

**BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, November 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. 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 (participated virtually), Police Chief Chad King, Assistant Fire Chief Bob Siegwarth, EMS Director Dan Miller, Borough Engineer John Hyle, and Borough Manager Joseph Kauer.

Absent: none.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Mr. John Duncan, 120 Werner Avenue, asked Council for an update on the repair of the Werner Avenue landslide. Engineer Hyle reported that the Borough is still waiting for West Penn Power to relocate the overhead electric wires over Werner Avenue near James Street that is prohibiting the contractor from raising a drilling rig.

Mr. Sidney Davis, 1433 Romano Drive, questioned work being done by his neighbor that he claimed to be expanding their property onto Borough property. The Borough Manager stated that no permits have been applied for and that he saw asphalt millings and stone was spread adjacent to this driveway after they repaired a sewer at this home. The Engineer showed GIS mapping of this property and stated that the work being done appears to be on their property and not the Boroughs. The Manager stated that he'll review the concern.

BUSINESS

1. A motion to approve the October 9, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion to approve the November 6, 2023, Budget Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the November 2023 Bill List was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.

4. A motion to approve the November 17, 24, December 1 and 8 payrolls was made by Mr. Colosimo, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-17, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, requesting a statewide Local Share Assessment Grant of \$500,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Chartiers Park Improvements Project was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-18, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, requesting a statewide Local Share Assessment Grant of \$600,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the Active Transportation Improvements Project was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-19, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the submission of a CDBG grant in the amount of \$48,675 for the construction of ADA sidewalk ramps on Station Street at Shady Avenue and Taylor Way was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion to ratify the hiring of probationary full-time police officer Robert Spencer as of November 1, 2023, was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
9. 2024 Garbage Collection Contract:
Borough Manager Kauer reported that the bid opening for the 2024 Garbage / Recycling Contract was on November 6th. The bid document contained several bid options including automated service, traditional manual collections, weekly and bi-weekly recycling, bag limits and having at your door household hazardous waste collection services. He stated that six trash haulers received bid documents and only two companies bid. Of the two companies that bid, Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill bid on all services and Waste Management only provided a bid on fully automated trash collection with a 96-gallon cart and biweekly recycling. The Manager stated that Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill was the lowest bidder on all bid options. He reviewed the bid results and what the quarterly refuse bill to the citizens would be per contract year and option.

Mr. Ciesielski stated that with the costs increasing so dramatically, household hazardous waste collection is out and knowing that all households are going to be getting a new

recycling cart and can use additional recycling cans or carts if bi-weekly recycling is selected; bi-weekly recycling makes sense.

Ms. Cimarolli suggested that citizens keep their old recycling cans and use them in addition to the new carts for additional space or can even use blue recycling bags if needed.

Mr. Verduci stated that the bids provided an increase of 7% each year and if selecting a three-year agreement, the costs then could increase more than 7% in the years after.

Mr. Ghelarducci stated that the neighboring SHACOG trash contract for the same services is increasing 9% each year.

Mr. Verduci asked all members of Council if trash collection should be manual or automated; all agreed on the manual collection proposal. Mr. Ciesielski added that the next question is limited or unlimited? He stated that limited 10 bags is equal to 400 gallons of trash per week and a better proposal.

Mr. Verduci then asked everyone's thoughts on weekly or biweekly recycling. Mr. Henderson stated that biweekly recycling is the most fiscally responsible option. Mr. Verduci stated that to keep costs down, biweekly recycling with a 10-bag limit on weekly trash collection option should be selected. All agreed.

Motion to award a 5-year contract to Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill for Bid Option A.2.B providing Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.

10. A motion to authorize disbursement of a Real Estate Tax Refund due to a change in assessment to the following:

- a. Andrew Gartland, Parcel: 255-A-316, Years 2023 and 2022, total: \$189.82
- b. Aaron Graham, Parcel: 321-F-39, Years 2023 and 2022, total: \$454.82
- c. Gary & Mary Chabala, Parcel: 255-F-106, Years 2023 and 2022, total: \$76.44
- d. Matthew George, Parcel: 255-P-179, Years 2023 and 2022, total: \$341.44

Motion was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; the motion carried unanimously.

11. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – October 2023 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; motion carried unanimously.

12. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the October 2023 Treasurer's Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.

13. A motion to accept all submitted October 2023 official reports was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION, NICHOLAS CIESIELSKI – Mr. Ciesielski reported that the Council met in Executive Session before the start of this meeting to discuss a legal matter pertaining to the upcoming trash contract.

FINANCE, JOE VERDUCI – Mr. Verduci reported that multiple grant applications were on tonight’s meeting agenda and that last week the Council held a special budget meeting to discuss the 2024 municipal budget. Mr. Verduci reported that the proposed budget will be posted on the Borough website and be available at the Borough Office for public review and comment starting tomorrow. He thanked the Manager for his efforts to prepare the budget. Mr. Ghelarducci added that the 2024 budget does not raise taxes.

PARKS & RECREATION, JOE COLOSIMO – Mr. Colosimo reported that water service to all the parks has been shut off for the season and the facilities have been winterized. He also reported that construction of the new playgrounds at both Cook School and McLaughlin Run Parks is nearing completion. Mr. Colosimo reminded the citizens that they are still active construction sites and kids should keep out until fully finished. He also thanked the Lions Club for donating a new bench that was installed last month at Chartiers Park next to the new playground. Mr. Colosimo informed the Council that the Lions Club will be donating additional new benches next year for the meadow project at McLaughlin Run Park.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, NINO PETROCELLI, SR. – Mr. Petrocelli reported that his written report has been provided.

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

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland reported that on November 1st, she administered the oath of office for Officer Spencer upon becoming a full-time police officer. On November 7th, as a guest to Senator Robinson, she attended the Southwest Communities Chamber of Commerce Award Dinner. The Mayor reported that on November 10th she attended the Veteran’s Day Ceremony at Chartiers Valley High School, and then wished the community a Happy Thanksgiving.

POLICE CHIEF, CHAD KING – Chief King reported that during November the officers are growing fascial hair as a fundraiser for the Bridgeville Meals on Wheels program. He also stated that he has received toy donations for the Winter Blast, daycares within the community, and the annual Buddy the Elf visit that will be held on December 17th.

SOLICITOR, THOMAS MCDERMOTT – Solicitor McDermott stated that the Borough received better prices on the trash contract than recent bids by neighboring communities.

BOROUGH ENGINEER, KEVIN BRETT – The Engineer stated that he has presented the Borough Council with his monthly report and can answer any questions. Engineer Hyle added that he is working on the permit applications for Phase 1A of the Flood Control Project and that the sewer lining project will be ready to go to bid next month.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – Assistant Chief Siegwarth reported that the Department responded to 32 calls for service this past month. He also stated that the BVFD is hosting a Craft Vendor Show on November 19th with 96 vendors participating. Assistant Chief Siegwarth also reported that the firefighters will be escorting Santa around the Borough on December 17th. He also stated that the Department is still selling raffle tickets for the new truck that is to go off on January 1st.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – Director Miller had no report.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MARY WEISE – Mayor Copeland reported that this month’s speakers’ program will be held on November 28th, discussing “1223AD, the Monongahela People”, presented by John Oyler.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Assistant Director Weaver provided her written report and reported that the library is hosting the annual Christmas Tree Festival starting on December 4th.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Mr. Petrocelli reported that the Authority is working on adding additional security cameras to their Railroad Street lot.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Ms. Cimarolli reported that the Planning Commission authorized the Comprehensive Plan to be made available for public comment and review. The Plan has been posted to the Borough website and is also available at the Library and Borough Office. She added that a Public Hearing will be held early next year to consider adopting the plan.

Ms. Cimarolli also reported that the Commission is working on promoting Small Business Saturday in the Borough that will be held on November 25th. She stated that promotional flyers will be distributed later this week.

Lastly, she reported that the Commission is working on 2024 goals and is coordinating hosting composting and rain barrel workshops in 2024 in partnership with the Pennsylvania Resource Council.

Mr. Henderson thanked everyone who helped develop the new Comprehensive Plan. He stated that it has been a lot of work for over a year to get this prepared.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported that several Active Transportation Plan projects were completed last month including additional streetlights added on Murray Ave, Station Street and Sarah Street by West Penn Power on October 18th. He also reported that the Romano Drive to McLaughlin Run Park Trail Improvements Project was completed by the Public Works Department. The project included the installation of water bars to control erosion, mulch and signage was added and vegetation cut back.

The Manager stated that curbside leaf pickup is underway and runs through December 8th (weather permitting) and brush grinder curbside collection is underway through November 30. Lastly, he reported that he’s finalizing the orientation packets for the newly elected members of Council and

will have this to each official by the end of this week to start the transition process.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Verduci stated that a couple of months ago he talked about advancing multi-municipal partnerships with our neighboring communities, and that a kickoff meeting similar to the former Route 50 Corridor Commission Meetings will be held later this month. He stated that he'll report back to Council next month with the details.

Mr. Ciesielski thanked the Fire Department for their help and hosting the Trunk or Treat Event and the Halloween Parade. He also stated that he and his sister are collecting food for their annual food drive to benefit the Bridgeville Area Food Bank. Collection boxes are throughout town including here at the Borough Building.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski, and carried out to adjourn the meeting at 7:53PM. All in favor, motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary