

Borough of Bryn Athyn
Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes

March 19, 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 6:00pm.

Previous Meeting Minutes

The February 26, 2019 meeting minutes were approved and accepted.

SEWER DELINQUENCIES

The Committee discussed the legality of shutting off water for delinquent sewer bills. Other municipalities do shut off water. *Vikki Trost will ask Solicitor Rex Herder if this idea is worth pursuing.*

Vikki reported that letters were sent to all delinquent sewer accounts over 90 days.

SEWER PROJECT

Mr. Gurney reported that he is waiting for spring weather in early April to clean up the sewage treatment plant area following the equalization project.

Mr. Gurney reported that the plant is not ready for the automated valve system that he discussed at the last meeting.

Mr. Gurney suggested that the old back-up blower be replaced with a new blower since the project is under budget. Mr. Hyatt recommended that the Borough approach the Academy for consent to financial assistance for the blower with the anticipated savings (approximately \$100,000) from the Equalization Project. The cost of the new blower is approximately \$40,000. *It was agreed that Mr. Gurney will send a request for funds for the new blower to Duane Hyatt at the Academy and will forgo the valve automation.* Mr. Hyatt noted that the Academy Board meets in early May.

ANC CONTRIBUTIONS

Vikki Trost reported that the Borough received a check from the Academy in the amount of \$48,760. Vikki received a list of payments over the years from Tina Bartels at the Academy but it doesn't match the Borough's receipts.

Vikki distributed a list of tax-exempt properties in the Borough, along with their assessed values and lost tax revenue. 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, Reading Railroad, Bryn Athyn Borough and the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust. *Vikki will update the sheet with additional property identification.*

NEW ITEMS

Mr. Gurney asked the Committee to consider paying a bonus to Reid Heinrichs for additional work on the Equalization Project which saved the Borough and Academy the higher cost of hiring a contractor. Mr. Heinrichs worked 149 hours saving the Project \$5,200 in contractor fees.

On a motion by Glenn Gurney, seconded by Jeff Elsing, the Committee voted unanimously in favor to recommend to Borough Council that because Reid Heinrichs put in 149 hours for labor that would have been billed by a contractor the amount of \$5,200, that Reid Heinrichs receive bonus pay of \$2,500 from the Equalization Project fund.

Vikki Trost reported that the 2018 Annual Audit is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2018. Jane Roscoe will guide the auditors and be paid for her assistance, but will not be permitted to sign the audit report.

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 6:40pm.

For the next meeting:

- 1. Vikki will consult with Solicitor Herder about water shut-off for seriously delinquent accounts***
- 2. Vikki will update the Tax-Exemption spreadsheet.***
- 3. Glenn Gurney will send a request for funds to the Academy for the blower upgrade.***
- 4. Vikki will send a reminder to the committee regarding the next meeting on the Friday prior to the meeting.***

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