parties to be fair and reasonable and necessary for the ongoing proper management, care and control of the Borough and its finances

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the Borough of Bryn Athyn does hereby ***ENACT*** and ***ORDAIN*** as follows.

1. *The Borough of Bryn Athyn hereby designates its duly elected tax collector as the Borough official responsible for preparing and providing duplicate tax bills to owners of properties located within the Borough of Bryn Athyn and to taxpayers' banks and lending institutions, and for providing to third parties the amount of tax assessed against certain parcels;*
2. *The Borough of Bryn Athyn hereby authorizes the Tax Collector to charge a service fee of TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) per duplicate tax bill requested by and provided to owners of property situated in whole or in part within the Borough of Bryn Athyn, or requested by the bank, representatives or agents of such owners, said fee to be paid by the person, persons or entity making the request.*
3. *The Borough of Bryn Athyn hereby authorizes the Tax Collector to charge a service fee of FIVE DOLLARS (\$5.00) for providing tax assessment information requested by third parties, said fee to be paid by the person, persons or entity making the request.*
4. *The aforementioned fees are authorized for each tax parcel number for which a duplicate bill is requested, or for which tax assessment information is requested.*
5. *All ordinances or parts of ordinances that are inconsistent with this Ordinance are repealed, but only to the extent of such inconsistency.*
6. *This Ordinance shall be effective as of the date of its enactment.*

ENACTED and ***ORDAINED*** by the Council of the Borough of Bryn Athyn this third day of March, 2025.

BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN

Resolution No. 2025-03 Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mr. Elsing reported that Montgomery County has requested that the Borough adopt the 2022 Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan so that the Borough may participate in future PEMA and FEMA funding. The Plan was reviewed by the Bryn Athyn Emergency Management Team who recommend adoption of the Plan. It was noted that this is a County plan and that the Borough Council cannot change any part of it. Mayor Schauder noted that a Montgomery County representative was invited to give a presentation on the plan, but they were unable to attend. Mr. Huntzinger stated that he would still like to have the presentation by the County.

On a motion by Jeffrey Elsing, seconded by Ric Asplundh, Council voted unanimously in favor to adopt the 2022 Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN
Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
Resolution No. 2025-03

WHEREAS, the BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania is most vulnerable to natural and human-made hazards which may result in loss of life and property, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety, and

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires state and local governments to develop and submit for approval to the President a mitigation plan that outlines processes for identifying their respective natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities, and

WHEREAS, the BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN, acknowledges the requirements of Section 322 of DMA 2000 to have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan as a prerequisite to receiving post disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds, and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the Montgomery County Commissioners and the Montgomery County Planning Commission in cooperation with other county departments, and officials and citizens of BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN, and

WHEREAS, a public involvement process consistent with the requirements of DMA 2000 was conducted to develop the Montgomery County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan recommends mitigation activities that will reduce losses to life and property affected by both natural and human-made hazards that face the County and its municipal governments,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body for the BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN:

- *The Montgomery County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan is hereby adopted as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of the BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN, and*

- *The respective officials and agencies identified in the implementation strategy of the Montgomery County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan are hereby directed to implement the recommended activities assigned to them.*

BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN

2695 Alden Road Sewer Module

Mr. Elsing presented the sewer module for the proposed subdivision of 2695 Alden Road. Solicitor Herder explained that the sewer module is in connection with Tom Brecht's subdivision application. This is not part of the subdivision application. PA DEP requires a planning module for any proposed subdivision of land. The module consists of multiple components which determine existing endangered species, historic buildings, floodplains, and many other conditions of the property. Two very critical components are Component G and Component J which have to do with whether the Borough's sewer system has the capacity to take additional flows from the property. This module projects additional flows to the system of 400 gallons per day. These components are reviewed by the sewer manager and he signs off. PA DEP requires the Borough to adopt a resolution confirming that the sewer system has the capacity for these additional flows. It was discovered that Reid Heinrichs has reviewed the module for approval but has not filled out the forms. Several typos were noted in the PA DEP form which Vikki Trost will correct.

On a motion by Ric Asplundh, seconded by Steven Huntzinger Council voted unanimously in favor to adopt the Sewer Module for 2695 Alden Road contingent upon the completion of the Components G and J by Reid Heinrichs.

Fetters Mill Bridge Project

Mr. Elsing reported that he has spoken with a representative of Montgomery County who confirmed that the bridge restoration project is moving along; utilities have been upgraded and the plans are in a report on the County website. This report will be available on the Borough's website and Facebook page. County contact information will also be posted. Mr. Elsing questioned the County as a resident, not Council President, as to why no field surveys, traffic studies or impact studies have been done on this ten-year-old bridge project. Mr. Elsing invited County reps to speak at a Borough Council meeting. Mr. Elsing noted that as a resident, he is opposed to reopening the bridge and invited residents to express their opinions on the bridge project.

Mayor Schauder noted that Borough Council had previously agreed not to take a stance on the bridge project and the County is confused about Council's stand on the project. Mr. Elsing will contact the County to clear up the confusion about his personal stance on the bridge.

Mr. Hyatt noted that he is personally opposed to the bridge reopening, but agreed that it is important to convey to the County that Borough Council has not taken a stance either way. Mr. Hyatt believed the bridge work was always going to happen and that it was just a typically slow process. He asked Council to be prepared for the race track that will reopen along the Loop (Alnwick Road and South Avenue), and we will see again people peeling off to race around and going through the stop signs around the Loop. Councilman Hyatt suggested speed bumps like those on Byberry Road to slow down traffic on the Loop. Mr. Elsing noted that the Borough cannot stop traffic and that he is working with Chief Odhner on a traffic study and signage. A raised crosswalk is also an option; however, all of this comes at a cost to residents.

Fire Company President Lach Brown asked if Council has considered changing the Loop traffic. Mr. Elsing noted that drivers will race around the Loop with one-way or two-way traffic. President Elsing noted that the original use of the bridge was a simple lightweight bridge for a service road to handle minimal light traffic to a post office and a mill. Now the whole complexion of the area on either side of the bridge has completely changed. Mayor Schauder noted that the bridge is in Lower Moreland Township and the County has put \$2,000,000 into the project and the bridge restoration is happening. Mr. Pennink agreed with Mayor Schauder that the bridge will be restored and reopened. Mayor Schauder noted that the new bridge will be rated at 15 tons (30,000 lbs.) up from the original 3 tons (9,000 lbs.). There was concern raised at the effect of large vehicles crossing the bridge for both municipalities. The clearance will remain at 10'6".

Mr. Elsing agreed that the bridge restoration will happen and the Borough should prepare for it. Mr. Elsing noted a PA DOT study for 2016 indicated that an average 2,600 cars traveled eastbound on Alnwick Road and Feters Mill Road every day which was before the bridge was closed. It was noted that the traffic light at Feters Mill and Terwood Roads will slow down the traffic over the bridge. Resident Gwen Rhodes suggested closing Station Hill to prevent traffic to the Loop. Mr. Elsing reported that he and Chief Odhner are looking into various traffic calming methods. Resident Nina Finkeldey would like to see options, noting that speed humps do not seem to work.

Councilman Huntzinger noted that because this is so important to the Council and the community, he suggested a group be formed, which would consist of residents and members of Council to consider options and determine what the Borough must do to prepare for the bridge opening. It was agreed that the purpose of the proposed committee is not to stop the opening of the bridge. Mr. Elsing noted that the Borough must comply with PA Title 75 guidelines.

Resolution No. 2025-04 PSAB Resolutions

Mr. Elsing reported that every year the PA State Association of Boroughs requests suggestions for proposed legislation to present to the PA State Assembly. One item that is relevant to Bryn Athyn relates to tax-exempt properties. This was brought to the state legislature previously as HB 1702 and Resolution 2021-03. This legislation would offer relief to municipalities that have a large percentage of properties within their boundaries

that are tax-exempt. The monies would be provided from the PA Liquor Control Board funds. Mr. Elsing reported that in Bryn Athyn 57% of Borough assessed properties are tax-exempt. The total assessment for 2025 in Bryn Athyn is \$102million with \$58million tax-exempt. This legislation will not assess a tax on the church and schools.

Mayor Schauder asked if this is a priority; it was noted that this has been on the PSAB agenda since at least 2021. Mr. Elsing noted that another matter that the PSAB is suggesting is amendments to the PA Right-to-Know law abuse, advertising requirements and speed radar.

On a motion by Ric Asplundh, seconded by Mark Pennink, Council voted unanimously in favor to adopt Resolution No. 2025-04 supporting the enactment of legislation to provide assistance to municipalities with a large percentage of property designated as tax-exempt.

BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN

RESOLUTION 2025-04

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN SUPPORTING THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO MUNICIPALITIES WITH A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS TAX-EXEMPT.

WHEREAS, a large number of properties located in the Borough of Bryn Athyn are exempt from property taxation; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Bryn Athyn has a very small commercial tax base, because most properties located in the Borough are dedicated to residential, church, private school and other institutional uses, and very few are dedicated to commercial use; and

WHEREAS, the burden of the cost of providing Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS and other services to the residents of the Borough is left to 320 residential properties; and,

WHEREAS, the foregoing factors result in a great burden on the residential property owners;

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Borough Council of the Borough of Bryn Athyn urges the Pennsylvania State General Assembly to enact legislation to provide for an annual revenue sharing program for municipalities relating to tax-exempt real property and establish a Tax-Exempt Property Municipal Assistance Fund; and the Borough Council of the Borough of Bryn Athyn requests that this Resolution be presented to the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs for adoption of a similar Resolution by PSAB at its Annual Conference in June of 2025.*

***ADOPTED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Bryn Athyn this third day of March, 2025.*

*BOROUGH OF BRYN ATHYN*Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant for Alden Road Improvement Project

Mr. Elsing reported that the Borough was awarded \$300,000 from the Multimodal Transportation Fund to offset the costs of the Alden Road Improvements Project for Option B which includes sidewalks and stormwater improvements. Mr. Elsing and Vikki Trost will work with Montgomery County on the paperwork to receive the funds. Mr. Elsing noted that the funds must be used for Alden Road improvements.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Brigdon Odhner reported the following activity for February:

All Police Activities	868
Alarms	3
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	13
Assist Other Police Agencies	18
Public Service Calls / Assist Citizens	6
Special Traffic Details	20
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	3
Traffic Citations	46
Vehicle Accidents	6
Animal Complaints	0
Traffic Stops	57
Theft	0
Domestic	0

- A fraudulent check case involving the elementary school is under investigation. A search warrant was issued to the bank.
- A business in Masons Mill Park reported a terminated employee refusing to leave the premises.
- New ICE procedures and arrests: A male suspect with a criminal warrant issued by ICE was taken into custody.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Schauder reported 34 Fire Calls in February, 28 in Lower Moreland, 4 in Bryn Athyn and 2 in other municipalities; 162 EMS Calls, 84 in Lower Moreland, 10 in Bryn

Athyn, and 68 in other municipalities. There were 100 Transports, 60 in Lower Moreland, 8 in Bryn Athyn, 19 in Abington and 7 in other municipalities. Last month was the first time in fifteen years when no other ambulance had to come in to cover for us.

Chief Schauder reported that there was a house fire at 3051 Buck Road, the Morey home, on Tuesday, February 18 at 5:07pm. Four ambulances were there, two engines and a ladder came from Trevoise; from Fethers Mill Fire & Rescue we had the new ladder and three engines; Southampton brought a ladder, Upper Moreland brought an engine, Hatboro brought an engine, Rockledge brought an engine. There were three fire marshals there to process the scene, two fire police, Bryn Athyn Police; there were over 50 people there for more than three hours. Another fire company came to cover the BAFC station. The house was a total loss. The investigation is ongoing.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

EM Coordinator Ken Schauder reported that the team reviewed the 2022 County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

CHIEF OF EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Chief Mark Showmaker reported the following activity for February:

It has been a very busy month for emergency responses. The following will briefly cover my monthly activity

Meetings

I attended both the Bryn Athyn Borough Council meeting and Lower Moreland Township Commissioner meetings. In addition, I have both conducted and attended many meetings throughout the month such as BAFC Executive Board meeting, Officer meetings, established committee meetings, Emergency Management meetings. We have conducted a Emergency Services Committee meeting to discuss the future merger and research on going issues and or questions about the FMFR. I have participated in County meetings as well such as Municipal Fire Officer meeting, Emergency Medical System study and review meeting.

Training

Continuous training throughout the month by both the volunteers and the career staff on the new Tower Ladder Truck. This included drivers training as well as operational training for the fire fighters. This is a very complex vehicle which requires continuous field training, and everyone is very committed to learning the operations and utilizing the vehicle to its fullest potential. Participated in EMS Continuous Education Training at the BAFC Station 19-1. Attended the Emergency Management Training at BA Borough. Joint training was held on February 24

between the Stations 19 and 19-1 on Ladder company operations. A 16 hour class was hosted by the Station 19-1 on multi-family dwelling fires on the weekend of February 15 and 16 with 15 personnel in attendance. Daily mandatory training is held for the Career staff with the stipend crew invited to most sessions.

Personnel

I, along with Deputy Chief Ellinger and EMS Chief Schauder conducted employment interviews to fill a Fulltime Paramedic/FF position vacancy as well as a per diem EMT/FF position. We are committed to fulfilling the agreed staffing levels that were discussed at the budget approval process and as part of the interim staffing plan as we move into the future.

Administrative

As a result of an Officer meeting, we made a change to how Fire Officer Investigations are dispatched from the 911 center now that we are utilizing the Station 19 identifier. This resulted in some confusion among our officers and staff. To clear up any confusion I met with Deputy Chief Middleman and Weiss to discuss the issues created and to take corrective action to mitigate the confusion. I drafted and implemented a joint Officer Investigation Policy for the Fettes Mill Fire Rescue in effect 2-24-25.

On 2-20-25, Myself along with Officers of the EMS side met with representatives of Bensalem Rescue Squad, Jefferson Hospital and the Director of Montgomery County Emergency Health regarding the possibility of having a mobile stroke unit dispatched to our response district for certain type EMS calls to provide the best care possible to our residents. We discussed in depth the benefits of this type of resource being available to our residents and will be looking forward to the next step in our evaluation of bringing this state-of-the-art service to our communities.

Response statistics Update

Response Statistics as per our adopted response standard of 9 minutes from Dispatch to on scene with a minimum of 4 interior fire fighters 90 % of the time. I wanted to show you where we stand based on the changes and improvements that have been made with both stations up to this point.

Huntingdon Valley Station 19

2023 393 Incidents tracked with 49% meeting the standard

2024 471 Incidents tracked with 53% meeting the standard

2025 41 Incidents tracked with 54% meeting the standard

As you can see there has been slight improvement in the percentage. I must point out that the reporting software does not differentiate between a Chief responding or the Suppression Apparatus responding so the number, although better, can be skewed not allowing for accurate times. The analytic report from the HVFC software does not provide the average response time but compares it with the 9-minute parameter. In addition, the software does not separate fire fighters from non-fire fighters or interior versus exterior or fire police who are not suppression personnel. I believe the numbers have improved due to the modifications to the stipend program enhancements and resource reallocations we have enacted.

Bryn Athyn Station 19-1

- 2023 363 Incidents tracked with 75% meeting the standard. The average response time of 7m:28s for the suppression apparatus and 3.19 suppression personnel on board.
- 2024 440 Incidents tracked with 86% meeting the standard The average response time of 5m:42s for the suppression apparatus and 2.94 suppression personnel on board.
- 2025 73 Incidents tracked with **88.5% meeting the standard**. The average response time of 6m:25s for the suppression apparatus and 4.0 suppression personnel on board.

As you can see there has been improvement in response times as well as suppression personnel. The reporting system utilized by the BAFC is more robust in the information provided for results. You will see some numbers look a little off particularly in 2024 where it shows less personnel on board. This is attributed to the fact that EMS service is also provided and based on call volume or EMS being out on a call our personnel are split giving less numbers on the fire side. The improvements in staffing as well as resource allocation have helped improve the numbers and I believe we are on the correct path in improving the delivery of service to our residents and visitors from what it was just the past few years ago. As we move toward the future and merge the two into one facility and hopefully follow through with the proposed plans to staff with the career and Volunteer base, we will continue to work on improving the numbers and service levels in the most prudent and professional manor.

Fire Calls of Interest:

February 17, 2025, Tower 19 was dispatched on the Second Alarm to SPS, 301 Highland Ave. Abington Twp. For a Multi Alarm Structure Fire. The Tower was in service for extended hours in very frigid weather and very high winds.

February 18, 2025, 3051 Buck Road Bryn Athyn for a Structure Fire. Initial Arriving Crew from Squad 19-1 reported a 1 story single family dwelling with fire through the roof. Tower 19 was set up in the driveway behind Squad 19-1 for aerial operations. Mutual aid partners were present and assisted with the fire operations. Again, very frigid weather with High winds.

Emergency Response Data for the month as of the date of this report:

BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in BA	10
BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in LM	74
BAFC Emergency Medical Calls other	64
BAFC Monthly total EMS Calls	148
Year to date EMS Calls	325

BAFC Fire Calls in BA	4	HVFC Fire Calls in LM	33
BAFC Fire Calls IN LM	27	HVFC Fire Calls in BA	4
BAFC Fire Calls Other	2	HVFC Fire Calls Other	4

BAFC Monthly Fire Calls	33	HVFC Monthly Fire Calls	41
Year to Date Fire Calls	72	Year to Date Fire Calls	83

Conclusion:

This month has been filled with a variety of important meetings, continuous training, and personnel developments. We are on track with our staffing plan, and we are implementing new procedures to ensure efficient operations. The potential introduction of a mobile stroke unit is an exciting next step toward improving emergency medical services in our district. Thank you to all staff and volunteers for their continued hard work and dedication.

Mobile Stroke Unit

Chief Shomaker added that he and Chief Schauder met with the Bensalem Rescue Squad to investigate their Mobile Stroke Unit where they can do CT scans in a patient's home. The system is being evaluated for use in Bryn Athyn and Lower Moreland.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Schauder reported that he and Vikki Trost will attend the 2025 PSAB Conference in June. Mayor Schauder attended the February Montgomery County Boroughs Association meeting last week in Souderton, noting that he is now the Treasurer for that organization. The meeting was held in an impressive community center in Souderton that is geared for the older population.

President Elsing noted that for over ten years, Ken Schauder has been the liaison for PERT and will now hand that role over to Steve Huntzinger.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT****Solicitation Permits**

Four applications were received and approved for solicitation permits. Chief Odhner and Vikki Trost have been working on the procedure for permits and permit cards have been ordered to be worn by all solicitors. We will note on the Borough website any permits issued for each month. Anyone wishing to be included on the No Solicitation List should contact the Borough Office. Borough Council will revisit the hours for solicitation in the ordinance.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Chairman Mark Pennink reported that the Alden Road Improvements bids are due and will be opened on March 10 at noon. Nick Rose reported that Peco connections were removed from the bid specs and Peco will work with the Borough to do the connections as needed. Peco requires 4 to 6 weeks' notice. The Borough will handle the costs for the connections. Mr. Pennink noted that there is nothing that we can do if there are delays, adding that we may be charged for the delays. A pre-construction meeting will be held with the contractor and Peco.

Mr. Pennink reported that the Tomlinson Road Sidewalk Project will begin on Monday, March 10. Notices will be posted on the website and Facebook page.

Chairman Pennink noted several snow events in February, a water main leak on Alnwick Road and the Lower Moreland sewer project on Woodland Road is still ongoing.

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

There were no Zoning Permit applications approved in February. Two (2) Building Permits were issued. No Grading Permits were issued.

It was noted that a zoning permit is required for demolition of the Morey house, the permit is in process.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Reid Heinrichs reported that he submitted the data for the annual Chapter 94 report to the engineers. The Generator Project is progressing; two trees were taken down today with permission from the Academy. During the last power outage, the current generator worked very well.

BOROUGH ENGINEER - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Public Safety Committee Chairman Jeff Elsing noted that another part-time police officer candidate has just retired from Upper Moreland Police, recommending that Borough Council extend a conditional offer of part-time employment to Joseph Staufenberg.

On a motion by Ric Asplundh, seconded by Steven Huntzinger, Council voted unanimously in favor to extend a conditional offer of part-time employment to Joseph Staufenberg upon successful completion of physical and psychological examinations.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

A member of the audience asked if Council meetings can be held via zoom and if so, can Council members attend through zoom. Solicitor Herder responded yes, Council members could participate via zoom provided that a physical majority is present in the Council chamber. As of now, the Borough does not televise or make the meetings available on zoom. Mayor Schauder noted that we do have the ability to broadcast meetings via zoom. It was noted that meetings were held via zoom during the pandemic in 2020 but have not been done so since.

There being no further business presented; the meeting was adjourned at 8:21pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 7, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary