

**BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, December 11, 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, Assistant Fire Chief Bob Siegwarth, EMS Director Dan Miller, Borough Engineer John Hyle, and Borough Manager Joseph Kauer

**Absent:** Chief King

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mr. Henderson stated that the Council meet in Executive Session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss a legal matter.

**PRESENTATION:** Recognition of Councilmen Petrocelli, Colosimo and Ciesielski. Mr. Henderson presented each member of Council with a plaque and a proclamation from Allegheny County Council that recognized their service on Borough Council. Mr. Petrocelli was recognized for his 34 years of service, Mr. Colosimo for his 13 years and Mr. Ciesielski for his four years of service.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Mrs. Diana Oden, 1253 Terrace Street, stated that the lights on the back of the Beer Warehouse on Railroad Street that were recently installed are too bright and are blinding motorists that travel down Liberty Street. She also stated that Council should enact a requirement that all houses need to be occupied. Lastly, Mrs. Oden sought assistance as her house is scheduled for Sheriff Sale for nonpayment of sewage. The Borough Manager offered to meet with Mrs. Oden to help address the matter.

**BUSINESS**

1. A motion to approve the November 13, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
  
2. A motion to approve the December 2023 Bill List was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.

3. A motion to approve the December 15, 22, 29 payrolls was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-13, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, approving the Budget for the fiscal year of 2024 and adopting the same was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-14, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, setting the tax rates for the year 2024 was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; Mr. Henderson stated that there is no increase in real estate taxes. Motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-15, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, pursuant to the Borough Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Part 3, Section 301-304, establishing 2024 sanitary sewage rates was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; Mr. Henderson stated that the 2024 sewage rate is scheduled to be \$17.87 per thousand gallons of water used and a \$7.80 monthly ALCOSAN service charge. The Borough's portion of the sewage fee is not increased, ALCOSAN portion of the fee increased 7%. Motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-16, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, fixing the salaries and wages to be paid to the staff not represented by a collective bargaining agreement for the calendar year 2024 was made by Mr. Ciesielski, seconded by Mr. Colosimo; motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-20, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, establishing fees for the filing of applications, permits and licenses for the Borough was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; Mr. Henderson stated that the Resolution increases quarterly garbage fee to \$72, the cost of a replacement recycling cart- \$50, escrow payments for subdivisions & land development applications - \$1,000, and the fee for a street opening permit -\$250 and incorporates degradation fees for opening recently paved roadways. Motion carried unanimously.
9. A motion to offer conditional employment to Jeffrey Slagle as a probationary full-time patrolman effective January 1, 2024, pending the candidate successfully passing physical and psychological exams was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; Mr. Henderson stated that this hiring is from the October 30, 2023, certified Police Hiring Civil Service Eligibility List. Motion carried unanimously.

10. A motion to authorize LM&R Excavating, LLC to repair a damaged section of storm sewer at 1321 McLaughlin Run Road at a cost not to exceed \$7,900 was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; Ms. Cimarolli questioned how the sewer broke? The Borough Manager stated that it is uncertain but happened during a flood event.
11. A motion to authorize the advertisement of the combined biannual reorganization and regular monthly meeting of Borough Council on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, 7:00PM was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
12. A motion to authorize the advertisement and request for bids for the 2024 Sewer Pipelining Project was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
13. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$64,556.10 from the Capital Project Fund to A. Merante Contracting for Partial Payment No. 6 of the Werner Street Slope Stabilization & Retaining Wall Improvements Project was made by Mr. Petrocelli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; Mr. Henderson stated that the invoice is for materials. Mr. Ciesielski questioned if there has been an update as to when West Penn Power will be relocating their wires. Engineer Hyle stated that it should be completed soon as a work order payment has been provided by our contract to West Penn Power. Motion carried unanimously.
14. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$3,704.80 from the Sewer Fund to Robinson Pipe Cleaning Company for Partial Payment No. 3 & Final for the 2023 Sanitary Sewer O&M CCTV Program was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
15. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$332,430 from the Capital Project Fund to Sports & Recreation Associates for Partial Payment No. 1 of the Cook School & McLaughlin Run Parks Playground Improvements Project was made by Ms. Cimarolli, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.
16. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – November 2023 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
17. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the November 2023 Treasurer’s Report was made by Mr. Verduci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli; motion carried unanimously.
18. A motion to accept all submitted November 2023 official reports was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Ciesielski; motion carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

ADMINISTRATION, NICHOLAS CIESIELSKI – no report.

FINANCE, JOE VERDUCI – Mr. Verduci reported that multiple grant applications were submitted this past month for capital projects, and he thanked the Borough Manager for his efforts in preparing the 2024 budget.

PARKS & RECREATION, JOE COLOSIMO – Mr. Colosimo reported that the Borough is scheduled to host the February Char-West Council of Governments meeting. He stated that all the Borough's parks are in good shape and that in the future the parking lot at Cook School Park may need to be resurfaced. Mr. Colosimo thanked the Borough staff and his family for their support while he served on Borough Council.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, NINO PETROCELLI, SR. – Mr. Petrocelli reported that leaf and brush collection for the season ended on December 8<sup>th</sup>. He also reported that the Public Works Department has taken down all the troop banners for the year, and completed repairs to catch basins on Sarah Street. Mr. Petrocelli thanked the Borough staff for their support while he served on Borough Council.

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

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland reported that Winter Blast was a great success and thanked all who attended and made the event possible. She also reported that on December 17<sup>th</sup>, the annual Buddy the Elf and Grinch event is scheduled, and this year's script is great. The mayor stated that she is going to miss Councilman Colosimo as he has been a great support to her. She also echoed the same sentiments towards Councilmen Petrocelli and Ciesielski.

POLICE CHIEF, CHAD KING – no report.

SOLICITOR, THOMAS MCDERMOTT – Solicitor McDermott stated that he has submitted his monthly report and that it has been a privilege to serve with Councilmen Petrocelli and Colosimo.

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. Ms. Cimarolli asked the Engineer how long he thinks it will take to construct Phase 1A. He stated that he estimates it to take about a year and one half.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – Assistant Chief Siegwarth reported that the Department responded to 40 calls for service this past month and 387 this year to-date. He also stated that the Department is still selling raffle tickets for the new truck that is to go off on January 1<sup>st</sup> and selling luminaries for Christmas. Assistant Chief Siegwarth also stated that the firefighters will be taking Santa around the Borough after the Buddy the Elf event on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – Director Miller thanked the Borough for their support and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MARY WEISE – Mayor Copeland reported that the next

speakers' program will be held on January 25th, discussing "Route 66". She also stated that the sale of the old Borough Street Name Signs is going well, signs are selling quickly.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Assistant Director Weaver provided her written report and reported that the annual Christmas Tree Festival is now underway through December 16<sup>th</sup>. On December 15<sup>th</sup> they are having a Holiday Happy Hour Fundraiser in the evening and on December 16<sup>th</sup>, it's a family fun day at the library from 10AM to 4PM; there will be crafts all day.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Mr. Petrocelli reported that Mrs. Colosimo is in the hospital but doing well. He stated that the Authority is doing good, has a good board and staff.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Ms. Cimarolli reported that written comments for the draft Comprehensive Plan are being accepted through December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Tolmer stated that at the last Planning Commission meeting, they discussed 2024 goals and efforts to advance tree planting in public places. He stated that Tree Pittsburgh is advising the Borough to create a Shade Tree Commission if it desires to get additional tree grants in the future. Mr. Tolmer also stated that the Commission plans to discuss the implementation of the new Comprehensive Plan quarterly, as it does with the Active Transportation Plan.

Mr. Henderson stated that it has been a productive year. Ms. Cimarolli stated that the Comprehensive Plan project has been a three-year effort. Mr. Tolmer stated that it has been extremely rewarding to serve on the Planning Commission and looks forward to the future.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported that regarding the 2024-28 Trash Contract, the contract has been executed and returned to the contractor. He stated that he had a meeting with them on November 28th, coordinated collection days, changes to the contract and the resident notification letter. The first collection of bi-weekly recycling will be January 12<sup>th</sup> and stated that we'll work diligently to spread the word to the residents.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Henderson thanked everyone for attending last week's Winter Blast.

Mr. Ghelarducci thanked everyone for the condolences offered on the passing of his father.

Mr. Ciesielski thanked everyone who donated to the Food Drive. He stated that they collected over 1,000 pounds of food and \$1,000 in cash that was donated to the Bridgeville Area Food Bank. He also added that it has been an honor to serve the community.

Mr. Ghelarducci offered his condolences to the Petrocelli family on the recent passing of Mr. Giuliano Petrocelli.

Mr. Petrocelli stated that it has been a pleasure to serve the community and looks forward to continuing. He stated that he started serving Bridgeville in 1962 when he joined the Jaycees.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Petrocelli, motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joseph Kauer  
Borough Manager / Secretary