

**BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 13, 2024
7:00 PM**

The meeting was held within Council Chambers at the Bridgeville Borough Building, 425 Bower Hill Road and virtually livestreamed on the website www.zoom.us. Council President Joseph Verduci led a moment of silence for the recently departed members of our community and those serving in the military.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Verduci stated that the Council meet in Executive Session before the meeting to discuss a personnel matter; no action will be taken.

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

Council President Joseph Verduci
Council Vice-President Bruce Ghelarducci
Councilwoman Justine Cimarolli
Councilman Jason Ferri
Councilman Shane Franchick
Councilman William Henderson
Councilman Jason Sarasnick

Mayor Betty Copeland, Solicitor Thomas McDermott, Borough Engineer John Hyle, and Borough Manager Joseph Kauer

Absent: Assistant Fire Chief Bob Siegwarth, Chief of Police Chad King, EMS Chief Dan Miller

PRESENTATIONS:

Mark Turnley, CPA, reviewed the 2023 Borough Audit Report with the Borough Council and Mayor.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Mr. Bob Fryer, 508 Hunters Path, South Fayette Township, stated that Bridgeville was the first community in our region, and it is evident as all roads lead to Bridgeville. He asked that the Council delay the adoption of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan as the new plan does little to solve traffic congestion in the community. Mr. Verduci acknowledged that Mr. Fryer dropped off packets of information at the Councilmembers' homes this past week. He added that based on Mr. Fryer's comments on page two of this latest packet that warns the officials of legal litigation, that he has an obligation to the residents of the Borough to use an abundance of legal caution to not respond to any of his statements that he made at this meeting and into the future. Mr. Verduci informed Mr. Fryer that he will honor his request to speak for three minutes, but Council will not be participating in any discussions at this time.

BUSINESS

1. A motion to approve the April 8, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.

2. A motion to approve the May 2024 Bill List was made by Mr. Ferri, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the May 17, 24, 31, and June 7, 2024, payrolls was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick; motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-4, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the Borough of Bridgeville Comprehensive Plan was made by Mr. Sarasnick, seconded by Mr. Henderson; Mr. Sarasnick stated that the Comprehensive Plan is a think-tank of ideas and a guideline document. He added that if the ideas are right or wrong, it's up to Borough Council to decide what gets implemented and what does not, and that all ideas in this plan are not approved by adopting the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Ferri stated that he appreciates the efforts of the community to create this plan. Mr. Verduci remarked that the plan is a set of ideas that will lead to discussions. Motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-5, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving the submission of a Banner Permit application to PENNDOT to hang a banner over Route 50 for "2024 Day on the Avenue" was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion to authorize the execution of Change Order No. 1 / Final in the amount of \$14,097.94 to adjust the contract amount based on field measurements of final in-place quantities and work performed for the Werner Avenue Slope Stabilization and Retaining Wall Improvements Project was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$112,070 from the Capital Project Fund to Sports and Recreation Associations for Invoice No. 2 / Final for the McLaughlin Run Park and Cook School Park Playground Improvements Project was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick; Mr. Ghelarducci stated that the new playgrounds look great. Motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion to ratify the execution of a Joint Municipal Agreement for Lock-up Facilities by and between the Borough of Bridgeville and South Fayette Township was made by Ms. Cimarolli, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; Mr. Ghelarducci questioned if the Scott Township facility will be used? The Borough Manager responded that no, South Fayette will be the new lock-up facility and that the move is being done to save funds. Motion carried unanimously.

9. A motion to authorize the execution of a License and Right of Entry for Owner Assistance with Tree and Native Meadow Planting Agreement at McLaughlin Run Park by and between the Borough of Bridgeville and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Ferri; Mr. Ghelarducci expressed concerns about flooding of the field after its planted. Manager Kauer stated that he'll ask DCNR about this issue, especially before the time that the seeds germinate, and the meadow grows. After that, it would flood and the plants should bounce back, just as they do now with the grass. Mr. Ghelarducci stated that the trash rack is working well protecting the town. Motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion to authorize the purchase of wayfinding signage from G&S Signs at a cost not to exceed \$2,800 was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; Ms. Cimarolli questioned which options were chosen. The Borough Manager stated that the majority of the officials have selected designs A, B and A for the three sign types. Motion carried unanimously.
11. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – April 2024 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
12. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the April 2024 Treasurer's Report was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
13. A motion to accept all submitted April 2024 official reports was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION, BRUCE GHELARDUCCI – Mr. Ghelarducci had no report.

FINANCE, JOE VERDUCI – Mr. Verduci reported that the Manager assisted the Fire Department submit a grant application to the State that would fund the reconstruction of their parking lots and replace the roof of the fire station. He added that this application received support from Senator Robinson and Representative Kulik. Mr. Verduci also stated that the Manager is currently writing a grant to reconstruct the walking trail at Chartiers Park.

Mr. Verduci reported that the Borough's 2023 ARPA Federal spending report has been submitted and close out documents seeking reimbursement for the Werner Avenue project also has been submitted. Lastly, he stated that he supports the recommendation of the Auditor for cybersecurity training for the Borough's staff.

PARKS & RECREATION, SHANE FRANCHICK – Mr. Franchick reported that the Committee met last weekend and reviewed each of the four parks and submitted a list of recommendations to the Manager for the Committee to implement. Mr. Franchick stated that the new playground at

McLaughlin Park looks great and added that he is hopeful for the grant to be awarded to improve the walking trail at Chartiers Park.

Lastly, he asked the library when the story walk boards will be updated. Mr. Verduci stated that they will be done shortly as they have upcoming children's programs on the walk.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, JASON SARASNICK – Mr. Sarasnick reported the Public Works crew recently finished up cleanup from the two April floods. He stated that their priority has been to improve the parks and cleanup Washington Avenue in advance of Memorial Day. Mr. Sarasnick stated that the crew has been doing a good job.

PUBLIC SAFETY, WILLIAM HENDERSON – Mr. Henderson commended the Police Department on the recent apprehension of the suspect who has been vandalizing the sculpture in front of the Borough Building.

CHAR-WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, JASON FERRI – Mr. Ferri stated that the COG has recently discussed the flooding that has been occurring in our region. He shared information from the American Red Cross on what they can offer our citizens after a flood. Lastly, he discussed police department training opportunities that the COG will be offering.

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland reported that she recently passed out flyers for the upcoming Day on the Avenue to all the businesses in town. She also stated that she looks forward to going with the members of the American Legion to area cemeteries and memorials on the morning of Memorial Day to honor those veterans.

POLICE CHIEF, CHAD KING – no report.

SOLICITOR, THOMAS MCDERMOTT – Solicitor McDermott reported that he submitted his written monthly report and could answer any questions.

BOROUGH ENGINEER, JOHN HEYL – Engineer Heyl reported that the preconstruction meeting for the 2024 Road Program will be held this week. He also stated that the Center Street Sanitary Sewer Project is currently out to bid.

Mr. Ferri questioned how many pickleball courts will be added to Cook School Park. The Engineer stated one pickleball and one basketball court.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – No report.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – No report.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MARY WEISE – Mayor Copeland reported that the Historical Society monthly speaker's program will be held on May 28th and the topic is on the United States Presidents and their Wives.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Director Weaver provided her written report and thanked everyone who participated in their fashion show that was held last weekend. She stated

that at this event the Friends of the Library donated \$6,000 to the Bridgeville Public Library. Ms. Weaver also reported that the library will have a spirit day fundraiser on June 4th at the Panera Restaurant in Chartiers Valley Shopping Center. Lastly, she stated that the Summer Programming will start on June 7th and that there will be a magic show that day to celebrate the start.

Mr. Ghelarducci stated that the Summer Classic Movie series will be held this year at the library outdoors on the patio. The first movie of four this summer will be held on June 14th, starting at dusk.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Chairwoman Colosimo reported that their next meeting is next Monday and will be discussing upcoming maintenance in the lots. She also reported that the Authority has passed their 2024 budget, and it will provide the Borough with a copy. Mrs. Colosimo also reported that the Authority’s by-laws have been updated.

Lastly, she stated that they plan to upgrade the security cameras at the Baldwin Street lot this year as they recently completed improvements to the cameras for the Railroad Street lot.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – No report.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported that a Federal Appropriation in the amount of \$750,000 has been secured and included in the 2024 Federal Budget by Senator Bob Casey and Senator John Fetterman for the McLaughlin Run Flood Control Project Phase 1A. With this funding, the project is 100% funded at the Engineer’s estimate for the project. The Borough was awarded a \$248,780 CFA Multi-Modal Grant for the Gregg Avenue Steps Project – a project identified within the Active Transportation Plan. In the past four years the Borough has been awarded \$10,887,354.23 in grant funds.

He also reported that the Kalkeruth Roofing & Sheet Metal Land Development is now underway; adding that the bond, developers’ agreement, stormwater agreement and NPDES permit has been secured.

The Manager reported that a landslide has developed at the end of Bluff Street Extension, in the rear of 799 Bower Hill Road, at the area of the right of way that was cleared to repair the Center Street sanitary sewer in early 2023. The Engineer has reached out to a geotechnical engineer to review the slide to develop a plan of action. He also stated that the Werner Avenue Landslide Project is now completed (retaining wall, storm sewer improvements, guardrail, fencing and roadway paving.) Punch list review was completed on April 30th. Also reported was that the new garage door on the front of the Borough Building for the Police Station was replaced last week.

Lastly, Manager Kauer reported that construction is complete at both Cook School and McLaughlin Run Parks. DCNR completed inspections of the playgrounds approving closing out the contracts on May 7th.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Ghelarducci reported that the Borough has received recognition for again being named an Allegheny County Banner Community.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick, the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary