

**BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, February 13, 2023  
7:00 PM**

The meeting was held within Council Chambers at the Bridgeville Borough Building, 425 Bower Hill Road and virtually on the website [www.Zoom.us](http://www.Zoom.us). Council President William Henderson led a moment of silence for the recently departed members of our community and those serving in the military.

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

Council President William Henderson  
Council Vice President, Nino Petrocelli, Sr.  
Council President Pro Tem Joseph Colosimo  
Councilman, Bruce Ghelarducci  
Councilman, Joseph Verduci  
Councilman Nicholas Ciesielski  
Councilwoman, Justine Cimarolli

Mayor Betty Copeland, Solicitor Thomas McDermott, Borough Engineer Kevin Brett, Fire Department President Jim Altvater Sr., Police Chief Chad King, EMS Director Dan Miller, and Borough Manager Joseph Kauer.

**Absent:** None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Borough Council and Mayor met in Executive Session before the start of this meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Mr. Dale Livingston, 1252 Cook School Road, expressed concerns relative to the recent train derailment that occurred in East Palestine, Ohio, where it leaked hazardous materials and caught fire. He stated that similar trains travel through Bridgeville daily and asked the Council how prepared is our community and County Emergency Management for a similar emergency.

Mr. Henderson stated that the Borough does have emergency plans in place for disasters that direct resources for lodging and response, but the degree of the East Palestine emergency we would rely heavily on the County and State for their expertise and resources.

Chief King stated that there have been train derailments in the Borough's past, not to such a degree as the Ohio incident, but our resources and staff can only do some much within our abilities.

Ms. Cimarolli questioned how we would evacuate the entire town if it was required. The Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator, Mike Tolmer was in the audience and stated that the Borough's first responders will be the first to answer the call, but an emergency such the Ohio incident are well beyond the Borough's abilities. Mr. Livingston asked the Council to send a letter to Allegheny County Emergency Management asking them to conduct a joint training exercise with the communities in our area on a train derailment incident. Firefighter Altvater stated that the Fire Department has been discussing its preparedness for a train related incident and is coordinating with

the County Hazmat Team for a response to such a call in Bridgeville. Mr. Henderson thanked Mr. Livingston for getting everyone thinking about such an emergency.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. 2022 Bridgeville Borough Year End Report: The Borough Manager presented the annual report, and it is attached to these minutes to be included in the Minute Book and part of the official record of the Borough.
2. Mr. Henderson read into the record and presented to Mr. Michael Connolly who participated in the meeting virtually, a Proclamation of the Bridgeville Borough Council and Mayor recognizing Mr. Connolly's service to the citizens of Bridgeville as a member of the Bridgeville Parking Authority Board of Directors. Mr. Connolly thanked the Council for the Proclamation.

**BUSINESS**

1. A motion to approve the January 9, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion to approve the February 2023 Bill List was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the February 17, 24, March 3 and 10 payrolls was made by Mr. Colosimo, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci, motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to authorize the advertisement and public display of Ordinance No. 1029, an Ordinance of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, amending the Borough or Bridgeville Code of Ordinances, Chapter 15, Motor Vehicles & Traffic, Part 4, General Parking Regulations, 15-402, Parking Prohibited at All Times in Certain Locations, specifically, repealing certain prior parking prohibited locations, and establishing updated parking prohibited locations on Bank Street, Eisner Avenue, and Station Street was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to authorize the advertisement and public display of Ordinance No. 1030, an Ordinance of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, adopting the 2018 Edition of the ICC *International Property Maintenance Code*, with such revisions and additions as noted herein, regulating and governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures; providing the standards for supplied utilities and facilities and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupation and use; providing for the condemnation of buildings and structures unfit for human occupancy and use and for the demolition of such structures in the Borough; providing for the issuance of permits and collections of fees therefor; providing for administration and enforcement; providing for appeals from adverse decisions; and providing for penalties for violation thereof. Motion was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; Mr. Petrocelli questioned if this code is applicable to the interior of a building. The Borough Manager stated that it is, just as it was under the 2009 edition of the

Code. He added that the Borough does not have a regular inspection program of the interior of the structure, but if a complaint is received on interior conditions, they are enforced. Motion carried unanimously.

6. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-1, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, setting the Police Pension Fund contributions to fund the shortfall in the Police Pension Fund evidenced by an Independent Actuarial Study and as permitted by previous Ordinances and the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; Mr. Kauer stated that this memorializes the employee contribution rates established for late 2022 and early 2023; motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-2, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the Rehabilitation of Cook School Park Basketball Court and Chartiers Park Picnic Shelter No. 1 Project was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; Mr. Kauer stated that this application is a resubmission of the same grant project that we applied for in the fall of 2022 that was not selected; motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion to ratify the employment advertisement of the position of Public Works Laborer / Equipment Operator was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski, Mr. Henderson stated that this position will fill an upcoming vacancy created by the Foreman's retirement. Motion carried unanimously.
9. A motion to ratify the authorization of the Borough Engineer's declared emergency sanitary sewer repair on Center Street that was completed by Jet Jack, Inc, starting on January 19, 2023 was made by Mr. Colosimo, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; Mr. Henderson asked if this work has been completed. The Borough Manager reported that it was completed last week, cost approximately \$77,000 and involved a large amount of sanitary sewer to be replaced. Ms. Cimarolli questioned what is being done to get ahead of such conditions in the future. Mr. Kauer stated that getting back into the yearly O&M CCTV inspections just as Council authorized last month for this year's project will aid in reducing such emergencies. Motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion to accept the lowest responsible bid received from Preferred Plumbing and Heating Solutions in the amount of \$84,315 for the Backwater Valve Contract Phase 6 subject to the contractor obtaining the required insurance certificates, performance bond, payment bond, and review and approval of same by the Borough Solicitor prior to execution of the Agreement by the Borough was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; Mr. Verduci questioned if this company has ever worked for the Borough in the past. Engineer Brett stated no, but he is currently checking their references. Mr. Ghelarducci questioned who the second highest bidder was; Engineer Brett reported it was Osiris Co.

Mr. Henderson questioned how many houses are included in this phase; the Borough Manager stated eleven. Motion carried with Mr. Ghelarducci abstaining as his house and father's house are included in this contract.

11. A motion to authorize the execution of Change Order No. 1 / Final for the Backwater Valve Contract Phase 5, a decrease of \$750 based on field measurements of final in-place quantities and work performed was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
12. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$55,093.01 from the Capital Project Fund to A. Merante Contracting Inc. for Partial Payment No. 2 of the Werner and Union Streets Slope Stabilization and Retaining Wall Improvements Project was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; Mr. Henderson asked the status of this project? The Manager stated that the wall has been completed on Union Street and roadway paving with guardrail installation will be completed in the spring. Regarding Werner Street, he stated that West Penn Power has relocated their utility poles and that we are now waiting on Verizon and Comcast to move over to the new poles so that construction can start.
13. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$300,000 from the Capital Project Fund to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for Payment No. 1 of the Chartiers Street Widening Project per Agreement No. 119556 with the Commonwealth. Motion was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; Mr. Henderson stated that this payment is for work completed and is in the amount of the awarded GEDF grant for this project. Motion carried unanimously.
14. A motion to authorize the purchase of custom street name signs and hardware in the amount of \$4,525 from Corson Custom Graphics for Phase 1 of the Bridgeville Street Name Sign Replacement Project was made by Mr. Colosimo, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
15. A motion to authorize the Borough Engineer to prepare plans, specifications and bid documents, and to advertise the 2023 Roadway Improvement Program was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
16. A motion to authorize Wright Garage Doors, Inc., to replace the two garage doors and hardware for the Public Works Garage at a cost not to exceed \$9,680 was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
17. A motion to authorize the purchase and installation of a vehicle repair lift for within the Public Works Garage from Rotary Lift at a price of \$6,085.81 was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
18. A motion to authorize the execution of a service agreement with Noble Environmental Specialty Recycling, LLC for the July 29, 2023, Electronic Waste and Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Collection Event was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.

19. A motion to authorize West Penn Power to install streetlights at the locations identified within the adopted Active Transportation Plan and per the January 30, 2023, recommendation from the Bridgeville Planning Commission was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; Ms. Cimarolli stated that they are recommended to be installed on Murray Avenue near Shady Avenue, Sarah Street at Forbes Street, and Station Street from Lot 5 to Washington Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.
20. A motion to authorize the Pittsburgh Classic Movie Club to hold their free to the public classic movie series in the park at Cook School Park during June through September 2023 was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
21. A motion to authorize the sale and disposition of surplus Police Cruiser No. B-3 (2015 Ford Explorer) via electronic public auction on [www.municibid.com](http://www.municibid.com). Motion was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
22. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – January 2023 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
23. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the January 2023 Treasurer’s Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
24. A motion to accept all submitted January 2023 official reports was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ADMINISTRATION, NICHOLAS CIESIELSKI** – Mr. Ciesielski reported that the Council met in executive session before the start of tonight’s meeting to discuss a personnel matter. He also thanked the staff for their hard work.

**FINANCE, JOE VERDUCI** – Mr. Verduci reported that work is underway to prepare the 2022 Borough Audit.

**PARKS & RECREATION, JOE COLOSIMO** – Mr. Colosimo reported that picnic shelter reservations for 2023 open for the season on March 1<sup>st</sup> for residents and March 15<sup>th</sup> for non-residents. He also stated that the new playgrounds for Cook School and McLaughlin Run Parks are scheduled for construction this summer. Construction on Triangle Park sidewalk replacements is planned for next month. Mr. Colosimo stated that he is excited that the classic movies in the park are returning this summer, and lastly thanked everyone for the well wishes.

**PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, NINO PETROCELLI, SR.** – Mr. Petrocelli reported that this winter has been mild, and we are saving money using less salt.

**PUBLIC SAFETY, BRUCE GHELARDUCCI** – Mr. Ghelarducci stated that he appreciates Mr. Livingston’s concerns about the possibility of a train derailment in our community. He stated that he is going to get with the Emergency Management Coordinator to see what we can do to increase our planning for such an incident.

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland reported that on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, we welcomed Gabby Testa as our community’s first female police officer. She stated that she administered her oath of office. Lastly, the Mayor stated that she is helping the Chartiers Valley High School Interact Club with their shoe drive, which is in competition with South Fayette High School’s club. She stated that a donation box is in the Borough Office lobby through February 28<sup>th</sup>.

POLICE CHIEF, CHAD KING – Chief King reported that he has submitted his written report and could answer any questions. He also stated that on February 1<sup>st</sup>, Patrolman Lower completed his one-year probationary period. The Solicitor stated that inaction on his probation by Council renders his retention.

SOLICITOR, THOMAS MCDERMOTT – Solicitor McDermott reported that he submitted his monthly report in writing and could answer any questions if there was any.

BOROUGH ENGINEER, KEVIN BRETT – Engineer Brett reported that he submitted his monthly report in writing and could answer any questions if there was any.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – Firefighter Altvater stated that in January the Fire Department responded to 46 calls for service and welcomed two new members. He also stated that the BVFD will have its annual fish fry events again this year on February 24, March 24 and April 7, 4P to 7P at the Chartiers Room.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – Director Miller stated that he submitted his monthly report and that this past month EMS provided our Police Department with new Narcan through a program offered by the County Health Department. He also stated that this County program will provide free of charge Narcan to churches, clubs and other social venues.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MARY WEISE – Mayor Copeland reported that on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:30PM at the Chartiers Room, the monthly speaker’s program will be on World War II POWs from Bridgeville.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – no report.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Mrs. Colosimo was in the audience and reported that she was elected Chairwoman at their January Meeting. She stated that the Authority is undergoing restructuring and invited everyone to their February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Henderson thanked Mrs. Colosimo for her service.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Ms. Cimarolli reported that the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee met on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and discussed traffic and wayfinding. From this meeting, the Committee is prioritizing wayfinding, traffic calming and reconstruction of the north end of Washington Avenue as priorities for the new plan. Ms. Cimarolli reported that a special business owner focus group meeting will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30PM at the American Legion.

Regarding the January Planning Commission Meeting, she said that all of the 2022 officers were

reelected for the same positions in 2023. The Planning Commission also completed quarterly discussion of implementation of the Active Transportation Plan.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported that he submitted his monthly report in writing and could answer any questions if there was any.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Henderson made a motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.

Motion to authorize and take action on the personnel matter, as memorialized in executive session held on this date was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Verduci reported that the Rotary Club will hold its annual Trivia Night on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:01PM. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joseph Kauer  
Borough Manager / Secretary