



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

COUNCIL CHAMBER
October 6, 2025

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
Steven Huntzinger

ALSO: Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder. Secretary/Treasurer/Manager Victoria S. Trost was excused.

MINUTES

On a motion by Glenn Gurney, seconded by Mark Pennink, Council voted unanimous approval of the September minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund Revenue for September was \$33,176.97. General Fund Expenses were \$461,651.52. Net Income was -\$428,474.55.

Sewer Fund Revenue for September was \$1,059.33. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$26,083.18. Net Income was -\$25,023.85.

Today PLGIT paid 3.97%. PLGIT Prime paid 4.23%.

Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	1,956.28	in Real Estate Tax receipts
\$	8,715.12	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	918.89	in Fines
\$	13,058.92	in Volunteer Fire Relief Aid
\$	150.00	in Zoning Permit receipts
\$	2,934.99	in Building Permit receipts
\$	50.00	in Grading Permit receipts
\$	306.00	in Soap Box Derby Donations
\$	3,140.66	in Mini-COBRA receipts
\$	1,928.11	in Insurance Claim receipts

Included in the Sewer Fund cash receipts were:

\$	41.18	in Category 2 Usage receipts
\$	353.95	in Finance Charges
\$	629.20	in Late Fees
\$	35.00	in Sewer Certification receipts

TAX COLLECTOR - None

BILLS

GENERAL FUND BILLS

A & T Auto and Truck Repair Inc.	\$667.72
Academy of the New Church	1,311.73
Aqua PA	47.49
Axon Enterprise Inc.	21,063.20
Brigdon Odhner	55.12
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	68,833.33
Bryn Athyn Volunteer Relief Association	13,058.92
Davidheiser's Inc.	70.00
Davis Feed Mill & Country Store	240.00
DeLage Landen	175.00
Geoff Harbach	335.00
Horgan Brothers Inc.	235,908.59
Independence Blue Cross	7,758.20
International Association of Chiefs of Police	220.00
LOCALIQ	753.26
Lower Moreland Township	13,954.57
McDonald Uniform Company	754.92
PA Municipal Inc.	567.00
Peco Energy	1,688.93

Pioneer Auto Body & Repair	2,866.67
ProTract Engineering Inc.	7,370.00
T & G Industries, Inc.	292.95
TGI Office Automation	74.62
The Vanguard Group	1,489.68
Total Turf Landscape Services	1,350.00
TruGreen Processing Center	1,057.85
Victoria Trost	50.00
<u>Frank A Malizia, Jr. Inc.</u>	<u>9,500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$391,514.75

SEWER FUND BILLS

Berardi Pool Supplies, LLC	4,041.80
Home Depot	209.17
Independence Blue Cross	704.06
MJ Reider Associates, Inc.	781.80
PA Department of Environmental Protection	1,000.00
Paychex of New York LLC	84.66
Peco Energy	874.85
Verizon Internet	79.00
<u>Wawa Wright Express</u>	<u>138.19</u>
TOTAL	7,913.53

BMO MASTERCARD**General Fund**

Adobe AcroPro	\$19.99
21 Century Media	26.00
Gannett Newspapers	16.99
Staples.com	65.55
<u>WWC Supply Ltd.</u>	<u>-1,727.96</u>
TOTAL	\$-1,599.43

Sewer Fund

Amazon.com	330.31
eBay.com	1,400.00
<u>Mike's Lock Shop</u>	<u>20.01</u>
TOTAL	\$1,750.32

BA Police Department

Amazon.com	1,356.71
THEIACP	220.00
First Watch	40.66
<u>SQ Blue Knight Bicycle</u>	<u>500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2,117.37

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Trash Contract Update

President Elsing reported that we need to step up the communication to residents on this new contract for January 2026. Vikki Trost did put new trash collection information up on the Borough website. We will put information on the Facebook page as well. Mr. Elsing obtained up-to-date address information from the fire company and plans to send out a mass mailing to residents.

As Council decided at last month's meeting, we will go with the joint contract with Lower Moreland. We are communicating with Blosenski, the new hauler, to coordinate collection addresses. The only outstanding item is the required trash totes. Blosenski's contract states that they will only pick up one trash container and one recycling container for each property. The container must be sturdy with a hinged lid because they will use a claw mechanism. Blosenski will provide a one-man truck who will pick up the container with the claw and dump it into a dumpster that comes down in front in the driver's view. This is called a Curotto-Can system which weighs the trash and then flips the trash into the compacter in the back of the truck. The driver will inspect the trash from each can to make sure people aren't throwing engine parts into the trash.

Mr. Elsing has been involved in the search, along with Lower Moreland Township, for local vendors to acquire the appropriate trash cans for this pickup system. The cans will be delivered to Lower Moreland Township. The Borough can piggyback onto the Lower Moreland purchase. Council discussed the size and number of cans needed to provide each Borough residential property with the appropriate type of can. Mr. Elsing clarified that the trash hauler will pick up more than one can at a given time because they realize that people go on vacation and that there will be more trash around holidays. Their pricing is blended to account for additional trash on holidays, occasionally. The hauler will track the number of cans and when a property consistently puts out more trash than permitted for an extended period, and they will contact the Borough. Mr. Elsing asked for Council's input for the number of cans to be purchased for residents. The cans can be delivered to each property.

Regarding yard waste, the Borough is not required to dispose of yard waste and recyclables, but yard waste is not acceptable for trash collection. We do have options for yard waste collection, at an additional cost to the Borough. Lower Moreland has decided to collect their own yard waste. Council will review the yard waste options.

Lower Moreland is ordering their cans next week. We can piggyback on that order or order on our own. Council agreed to piggyback on the Lower Moreland order.

Every trash can will have a serial number that will be allocated to a specific address.

Mr. Elsing stated that the cost of the trash cans will be included in the trash collection budget for 2026, a one-time expense. The trash cans will be identical to the recycling cans, but with a blue lid.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Brigdon Odhner reported the following activity for September:

All Police Activities	870
Alarms	10
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	11
Assist Other Police Agencies	13
Public Service Calls / Assist Citizens	4
Special Traffic Details	14
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	7
Vehicle Accidents	7
Animal Complaints	1
Traffic Stops	6
Theft	0
Community Policing	5

Incidents:

- Police responded to a report of a person screaming on the trail near the All-Aboard Café. Upon arrival, officers located a 23-year-old male approximately ten feet down in the ravine, where the culvert drains into the Pennypack.

According to a witness, the individual had been riding down Station Hill at an estimated speed of about 30 miles per hour when he struck the rock wall bordering the ravine. The impact propelled him into the ravine, where he struck his head on a rock. The collision with the wall also caused a severe leg injury, leaving him in significant pain but conscious and able to communicate.

The call was upgraded to a rescue. Officers assisted the fire company with safely extricating the injured male from the ravine before he was transported for medical treatment.

- Police received a report of a house being egged on Dale Rd. Incident is still under investigation.

Training

- Three of the remaining officers attended a weeklong bike training, making all our Full-time officers IPIMBA certified.

- All Full-time officers became E-Bike Certified.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Ken Schauder reported 56 Fire Calls in September, 44 in Lower Moreland, 10 in Bryn Athyn. The Chief noted that most of the Bryn Athyn calls were for Academy of the New Church properties. BAFC officers will meet with the Academy so that when an alarm is received the ANC employees can respond appropriately. There were 184 EMS dispatches, 110 in Lower Moreland, 10 in Bryn Athyn, 33 in Abington, 20 in Upper Moreland and 1 in Bucks County. 119 Hospital Transports included 78 in Lower Moreland, 8 in Bryn Athyn and 3 in other municipalities. The ambulance was unavailable for calls 3 times in September, noting that 2 of those times involved accidents with more than 2 patients.

Chief Schauder, Lach Brown and Chief Showmaker went to inspect the new ambulance which is not as far along as they had hoped. They were able to confirm that the chassis that was missing had found its way to the factory and the box is now on the chassis, and they were told that the remaining work will go very quickly. Chief Schauder hopes the ambulance will be delivered by Thanksgiving.

Councilman Pennink asked about charging for repeat false alarms. Chief Schauder noted that he and Chief Showmaker will meet with Charlie Pluguez to investigate the false alarm ordinance for the Borough.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT - None

CHIEF OF EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Chief Mark Showmaker submitted the following report for September:

Please find my activity for the month of September up to the date of this report. As usual it has been a very busy month for meetings and emergency responses. The following will briefly cover my monthly activity.

Meetings

I attended the Lower Moreland Township Commissioner and Bryn Athyn Borough Council meetings. In addition, I have conducted and attended many meetings throughout the month such as BAFC Officer/ and Career Lieutenants meetings, HVFC Officer meeting, Emergency Management meetings, Fire Marshal meeting. I attended the BAFC Board of Directors meeting, I have participated in County meetings as well such as Emergency Medical Association meetings. I conducted a meeting of the Joint Emergency Services

Committee providing updates on ongoing consolidation items, Fleet, and New Fire Station status. Met with Numerous Montgomery County Career Fire Chiefs regarding common issues. Met with Representative Guenst staff regarding grant opportunities for EMS equipment.

Training

I participated in EMS and Fire Continuous Education Training at the Bucks County EMS. A joint training meeting was held to set up training schedules for 2026. I attended schedule training of both BAFC and HVFC as a joint training session. Attended an Arson class (Fire Patterns and Fatal Fire Investigations) held at Middletown Township Bucks County. I attended a standpipe inspection class at Montgomery County Fire Academy. Met with both Training Officers in regard to FMFR training and future classes.

Administrative

Work on an issue with a Suspension on Engine 19-1. We will be placing the unit for sale as part of the fleet reduction plan in October. Researching Fair Labor Standards Act for items that have come up during my budget preparation. Developed and implemented Standard Operating Procedures for response to incidents as well as reviewing current SOPs for correlation of both existing organizations.

Conducted Relief Association regulations review to assist with the development process of the new Relief Association filing for incorporation. Conducted a site visit of the new ambulance construction. It is anticipated that it will be delivered in November. Working with both Deputy Fire Chiefs regarding the new engine and coordinating what equipment is needed. Drug Custody Software has been put in service with Dr. Overberger, MD and deputy Chief Ellinger overseeing implementation. Tower Ladder is back from Glick Fire Apparatus in Lancaster from body repair. Work with Bryn Athyn Borough Council President regarding requested information for presentation to Council about consolidation and the New Fire Station. I attended a Water Rescue Training Class on 8-25-25. I have begun work on a comprehensive 2026 FMFR budget. This has taken most of my time lately as it is a new budget built from scratch incorporating both BAFC and HVFC budgets into one FMFR Budget.

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 or deficiencies that have been made with both stations up to this point.

Huntingdon Valley Station 19

For the month of September 2025, our benchmark was met 12% of the time.

Bryn Athyn Station 19-1

For the month of September 2025, our benchmark was met 95.1% with a response time average of 5 minutes and 13 seconds but an average of 3.90 suppression personnel on the apparatus. The actual number is 5.13 with chase ambulance so the total percentage would be over 100%.

Fire Calls of Interest

9-29-25 Fethers Mill Road at the Pennypack Trail for a Rescue (Bike Accident)

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

BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in BA	10
BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in LM	107
BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in other	64
BAFC Monthly total EMS Calls	181
Year to Date EMS Calls	1639

BAFC Fire Calls in BA	10	HVFC Fire Calls in LM	36
BAFC Fire Calls in LM	40	HVFC Fire Calls in BA	10
BAFC Fire Calls in other	2	HVFC Fire Calls in other	3
BAFC Monthly Fire Calls	52	HVFC Monthly Fire Calls	49
Year to Date Fire Calls	376	Year to Date Fire Calls	361

Conclusion

This month has been filled with a variety of important meetings, continuous training and personnel developments. As mentioned, I have been developing a single FMFR Budget for 2026 for both Communities. Thank you to all staff and volunteers for their continued hard work and dedication. Additional data is attached to this report.

MAYOR'S REPORT - None**SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None****BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT****2026 Budget**

2026 Budget presentations will take place at the Finance Committee meeting on October 22 beginning at 5:00pm.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission will meet on Tuesday, October 21 at 7:30pm to review the application from Bryn Athyn College to review parking and accessibility of the Grant Hall Dormitory building. The application will be on the Borough Council November meeting agenda for review/approval.

MultiModal Transportation Fund Grant

The request for the \$300,000 in grant funds for the Alden Road Improvement Project was submitted along with all of the requested documentation.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Police Contract

Chairman Jeff Elsing reported that the current police contract will expire at the end of 2025. Negotiations with the police officer representatives has begun; a meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday. Mr. Elsing asked for another volunteer for the Police Contract Negotiating Committee. Mayor Ken Schauder agreed to participate in the committee. The Committee members will be Ken Schauder and Jeff Elsing.

Fire Company Consolidation

The Joint LM/BA Fire Company Consolidation Committee met last month. There is lots of work going on in the background to establish the new fire company. The Bryn Athyn Consolidation Committee will meet on October 22 at noon to summarize the committee's findings for the end of the year report. We will proceed in 2026 with a FMFR budget only.

Fetters Mill Bridge

No feedback has been received from the County regarding the Fetters Mill Bridge. Mr. Elsing prepared, with the assistance of Solicitor Herder, a letter of concern to the County with comments from the community. The letter will be distributed to Council via email for review. The letter is not a stance for or against anything, it is a restatement of the commitment from the County outreach person who has yet to contact Mr. Elsing back. She had committed to delivering four items based on residents requests and Chief of Police requests. Mr. Elsing would like to mail the letter after the review by Borough Council.

Tomlinson Road School Zone

Mr. Elsing reported that we are still working on getting the final signs put up, road patching and line painting. Mr. Elsing spoke with Jim Adams last week regarding the section of path that is by the high school football field, along Tomlinson Road. That path will be rebuilt and the old school entrance will be removed in November. The area will be shut down for a few days during excavation; elementary school students will need to use the path on the other side of Tomlinson Road during this time.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Chairman Mark Pennink reported that about twenty dead ash trees were removed on Cathedral Road last month.

Alden Road Improvements

Mr. Pennink reported that Alden Road is starting to look like a road; there will be some paving going on this week. The last apron on the north side is going in tomorrow so residents should be able to get in their driveways by the weekend. The sidewalk is not yet finished. We are about 2 weeks behind schedule. We are looking at a mid-November finish which includes restoring residents' properties. The project is going very well, the most difficult part is done. Council expressed thanks to Mr. Pennink, Mr. Malizia and all, including the residents, who have contributed to the success of this project. It was noted that all of the Horgan Brothers workers have been very nice to work with.

Tomlinson Road Sidewalks Phase II

Mr. Pennink reported that Council needs to make a decision on bids for the remaining sidewalks along Tomlinson Road from Cherry Lane to Sycamore Road. The low bid is \$124,154. There were three bids within \$1,000. The project was not budgeted for this year and the bid came in lower than expected, but there are still reserves to cover the cost. Mr. Pennink recommended that Council accept the bid. Mr. Elsing reported that Solicitor Herder and Engineer Nick Rose reviewed all of the bid documents and references with favorable reports. Mr. Pennink noted that this bid is \$50,000 less than when we solicited bids for this same project last year. Mr. Hyatt noted that we have been reviewing the reserves and that there is money for the project. Mr. Pennink noted that he does not have any major projects planned for next year.

On a motion by Brent McCurdy, seconded by Duane Hyatt, Council voted unanimously in favor to accept the low bid and award the contract for Tomlinson Road Sidewalk Project Phase II to G & B Construction Company in the amount of \$124,154.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman Duane Hyatt reported that the Committee met in September to begin work on the budget for 2026 and are waiting for input from the various departments and committees. Mr. Hyatt noted that we have been contacted verbally that the Bryn Athyn School Board will be taking back the additional earned income tax that the Borough was fortunate to collect the past few years. We will need to account for that in this budget. We purposely did not budget that increase, knowing that the school board may take it back. We anticipate a difficult budget process for next year.

LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE - None

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman Steve Huntzinger reported that he attended a planning session at the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust. One of the items that came up in that meeting was that PERT did a survey of encroachments where people have extended their lawns onto PERT property and they plan to address that. Mr. Huntzinger will be the representative for the Borough for several residents who need to address an encroachment. Chris Mendel is not ready to start to do that yet and he will work out their plan of notification.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - None

Mr. Elsing noted that the proposed 2026 Operation List was included in the Council packet for review. There are several vacancies that need to be filled. Mr. Hyatt offered to fill a vacancy on the Finance Committee in January after he steps down from Borough Council. Mr. Elsing noted that the Public Relations Committee has a position that is vacant. Mr. Gurney requested that Drew Nehlig be removed from the Sewer Committee. Steven Huntzinger will be added as the PERT Liaison.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT - None

ZONING OFFICER

There was one (1) Zoning Permit application approved in September. Three (3) Building Permits were issued. No (0) Grading Permits were issued. One (1) Road Opening Permit was issued.

SEWER ADMINISTRATOR

Reid Heinrichs reported that there was a sewer committee meeting held last month. Bill Brown participated in the meeting, he will now be the engineer of record for the sewer plant. The committee prepared a plan of action for the upcoming year; priorities were discussed. A surprise inspection by the PA DEP went well. They always have a list of items to fix. The committee is addressing those items. A maintenance contract will be secured for the new generator. The generator is working very well.

BOROUGH ENGINEER - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

A resident asked for an update on the Bryn Athyn Post Office. Mr. Elsing reported that SEPTA has finished their repairs and they have turned it over to the USPS for interior work. There is no other information. Mayor Schauder noted that he noticed that another tree is leaning over the Post Office from the neighboring property in Lower Moreland. Mrs. Roscoe reported that she spoke with the postmaster who said that the repairs will take a couple more weeks.

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 3, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost
Secretary