

**BRIDGEVILLE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

March 8, 2021

7:00 PM

The meeting was held virtually on the website www.zoom.us and teleconference. President Henderson reported that before this meeting the Council met in Executive Session to discuss legal matters. He then led a moment of silence for recently departed former Mayor Pasquale Vincent DeBlasio.

ROLL CALL – Roll was called at 7:00 PM with the following present:

Council President, William Henderson
Council Vice President, Nino Petrocelli, Sr.
Councilman, Bruce Ghelarducci
Councilman, Joseph Colosimo
Councilman, Joseph Verduci
Councilwoman, Virginia Schneider
Councilman, Nicholas Ciesielski

Mayor Betty Copeland, Solicitor Thomas McDermott, Borough Engineer Kevin Brett, Borough Manager Joseph Kauer, Police Chief Chad King, Fire Chief Ray Costain and EMS Director Miller

ABSENT: None

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR –

1. **Mr. Robert Fryer:** stated that the funeral for former Mayor DeBlasio was very touching and a beautiful service. He stated that about one year ago he asked the Planning Commission and Council to create a plan to mitigate traffic congestion on Washington Avenue and Bower Hill Road, highlighting the two-way couple concepts. Mr. Fryer questioned where the Borough is with presenting such plans to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and PENNDOT. He stated that traffic congestion in Bridgeville needs solved if the I-79 Toll Bridge is to advance. Mr. Henderson stated that all of Council has copies of his plans and the Planning Commission is now in the process of updating our community's Comprehensive Plan, and that all his ideas will be considered in this process. He added that Borough Council is also seeking grant funds to help advance this project.
2. **Mr. Pat DeBlasio:** on behalf of his family, thanked the Mayor and Chief of Police for the proclamation recognizing his late father and for flying the flag at the Borough Building at half-mast. He stated that he and his family appreciate the efforts of those involved.

BUSINESS

1. A motion to approve the February 8, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mrs. Schneider; motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion to approve the March 2021 Bill List was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.

3. A motion to approve the March 12, 19, 26, April 2 and 9, 2021 payrolls was made by Mr. Colosimo, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to grant a Conditional Use Application for 621 McLaughlin Run Road submitted by Antonio Carosella of Fully Cocked Ammo, LLC with the following conditions:

Condition 1 - Prior to an Occupancy Permit being issued, the Bridgeville Fire Department is permitted access to the business for the development of a structure pre-plan, and the owner shall annually, or as needed, provide access to the Fire Department at reasonable times, without warning, during normal business hours, to update the building pre-plan.

Condition 2 - At the Fire Department's request, the Building shall be placarded in accordance with current State Fire Code and /or National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommendations, NFPA 704 document.

Condition 3 - Approval of the Conditional Use Permit is provided that, the owner meets all the criteria of the ordinance and meets all Federal, State, local and other regulations.

Condition 4 – The building shall be equipped with an operating and interconnected fire alarm system that is monitored by an offsite monitoring / call facility all hours of each day.

Mr. Henderson reported that a Public Hearing was held prior to this meeting where public comment was accepted. He stated that the Borough Council proposed the fourth condition in addition to the already proposed three by the Planning Commission. Motion was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; motion carried unanimously to grant the permit with the above four conditions.

5. A motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1020, an Ordinance amending and restating the Borough of Bridgeville Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1, Article A, Planning Commission, in its entirety, to decrease the Planning Commission membership from seven members to five members; and to set forth its continued powers and duties as the Borough's duly constituted Local Planning Agency was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-4, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to reimburse PENNDOT for the design, construction and inspection costs associated with curb ramps on SR 3034 at the intersections of Chartiers and Winfield Streets, Chartiers and Bank Streets and Lesnett Road

and Sarah Street was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mrs. Schneider; motion carried unanimously.

7. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-5, a Resolution authorizing an application to the Pennsylvania Municipal Assistance Program. Mr. Henderson stated that this Resolution authorizes applying for a grant in the amount of \$37,500 to fund half of the costs of the Comprehensive Plan Update Project. Motion was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mrs. Schneider; motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-6, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, disposing of records in compliance with the Municipal Records Manual approved on July 16, 1993 in accordance with Act 428 of 1968 was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; motion carried unanimously.
9. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-7, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, authorizing Borough Manager Joseph Kauer to execute documents and act on behalf of the Borough of Bridgeville for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Mr. Henderson reported that this is for the PEMA Demolition Project of Flood Prone Structures on Baldwin Street. Motion was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-8, a Resolution of the Borough Council and Mayor of the Borough of Bridgeville, opposing the proposed tolling of Interstate 79 at the Bridgeville Interchange was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
11. A motion to authorize entering into a Lease Agreement with the Bridgeville Athletic Association for the concession stand at Chartiers Park for the year 2021 was made by Mr. Colosimo, seconded by Mrs. Schneider; motion carried unanimously.
12. A motion to accept the 2020 Audit as prepared by the Borough Auditors – Hosack, Specht, Muetzel and Wood was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
13. A motion to approve granting local earned income tax credits for year 2020 to active Bridgeville Volunteer Firefighters that have been certified as eligible by the Borough Manager and Fire Chief in accordance with Chapter 24, Part 1, Section 111 of the Bridgeville Code of Ordinances was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
14. A motion to ratify the disbursement of \$32,481.54 from the Capital Project's Fund to Sciarretti Site Development and Paving Company for Partial Payment No. 4 of the McLaughlin Run

Park Improvements Project was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.

15. A motion to authorize the execution of Change Order No. 2 for the McLaughlin Run Park Flood Mitigation Project in the amount of \$47,300 to LM&R Excavating, LLC, to address unforeseen conditions associated with re-establishing a stable parking lot subbase that was damaged during construction activities necessary to complete the project. Mr. Henderson stated that majority of these costs associated with this Change Order are to be paid from the awarded GEDF grant for this project. Motion was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
16. A motion to authorize the Borough Engineer to prepare project specifications and advertise for bids the Sanitary Sewer Backflow Preventor Phase 4 Project was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; Mr. Ciesielski questioned if sidewalk restoration was included in these projects and the Borough Engineer replied yes. Motion carried unanimously.
17. A motion to authorize the execution of a new water shut off agreement with the Pennsylvania American Water Company relative to residential landlord ratepayer shut offs in compliance with the Utility Service Tenants Rights Act was made by Mrs. Schneider, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
18. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – February 2020 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
19. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the January 2020 Treasurer’s Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mrs. Schneider; motion carried unanimously.
20. A motion to accept the February 2021 Police Report was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION, VIRGINIA SCHNEIDER – Mrs. Schneider reported that after being adopted last month, all non-uniform employees have been provided with and explained to their Employee Handbook and job descriptions. All employees have signed off on the acknowledgments for both and are in their personnel files. She also reported that the Borough Newsletter has been mailed and received around town. Digital copy posted to the website and extra copies are at the office.

Mr. Verduci added that he likes that the newsletters are included in new resident packets each month for those moving into town as a reference guide.

FINANCE, JOSEPH VERDUCI – Mr. Verduci reported that the 2020 Audit has been completed. There were no findings or observations. He stated that regarding the Firefighter Local Earned Income

Tax Credit, 13 firefighters qualified and that the maximum costs would be \$3,900.

Mr. Verduci reported that the Workers Compensation Safety Committee is advancing, he stated that the proposed committee has been formed with staff members from DPW, Fire, Police and the office. First meeting to be held 3/18/21, training to be set for April, goal is that we can secure a 5% discount on the Firefighters Workers Compensation Policy in 2022 and work at reducing workers compensation claims across all departments. He also reported that a memorandum of understanding has been executed with the Tax Collector memorializing the compensation for duplicate tax bills and compensation on delinquent collections pursued by the Borough staff.

Regarding the 2021 Budget, Mr. Verduci stated that Public Works Snow Removal Overtime has exceeded the \$15,000 budget for the year, currently at \$18,599 due the severe winter we have been experiencing. Lastly, he stated that the annual State Liquid Fuels Tax payment was received on March 1st in the amount of \$139,455, last year we received \$150,205. Funds are used to pay for the annual paving of streets.

PARKS & RECREATION, JOSEPH COLOSIMO – Mr. Colosimo reported that the Public Works Department recently completed the following at:

a. Chartiers Park:

- Installed drainage pipe along walking trail.
- Repaired lights within storage shed.
- Repainted the inside of the restroom building near the front picnic shelter.
- Made repairs to the roadway that was washed out and muddy.

b. McLaughlin Run Park:

- Began work to dig out mulch around playgrounds so that it can be improved and remulched.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, NINO PETROCELLI, SR. – Mr. Petrocelli reported that the Public Works Department is about \$10,000 over budget with overtime and rock salt costs due to the severe winter. He also reported that Assistant Foreman Maceil last working day was February 12th, new Assistant Foreman Allot took over his duties on February 13th and the new Laborer, Mike Meglen started work on February 22nd. Everything is going smooth with the new hire and Greg's transition.

PUBLIC SAFETY, BRUCE GHELARDUCCI – Mr. Ghelarducci reported that he will be having a Committee Meeting to discuss several items including the upcoming Police contract negotiations.

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland reported that March is Women's History Month and recognized the women who formed and created the Bridgeville Public Library. She also reported that the American Legion has cancelled this year's Memorial Day Parade due to the pandemic, however she will accompany them to the local cemeteries that day to honor our fallen service members.

POLICE CHIEF, CHAD KING – Chief King reported that on February 21st, on a traffic stop Sgt. Young made the largest single drug bust in Department history. He stated that Sgt. Young did an outstanding job.

SOLICITOR, THOMAS MCDERMOTT – Solicitor McDermott stated that he submitted a written

report to Council and can answer any questions. He expressed his sympathy to the former Mayor's family and extended best wishes to Charlie Maceil on his retirement.

BOROUGH ENGINEER, KEVIN BRETT – Engineer Brett reported that he submitted a written report to Council dated March 3rd. He updated Council that the 2021 Road Program is currently out to bid. The Jane Way Project is delayed as the stop-logs are on back order.

The Engineer stated that the improvements at McLaughlin Run Park will resume by mid-April and be complete by the end of May. Restoration of the Bower Hill Storm Sewer project is still outstanding and waiting on the asphalt plants to reopen for the season, and that construction on the Backflow Phase 3 project is now underway on McLaughlin Run Road and Baldwin Street. Lastly, he will start the process to secure Highway Occupancy Permits for Phase 4 of the Backflow Project.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – Chief Costain reported that the Department responded to 28 calls for service this past month. He stated that the Department recently put a new medical-QRS vehicle into service.

Mrs. Schneider questioned despite the Memorial Day Parade being canceled would the Fire Department still hang the American Flag that day? The Fire Chief stated that they will do anything asked of them.

Chief Costain questioned that if the annual Easter Egg Hunt is canceled this year due to the pandemic, would it be acceptable for the Fire Department to take the Easter Bunny around town again like last year? All of Council thought that was a great idea.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – Director Miller stated that the EMS annual subscription drive is to be mailed out in the next two weeks and asked for everyone's support and to subscribe if they can.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MARY WEISE – Mayor Copeland invited everyone to the Historical Society's 10-year anniversary in the train station building. She stated that the open house will be held March 14 through 20, 12PM to 3PM each day. She invited everyone to see the displays and to their March 30th presentation on Women of World War II that will be held at the Chartiers Room.

Mr. Colosimo wished Mayor Copeland a happy birthday.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Library Director Ben Hornfeck, reported that he submitted a written report and thanked the Mayor for recognizing the founders of the Bridgeville Library. He also thanked Council for considering the proclamation that recognizes National Library Week the first week of April.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – written report submitted.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Ms. Cimarolli reported that the Commission approved the conditional use permit with three conditions for the application of 621 McLaughlin Run Road. She also reported that the Commission is now reviewing the six proposals

received from Planning Consultants to complete the update to our Comprehensive Plan.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – the Manager reported that the grant the Borough recently applied for to complete an Active Transportation Plan that would address and improve pedestrian concerns in the Borough was awarded. We received \$22,000 from the County’s Active Allegheny Program for this project.

He also reported that two grant applications were completed and submitted this past month to improve and complete the fitness trail around Chartiers Park. In addition, the Manager stated that he is currently working on grant applications for the Comprehensive Plan Project, advancing the FEMA Demolition Project on Baldwin Street, and a third application for blight removal projects around town.

Lastly, it was reported that Bridgeville has again achieved Banner Community status for 2021 by the Allegheny League of Municipalities as result of our efforts to advance professional development, fiscal management, transparency, and accountability.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Proclamation recognizing National Library Week the first week of April 2021. Mr. Henderson read the proclamation.
2. Zoning Hearing Board Vacancy: it was reported that there currently is one vacancy on the board and that two applications have been received. Mr. Petrocelli stated that both are excellent candidates. Mr. Henderson questioned Council to see if they would like the candidates interviewed by a Committee or all of Council. The majority expressed a desire to interview all candidates. Mr. Henderson asked the Manager to set up the interviews before our April Council Meeting. Mr. Petrocelli stated that at the next Administration Committee he would like to discuss our process of interviewing candidates for appointed and compensated positions.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary