

**BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, April 10, 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. 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, Police Chief Chad King, EMS Director Dan Miller, and Borough Manager Joseph Kauer.

Absent: Fire Chief Ray Costain

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

PRESENTATIONS:

- Mark Turnley, CPA reviewed the 2022 Borough Audit Report with members of Council and Mayor.

Mr. Verduci questioned the draft comment about custodial credit risk. Mr. Turnley stated that this is included in most of his audit reports for municipalities as what the Borough can invest their funds in is limited by the Pennsylvania Borough Code. He added that our depository is required to collateralize the Borough's funds over the \$250,000 FDIC limit with the Federal Reserve at 120% of their total governmental pool of assets and make sure that it is on hand. The Auditor stated that the comment is there as the funds are in a pooled trust and not specifically in the Borough's name, however they are insured by the full faith of the Federal Reserve. Mr. Verduci asked for this section to be reworded as the bank is doing its duty to protect the public funds; the Auditor agreed and will issue a supplement to this section.

Mr. Turnley stated that the same concern is mentioned for the Police Pension Fund investments. He stated the Borough is investing funds in conformity with the Borough Code but encouraged the Council to enact a Credit Risk Policy and offered to provide a sample policy.

Mr. Henderson stated that he was pleased to see that the Borough's funds are being managed well.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

1. Ms. Jeanie Coldwell, Patterson Avenue, expressed concern to the Borough Council and Mayor about a couple of properties on her street where there are routine property maintenance issues and are a source of crime. She explained a recent issue where there were months of garbage on one of these properties' front porches that the Manager and Chief addressed. The Manager explained the history of this property regarding the code violations including high grass, trash strewn about, and times when it was declared unfit for habitation. She asked for the Borough to increase its enforcement on her street to address these issues.

Mr. Henderson stated that he doesn't believe anyone should have to put up with the issues she has been experiencing and will see what else the Borough can be doing to improve these issues.

BUSINESS

1. A motion to approve the March 13, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion to approve the April 2023 Bill List was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the April 14, 21, 28, and May 5 payrolls was made by Ms. Cimarolli, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-3, approving a PENNDOT Banner Permit application request for a banner to be hung over Washington Avenue for the 2023 Bridgeville Day on the Avenue was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to accept the lowest responsible bid received from Youngblood Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$269,054.50 for the 2023 Road Improvement Program 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; motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$25,585.56 from the Capital Project Fund to A. Merante Contracting, Inc. for Partial Payment No. 3 for the Werner Street Slope Stabilization and Retaining Wall Improvements Project was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to accept the resignation of Raymond Partee from the Bridgeville Parking Authority Board of Directors effective February 20, 2023, was made by Ms. Cimarolli, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.

8. A motion to appoint Michael Neely to the Bridgeville Parking Authority Board of Directors with a term that is to expire the first Monday of January 2027 was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; motion carried unanimously.
9. A motion to offer probationary employment to Gregory Totin as a Laborer within the Public Works Department as recommended by the Public Works Committee was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion to promote Gregory Allott to the position of Public Works Foreman as recommended by the Public Works Committee was made by Mr. Ciesielski; seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
11. A motion to authorize the disposition of surplus Public Works equipment outlined in the Borough Manager's March 30, 2023, Memorandum to Borough Council via online public auction website, www.municibid.com was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
12. A motion to authorize the landscape improvements and reforestation of the Borough-owned lot at 646 Baldwin Street in partnership with Tree Pittsburgh as recommended by the Bridgeville Planning Commission; motion was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; Mr. Henderson asked if we are considering any other lots? Ms. Cimarolli stated that at this time, not to this extent. Mr. Petrocelli asked for all underground utilities on the lot to be located before the plantings. Motion carried unanimously.
13. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – March 2023 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
14. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the March 2023 Treasurer's Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
15. A motion to accept all submitted March 2023 official reports was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
16. A motion to amend the agenda was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Verduci; motion carried unanimously.
17. A motion to recommend to the Char-West Council of Governments to pay Partial Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$38,356.25 to Swede Construction Corporation for the Triangle Park ADA Walkways Project was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION, NICHOLAS CIESIELSKI – Mr. Ciesielski stated that the Council met in

Executive Session before the state of the meeting to discuss a personnel matter. He also congratulated and welcomed Greg to the Borough's staff.

FINANCE, JOE VERDUCI – Mr. Verduci had no report.

PARKS & RECREATION, JOE COLOSIMO – Mr. Colosimo reported that the new roadway and parking lot lights withing Chartiers Park have been installed. He added that construction within Triangle Park has been completed; and that all parks are now open for the season with water service restored.

Mr. Henderson commented that the parks all look good.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, NINO PETROCELLI, SR. – Mr. Colosimo reported that street sweeping has started and will be completed weekly through the end of May. He also stated that spring Brush Collection is also underway through the end of April. Mr. Colosimo reported that the crews have been busy making concrete slabs for and installing the sculptures around town and are now cutting grass at the parks and Borough properties.

PUBLIC SAFETY, BRUCE GHELARDUCCI – Mr. Ghelarducci had no report.

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland reported that that she was happy to see the Easter Bunny this past Sunday by the Fire Station. She also reported that she has issued a proclamation declaring Earth Day in Bridgeville for April 22nd, another for Small Business Week the week of April 30 through May 6 and that on April 15th, she will present a proclamation to an Eagle Scout who repainted the picnic shelter at Cook School Park.

POLICE CHIEF, CHAD KING – Chief King reported that early last month there were multiple vehicles broken into around town and that the Department has arrested one person who was involved in this matter. He also reported that the first weekend closure to replace the Washington Avenue bridge is planned for this Thursday through Sunday and that traffic details will be posted at intersections in the Borough to accommodate the increased traffic.

SOLICITOR, THOMAS MCDERMOTT – Solicitor McDermott reported that he submitted his monthly report in writing and could answer any questions if there was any. He also stated that he will get with the Chief and Manager to discuss the Patterson Avenue issues.

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

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – no report.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – Director Miller reported that during the bridge closures, EMS will station an Ambulance in the Borough during the hours of 7:30AM and 11:30PM and have coordinated with the Fire Department and Police Department to assist.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MARY WEISE – Mayor Copeland reported that on April 25th, 7:30PM at the Chartiers Room, the monthly speaker's program will be on the

Discovering a Family Tree. She also reported that there is a special display at the Historical Society on the creation of the Chamber of Commerce building through the end of May.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Director Ben Hornfeck reported that the Friends of the Library has a Basket Raffle going on at the library through the end of April. He added that the annual Used Book Sale is scheduled for April 21- April 23, a Garden Exchange Event on April 22 and that National Library Week is April 23 – 29. Lastly, he stated that they’ll be adding stories to the Chartiers Park Story Walk later this month.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Mrs. Colosimo reported that their next meeting will be held on April 17th. She stated that Gino Forte is their sole employee right now and that they are working on ways to cut expenses and prepare a budget. To date she stated they have saved \$2,500.

Mrs. Colosimo reported that the Authority is seeking donations to offset the costs to replace aging Troop Banners.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Ms. Cimarolli reported that the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee is working through the recommendations presented at the March Business Focus Group Meeting and ways to improve the flood lots on Baldwin Street.

Ms. Cimarolli reported that there is a survey posted on the Borough website and Facebook page right now seeking the community’s input on the Baldwin Street lot repurposing. She also stated that a group of Pitt Engineering students are currently studying the possibility of creating a roundabout at the intersection of Bank Street, Mayview Road, Chartiers Street and Lesnett Road. Their suggestions are scheduled to be presented at the April Planning Commission Meeting.

She also stated the Commission is continuing to study a possible change to the Zoning Ordinance to regulate the placement of off-street parking pads, a street tree planting program and redevelopment of the ballfield at McLaughlin Run Park into a meadow with pathways.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported that the McLaughlin Run Flood Control Project Phase 1A – State Local Share Account Grant was awarded \$1,000,000. He also reported that applications have also been prepared and submitted to the offices of Senator Casey, Fetterman and Representative Lee, seeking a Federal Appropriation for this project. After talking to Senator Casey’s office this morning, revised applications have been resubmitted to both Senator’s office.

The Manager also reported that included in the Council packets are preliminary plans received from PENNDOT for 2024-25 Chartiers Street Slope Repair Project. He stated that the plan shows its scope and its plans to connect the missing sidewalk gaps along Chartiers Street between Washington Avenue and Bank Street. The Borough is still waiting on the formal cost and maintenance agreements from PENNDOT, but the preliminary estimate for the Borough’s contribution to this project is \$31,134. This would be a 2024 budget item.

Ms. Cimarolli asked PENNDOT to have another Public Meeting for those affected by the project, the Manager stated that he’ll ask PENNDOT to facilitate this.

Lastly, Manager Kauer reported that Phase 6 Backflow Preventor work is planned to start tomorrow, work is estimated to last three weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Verduci stated that the Southwest Communities Regional Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Community Outlook Meeting on May 17th where the local municipal managers will be presenting.

Ms. Cimarolli stated that the Earth Day Community Clean Up will be held on Saturday, April 22nd, meeting at 9AM at the Borough Building. She would like to see all the Borough officials participate.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:09PM. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary