

MINUTES TO AGENDA MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2020

The Agenda meeting of the Borough of Baldwin Council was called to order by President Marianne Conley at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

After the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the following Council answered to roll call:

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

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, stating issues concerning the Borough. No one approached.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Jason Stanton reviewed the monthly report dated January 9, 2020 summarizing activity since the last Council Meeting. Additionally, Mr. Stanton provided brief updates on the following items:

Mr. Stanton introduced Devante` Miles from LSSE, who he brought along to attend a meeting as an engineer-in-training.

Sanitary Sewer System (Lick Run):

- PHA Sewage Treatment Plant Pre-Treatment Regulations:
PHA to adopt updated pre-treatment standards in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements - January 2020 meeting.
January Regular Meeting - Mr. Stanton will have a request to advertise an Ordinance required to be approved by the contributing municipalities. A draft form of the Ordinance was provided to the Borough by the PHA for review and final approval in February.
- Lick Run Consent Order and Agreement:
Next PHA Quarterly Engineers Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15, 2020.

Sanitary Sewer System (Streets Run):

- Streets Run and Becks Run:
Still working on the Phase II Consent Order
PaDEP approved the Interim CAP extension till June 30, 2020 and approved ten possible taps for the Borough.
- Regionalization:
ALCOSAN proposing to acquire ownership, operation and maintenance responsibilities for over 200 miles of multi-municipal trunk sewers that are greater than 10" in diameter.
Multi-Municipal trunk sewer repairs need done prior to regionalization/ ALCOSAN acceptance.

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ACOSAN's report to Borough included a significant number of items in need of repairs to the interceptor.

Previewed ALCOSAN's analysis for Source Flow Reduction Program. Take flow out of system and repair the defects - ALCOSAN'S Grant Program would fund these improvements. LSSE to present to Council a review of the draft form at the February Agenda Meeting

2019 Road Improvement Program:

- Senior Drive – Storm sewer and final wearing course completed (LF)
- Two pay requests will be on next week's agenda for approval – McKee is the only remaining roadway to be completed in the spring due to PAW's line replacement work.

Grading Permit Applications:

- To be reviewed under the Planning and Zoning Report.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Ashley Wagner said she has items to be discussed in executive session.

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions for the Solicitor. None were asked.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Depretis will give his monthly report at the next meeting.

The Mayor mentioned two unfortunate events that occurred in Baldwin the past weekend.

Chief Cortazzo then provided the 2019 Police Department statistics:

- They were short three officers last year, only two supervisors most of the year and working with minimum shifts for most of the year.
- Despite this shortage, they had 7,774 total calls which represents an increase of a little over 1500 call entries from 2018. This means they had less officers on the road handling more calls. The total number of incidents that required more advanced police investigation or police work, went from 5,500 to 6,600. They are hoping the call volume decreases now that they are fully staffed with the exception of a couple long term entries moving forward.

Mr. Scott asked if he knew the reason for the increase in call volume. The Chief explained the increase in population, crime from adjoining neighborhoods, and lastly, officers are in the community more doing community service with incidents resulting from this service.

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions for the Mayor or the Chief. None were asked.

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Firek submitted his monthly written report to Council for review. There are a few items Mr. Firek discussed in detail with Council:

902 Grant (Recycling Cans):

- The order has been placed for the purchase of the 48-gallon containers with a tentative delivery date in late March 23, 2020. At the beginning of March, we will begin to educate residents on the distribution and usage of the cans.

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Ordinance No. 900 Rezoning of Schuette Farms from PRD to R-1:

- This Ordinance is for the rezoning of the Schuette Farms PRD which was never started by the property owner.
- This has been advertised and will be placed on the January 21, 2020 agenda for a vote by Council.

Ordinance No. 902 Rezoning of Vacant Parcel Frontage on Songo Street:

- This Ordinance is for the rezoning of Lot and Block 187-C-30 a vacant lot with frontage on Songo Street, from C-1 to an R-1 zoning district.
- This has been advertised and will be placed on the January 21, 2020 agenda for a vote by Council.

Discussion on proposed Ordinance No. 903, revision to Ordinance No. 897 regarding Keeping of Chickens:

- At the November and December Council meetings this proposed Ordinance never made it to a vote. Council indicated that further discussion was needed on this. The main portion of this proposed Ordinance change that Council wished to discuss was the section regarding the slaughter of animals to try and resolve past incidents that had occurred in October of 2019.
- This again will be tabled for further review and edits by the Solicitor and brought back in front of council for discussion.

South Hills Cooperative Animal Control:

- Per the information provided by the Cooperative at the meeting on December 17, 2019 with Council, the Borough will await notification from the cooperative that we can apply for membership. This should be occurring at the end of January.

Civil Service Commission Vacancy and Planning Commission Vacancy:

- The Manager has received via e-mail notification from Mr. Robert Collet that he is resigning his position on the Civil Service Commission. The resignation is effective immediately and will need to be filled. Mr. Firek noted there is currently an alternate on the Commission who can be contacted to see if he is interested in filling the permanent position. If so, then council will need to fill the Alternate position by advertising and placing on the Borough website.
- There are also two vacancies on the Planning Commission, one member and one alternate.
- All vacancies will be advertised and placed on the website. Council will interview any candidates seeking the vacancies.

Swap 412 Event:

- Kris Schemm previously ran the Soccer Association in the Borough. He owns and runs a for-profit organization called Swap412, a community reuse event has two parts, one for the collection of goods and second, the swap itself. He is asking in case of inclement weather, the use of the auditorium for the event.

Mrs. Wagner suggested they sign a liability waiver and Council is requesting the \$75 fee rental, tax id and insurance before approval.

SHACOG Resolutions:

- There will be a need to pass two resolutions next week at the regular council meeting that will formalize the designated council members who will be on the Joint Rate Review Board and Franchising Authority Boards per the SHACOG requirements.

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238 Cedar Cove (Salt truck Accident in 2019):

- As discussed in October with Council, the homeowners filed with the magistrate (Richard King – City of Pittsburgh) for what they deem in their opinion, unsatisfactory lawn restoration.
- The hearing was held and Judgment was received on December 19, 2019 in favor of the homeowners. The Borough is responsible for payment of \$2,212.75.

Pleasant Hills Authority (PHA) Ordinance Adoption:

- This ordinance is requested to be adopted by the PHA and will ensure that any future industrial facilities will be subject to the pre-treatment rules as required by the EPA, as discussed by Mr. Stanton. There will be a First Reading of this Proposed Ordinance at the next meeting.

Churchview Avenue vs. Churchview Avenue Extension:

- Mr. Firek asked The Municipal Services Manager and Code Compliance Officer to contact County 911 to get a clearer understanding of what County 911 was requesting. After contacting them it was explained what protocol takes place when a change is made and the major inconvenience to not only Emergency Services, but residents that have to change all personal documents as well.

Process to purchase a JCB Backhoe:

- Originally, they were going to rent this, but Stephenson Equipment quoted not just the new Backhoe, but also a trade in for the old Case Backhoe. This is a main piece of equipment used frequently for excavations and salt loading.
- The trade-in allowed the Borough to purchase a new backhoe at a significant reduction in cost plus financed as three payments starting in 2021.
- A resolution is required for the purchase of this equipment and will be listed on the agenda at the next meeting.

Skill Game Ordinance:

- Mr. Firek received a letter from a Law Firm urging the Borough to pass a Skill Game Ordinance. He would like the Solicitor, Chief Cortazzo and Council to review and see if this is an ordinance that would be necessary for the Borough to adopt.
- Chief Cortazzo, after reading the letter, got the impression that they may be representing a Legal Gaming Industry in PA.
- The letter will be filed with not further action needed unless otherwise noted.

Conferences:

- Mr. Firek mentioned the ACBA Annual Banquet on Feb. 1, 2020 and the ALOM Spring Educational Conference April 2-5, 2020.
- Mr. Scott commented he believes that not everyone should be attending, just the assigned delegates should go and return to Council with a summary of the events.
- Members of Council who wanted to attend an event gave Mr. Firek their response.

Mr. Firek has a few items to discuss in executive session.

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

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FINANCE

Mr. Hurka said Council should have received the Monthly Financial Reports.

- There are a few last-minute bills that have not yet been paid so the year-end numbers are not a full representation of the year.
- We are in a good financial position for the end of the year with a little over 100% collected of tax collection, 95% revenues collected for the General Fund Budget and total expenses at 92%.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

Mrs. Boyer reviewed the monthly report for Public Works:

- Mrs. Boyer provided the list of items that the DPW are currently working on including: Seasonal decorating, asphalt patching, CCTV work, vehicle maintenance, winter call outs along with other items on the report.

Mrs. Conley asked if there were any questions for Mrs. Boyer. None were asked.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES MANAGER

Mr. Lubin reviewed his monthly report for Council:

Street Opening Permits:

- The work will always be ongoing with this year's work he will be looking at it more closely to see if any are related to the 2020 Road Program. A spreadsheet given to Council, shows any projects that are forthcoming and making sure there will be a coordinated effort if any of them are involved in roadways that need to be paved. The Borough will then remove these roadways from our program and wait for the utility companies, if necessary, to pave these areas.
- A review of the Street Opening Ordinance was held with each utility and addressed the annual requirements with the local utilities and these have been updated as well.

Elm Leaf Park Phase II:

- Began work on the new construction and the contractor is taking advantage of the good weather and should be completed by mid-May.

MS4:

- Ongoing with updates with the Traisr Program as weather permits and doing the required maintenance of outfalls for the MS4 program.
- Mr. Stanton will be providing an update to Council on sewers, Sanitary Sewers and the PRP in the near future.

2019 Roads:

- All roads have been completed with the exception of McKee Drive. Anticipated for this road paving/restoration to be completed in the spring.

PaDEP:

- The Borough received a letter from the PaDEP concerning A. Merante Contracting Inc. This project was and application for a new bridge crossing Streets Run to connect with their fill site in

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West Mifflin Borough to Streets Run Road. The DEP said the application had numerous technical deficiencies that need to be addressed before moving forward.

- Mr. Stanton said this site is in West Mifflin and the Borough objected to anything concerning this project.

Mr. Egger wished to thank the Public Works Department for a great job with salting/plowing the Borough over the holidays.

Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any questions or items for Mr. Lubin. None were asked.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Mrs. Maiden listed the four items on the January Blanket List.

Mr. Scott asked if some of these items were new for the Borough and Mr. Firek explained most of these are annual repeats with the Soccer Association being a new one due to the new Colewood Field.

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

ZONING AND PLANNING

Mr. Egger will provide his report at the next meeting.

- The Planning Commission Meeting had a meeting on Monday, January 13, 2020.
- The Zoning Hearing Board will not be meeting this month.
- The Planning Commission and the Zoning Hearing Board are asking that their meetings always take place in the auditorium since the Council Chambers is not large enough to layout plans for the meeting.

Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any questions from Mr. Egger.

Mr. Hurka asked about the reference of a storage facility on Curry Rd. that is planned.

Mr. Stanton explained this was a pre-application meeting and there has not been a formal application filed. They did not attend the Planning Commission Meeting. Discussion continued about the safety of storage facilities. The other item listed on the Agenda for the Planning Commission did not show up at the meeting as well.

Council discussed at length other abandoned structures in the Borough that would need the attention of the Community Compliance Officer, the substantial cost to demo a structure, along with information on the Vacant Property Recovery Program.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Behers provided a copy of the December 2019 monthly activity reports for Council:

BEMS	255 incidents	6.7-minute	average response time
BEMS	3293 incidents	7.0 -minute	average response time for the year end
SBVF	18 incidents	8.8- minute	average response time
#105	35 incidents	4.1- minute	average response time
OPTION	39 incidents	6.1- minute	average response time

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Mr. Behers commented on the possibility of some of these incidents being false alarms in the apartment complexes. Mr. Hurka replied with how these alarms are dispatched to the fire companies. Mrs. Conley asked if anyone had any questions for Mr. Behers. None were asked.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Scott said he has nothing to report for the month.

Mr. Scott discussed the email received from Mr. Bob Collett and the reason for his resignation being how Council conducted the search for the new Solicitor. Mr. Scott again raised his concerns regarding how council went about the process of the solicitor's replacement.

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

NEW BUSINESS – No new items from Council.

AUDIENCE AGENDA –Any issue pertaining to Borough Business: 5 MINUTES PER SPEAKER OR GROUP -- No one approached.

M-1 Mr. Egger made the motion to go into executive session; second by Mrs. Conley. Upon vote, motion passed. Mrs. Conley noted after executive session council would not be returning.

Respectively submitted,

BOROUGH OF BALDWIN

Robert T. Firek
Borough Manager