

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Borough of Baldwin Council was called to order by President Marianne Conley at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2021.

The invocation was done by Mrs. Boyer and the following Council and staff answered to roll call:

Mrs. Patty Boyer
Mr. Chad Hurka
Mrs. Denise Maiden
Mr. Francis Scott
Mr. James Behers
Mr. John Egger, Vice-President
Mrs. Marianne Conley, President
Mr. David Depretis, Mayor
Mr. Jake Bajek in for Mr. Jason Stanton, Engineer
Mrs. Ashley Wagner, Solicitor
Chief Tony Cortazzo
Mr. Robert Firek, Borough Manager

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mrs. Conley asked for the following approval of Council Meeting Minutes:

M-1 *Mr. Hurka made a motion to approve the Agenda Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2021; second by Mr. Behers. Upon vote, motion passed with one abstain from Mr. Scott.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any corrections or additions on the motion. There were none.

M-2 *Mr. Scott made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2021; second by Mr. Egger. Upon vote, motion passed with abstains from Mr. Hurka and Mrs. Maiden.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any corrections or additions on the motion. There were none.

AUDIENCE AGENDA: Agenda Items Only: 5 MINUTES PER SPEAKER OR GROUP

Mrs. Conley asked the audience if they would like to address Council on anything that is on the agenda. If so, they should come forward and state their name and address for the record. No one asked to speak.

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PROCLAMATION--PRESENTATION

Mrs. Conley asked that Mr. Elliott Rambo come forward to present a Proclamation -- Presentation on behalf of County Councilman John Palmiere to Baldwin Borough in Recognition of Community Day, June 5, 2021

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Stanton previously submitted the Monthly Engineers Report to Council at the Agenda meeting and had summarized the activity for the month. Mr. Jake Bajek was in attendance for Mr. Stanton and had nothing additional to add to the report unless there were questions.

Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any questions for the Engineer. None were asked.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Wagner provided her report to Council at the last meeting, but has one development for Council.

Since the meeting last week, the Governors Executive Order of May 20, 2021, which extended the Emergency Declaration along with additional procedures put in place due to COVID were now terminated. One of those procedures was the availability for Council to meet remotely. Legislature on Friday overruled the Governor and terminated the Emergency Declaration. Borough Council, under the Borough Code, is no longer able to meet remotely and a Quorum at the Borough Building is now again required.

Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any questions for Mrs. Wagner. None were asked.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor provided information from the Police Monthly Activity Report for June 2021:

Calls to Police from 911:	738
Fees Collected for May 2021:	\$440.00
Arrest totals:	25
Citations/Tags:	32

He would like to thank Denise Maiden, Patty Boyer, and the volunteers for Community Day.

The Chief did not have anything additional to report.

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions on the Mayor's report or any questions of the Chief. None were asked.

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ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Firek reviewed his monthly report with Council at last week's meeting.

Mr. Firek had the following motions tonight for Council's consideration:

M-3 *Mr. Scott made a Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-06-07 seeking Grant Funding under the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) Green Revitalization of Our Waterways (GROW) Program to fund a project to remove inflow and infiltration (I/I) in the sanitary sewer system tributary to the ALCOSAN M-42 Point of Connection (POC); second by Mrs. Maiden. Upon vote, motion passed.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. There were none.

M-4 *Mr. Scott made a Motion to authorize the Borough to enter into the ALCOSAN GROW Grant Application Amended MOU with Brentwood Borough, PWSA, West Mifflin Sanitary Sewer Municipal Authority and Whitehall Borough to remove inflow and infiltration (I/I) in the sanitary sewer system tributary to the ALCOSAN M-42 Point of Connection (POC); second by Mrs. Maiden. Upon vote, motion passed.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. There were None.

M-5 *Mrs. Boyer made a Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-06-08 the Borough of Baldwin Plan Revision for Land Development that Crossgates, Inc. Sewage Facilities Planning Module conforms to applicable sewage related zoning and sewage related Borough Ordinances and Plans; second by Mrs. Maiden. Upon vote, motion passed.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. There were None.

Prior to the next motion, Mr. Firek gave brief description explaining the grant was approved at the Stormwater Authority Meeting in May. This is acknowledgement from the Borough showing they will apply for this grant.

M-6 *Mr. Scott made a Motion to Approve the Application to PA DEP Grow Greener for the Cathell Road Pond Retrofit portion of the Baldwin PRP Project; second by Mr. Behers. Upon vote, motion passed.*

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Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. There were None.

M-7 *Mr. Egger made a Motion to waive the Sanitary Sewer Tap in fee of \$4,000.00 for the Paynter Elementary School Reconstruction Project for the Baldwin Whitehall School District; second by Mrs. Maiden. Upon vote, motion passed.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. Mr. Scott commented the reason for this motion is the taxpayers would pay this through their school tax should it not be waived.

M-8 *Mr. Scott made a Motion to bill the Baldwin Whitehall School District annually vs. an upfront of 10 years for the annual inspection costs (approximately \$250.00 vs. \$2,607.00) for the required inspection of the new Paynter Elementary School Site Stormwater Facilities as required under the MS4 Program; second by Mr. Hurka. Upon vote, motion passed.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. Mr. Scott asked Mr. Firek to provide a brief description of the motion. Mr. Firek stated this is a fee that is required under the MS4 Permit. The Borough must inspect the stormwater facilities on a yearly basis, calculate a cost over the next 10 years for this service and then require that cost up front. Again, this would be less of a burden on the taxpayers to bill the school district on an annual basis vs. on an upfront 10-year basis.

M-9 *Mr. Egger made a Motion to approve Partial Payment No. 1 (Final) in the amount of \$52,602.00 to Stefanik's Next Generation Contracting Company for the Emergency Pool Repair as recommended by the Manager; second by Mr. Behers. Upon vote, motion passed.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. Mr. Scott asked Mr. Firek for an overview. Mr. Firek explained this is repair to the pools return pumping system. The return system (which is 50 years old) had a severe leak which would not allow the pool to be filled. To access the piping to concrete pool bottom in the deep end had to be removed then the pipe repaired. The remaining pool concrete is leaking due to its age and needs to be replaced soon as well as the gutter system, the remainder of the return water system and the pumps. All are 50 years old and at their end-of-life stages.

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions for Mr. Firek. None were asked.

FINANCE

Mr. Hurka said the Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Reports were provided to Council the previous week. He asked Council to consider the following motions:

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M-10 *Mr. Hurka made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for May 2021; second by Mrs. Maiden. Upon vote, motion passed.*

Mr. Egger asked about the invoice for Paul Hayhurst for Tumbling Dice. Mr. Hurka said this will be addressed on the next motion.

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. There were none.

M-11 *Mr. Hurka made a Motion to Ratify Bills in the Amount of \$635,440.52 and approve bills in the amount of \$190,988.67 for a total of \$826,429.19; second by Mrs. Maiden. Upon vote, motion passed with one abstain from Mr. Egger.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. Mr. Egger noted there is an invoice included in the list of bills for Paul Hayhurst for Tumbling Dice who played at Community Day and were to be paid \$100.00 for that performance. Mr. Egger noted he will abstain from the vote due to him being a member of the Tumbling Dice. He understands it to be unethical for him to vote on anything he would have any financial interest in. It was further noted by Mr. Egger, in the summer of 2020 the Tumbling Dice did several roving events without charging for them.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mrs. Boyer reported the activities by Public Works for the month of May.

Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any questions for Mrs. Boyer. None were asked.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Mrs. Maiden provided the Monthly Blanket List for the month and asked Council for the following motion:

M-12 *Mrs. Maiden asked for the approval of the June 2021 Blanket Approval list; second by Mr. Egger. Upon vote, motion passed with one abstain from Mrs. Conley.*

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion on this motion. There were none.

Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any questions for Mrs. Maiden. None were asked.

Mrs. Conley would like to thank Mrs. Maiden, Mrs. Boyer and all who participated in Community Day, it was a very nice event.

ZONING & PLANNING

Mr. Egger provided his Monthly report to Council:

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- The Planning Commission had a meeting on Monday, June 14, 2021. He attended this meeting and said the members of this commission work very well together and would like to thank Bob Fischer, Planning and Zoning Officer (interim) who provided positive interaction and guidance during the meeting.

Also, Mr. Egger mentioned there was a company looking to buy the gas station on Grace St. and they presented a sketch plan to the Planning Commission. The plans they presented take into account the proposed Overlay District.

- The Zoning Hearing Board is scheduled for a meeting on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 7:30 pm.
- The monthly Zoning and planning Department Report was provided:
 - A total of 46 permits were issued for May 2021
 - Total YTD permits issued were 211
 - May 2021 fees collected were \$6,136.20
 - Fees collected YTD for 2021 were \$29,454.81
 - May 2020 fees collected were \$1,056.81
 - Fees collected YTD for 2020 were \$18,735.82

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions for Mr. Egger. None were asked.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Behers read the following Activity Reports for BEMS and the Volunteer Fire Departments with the following calls/incidents and response times:

	Calls/Incidents:	Avg. Response Time:
BEMS	262	6.4 minutes
OPTION Fire	35	11.42 minutes
Baldwin #105	32	6.27 minutes
SBVFC	21	7.24 minutes

Mrs. Conley asked Asst. Chief Brian McCaffrey of BEMS if he wished to comment. Asst. Chief McCaffrey said they were happy to be a part of Community Day and from their standpoint it was a slow day.

Mrs. Conley again thanked everyone for the successful Community Day support from all of Public Safety and it was a demonstration of a full community effort.

Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any questions for Mr. Behers. None were asked.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Scott had one motion for consideration:

M-13 *Mr. Scott made a Motion to Appoint Detective Clay Baumgard to the position of Juvenile Officer effective July 1, 2021; second by Mr. Egger. Upon vote, motion passed.*

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The Chief expressed his thanks to Council for taking action to appoint Detective Baumgard to Juvenile Officer. He will serve the department well in these responsibilities.

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions or discussion.

AUDIENCE AGENDA – Any issue pertaining to Borough Business: 5 MINUTES PER SPEAKER OR GROUP

Paul Hayhurst 3801 Willett Rd – Mr. Hayhurst noted he is the President of the Board of Trustees for the Baldwin Borough Public Library Board and was present to discuss the Library's 2020 Audit and also the recently approved Strategic Plan. There was a previous Strategic Plan done for 2015 and 2019 that they were unable to complete. They are excited to move forward with the new plan that has an extension of trying to do more things; enhance the building, continue with community outreach, more community service programs and other items.

James Foster 720 Lafferty Dr. – Discussed the Earth Disturbance Inspection Reports for 245 Joseph St. asking why they are still doing work. Mr. Firek explained the Allegheny County Conservation District is to look at the property this week again and the Borough issued a "Stop Work Order", but since the courts have been closed, they have not been able to enforce the order.

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor wanted to discuss the e-mail Mr. Firek received from the Volunteer Fire Departments and forwarded to all of Council and himself. The e-mail was regarding the Fire departments merger and using the DCED provided help vs. them seeking their own person to facilitate this process. Discussion was had between using the free DCED provided person and paying for someone to provide this service. Mr. Firek noted that DCED would not be providing any legal help and Mr. Hurka noted this independent person would provide all required help and had worked for DCED in the past. Mr. Hurka provided the pros for going with an independent person while Mr. Scott and the Mayor asked why not save money and have the DCED person provide the help they can at no cost then have the independent person take that info to finalize things saving money in the long run. Mr. Hurka said that they want to maintain their existing structures and that would not work with the DCED person. Mr. Egger supported this notion as well.

Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any other items under new business. No one had any.

M-14 *Mr. Egger made the motion to adjourn; second by Mr. Behers. Upon vote, motion passed.*

Respectively submitted,
BOROUGH OF BALDWIN

Robert T. Firek
Borough Manager