

**BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, June 10, 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](http://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.

**ROLL CALL** – Roll was called at 7:14 PM with the following present:

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

Mayor Betty Copeland, Solicitor Thomas McDermott, Borough Engineer Kevin Brett, Borough Manager Joseph Kauer, Assistant Fire Chief Bob Siegwarth, Chief of Police Chad King, and EMS Chief Dan Miller

**Absent:** None.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Ms. Kim Bush, 673 Chestnut St., stated that she has lived on Chestnut Street for 55 years and expressed concerns about overgrown trees in the unopened area of the alley behind the corner property of Chestnut and Chartiers Streets. She asked that the Borough maintain those trees and then turn it over to the abutting property owner. Solicitor McDermott stated that after 21 years of being unimproved, its public rights are extinguished and the Borough cannot make improvements, including caring for the trees.

Mr. Pat DeBlasio, 447 Washington Avenue, asked Council if they are willing to spend the amount of an average Bridgeville home on what it would cost to reconstruct the Gregg Avenue public steps.

**BUSINESS**

1. A motion to approve the May 13, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; Mr. Franchick noted a typographical error for the Manager to fix before becoming the official record. Motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion to approve the June 2024 Bill List was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick; motion carried unanimously.

3. A motion to approve the June 14, 21, 28, and July 5, 2024, payrolls was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.
4. A motion to ratify the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-6, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, requesting a Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant of \$250,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Chartiers Park Greenway Trail Project was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to authorize the Solicitor and Borough Manager to issue and advertise a Request for Proposals from qualified PA-licensed attorneys for professional legal services for the Borough's Police Pension Plan and Non-Uniformed Employees' Pension Plan was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Henderson. Ms. Cimarolli questioned the reasoning for this, and the Borough Manager stated that our Pension Plan Legal Counsel has retired. Motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion to authorize the execution of a Police Mutual Aid Agreement by and among the municipalities of the Char-West Council of Governments and the Pittsburgh Technical College was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to offer conditional employment to Tyler Evans as a probationary full-time patrolman, upon the recommendation of Chief of Police Chad King and Mayor Betty Copeland, pending the candidate successfully passing physical, drug, psychological and weapons qualification exams was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously. Mr. Verduci stated that this hiring is from the May 23, 2024, certified Police Hiring Civil Service Eligibility List.
8. A motion to authorize the execution of the Second Amendment to Articles of Agreement by and between the Borough of Bridgeville and Cargill, Inc., to extend the first option year from July 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, of the annual salt contract, for the purpose of procuring the remaining contractual obligation estimated at 50 tons of salt was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
9. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$109,081.58 from the Capital Project Fund to A. Merante Contracting, Inc., for Partial Payment No. 9 / Final of the Werner Avenue Slope Stabilization and Retaining Wall Improvements Project was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; both Mr. Henderson and Mr. Ghelarducci remarked that the project looks great; motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion to authorize the execution of a Service Order Authorization for the design and engineering necessary for the completion of the Gregg Avenue Stairs Project by LSSE Engineers, estimated at \$28,500 was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli;

Manager Kauer stated that the awarded Multimodal Transportation Grant will pay 70% of all this project's expenses; motion carried unanimously.

11. A motion to appoint Nicole Steck to the Bridgeville Parking Authority Board of Directors with a term that will expire the first Monday of January 2025 was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
12. A motion to authorize the advertisement for bids for the Bower Hill Road Landslide Repair Project was made by Mr. Sarasnick, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
13. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – May 2024 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Ms. Cimarolli, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
14. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the May 2024 Treasurer's Report was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick; motion carried unanimously.
15. A motion to accept all submitted May 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 Borough is waiting on a decision on a couple of grants that have been submitted for some additional capital projects to proceed.

PARKS & RECREATION, SHANE FRANCHICK – Mr. Franchick reported that the Baseball season is coming to a close at the parks. He stated that the Committee is working on a plan to improve the field lighting at Chartiers Park.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, JASON SARASNICK – Mr. Sarasnick reported that the Public Works Department has been busy cutting grass, street sweeping and clearing the McLaughlin Run culverts of sediment build up. He added that they have been cleaning up Washington Avenue for Day on the Avenue event and made repairs to two ADA sidewalk ramps on Station Street.

PUBLIC SAFETY, WILLIAM HENDERSON – Mr. Henderson stated that there has been an increase in traffic accidents at the intersection of Bank St., Lesnett Rd., Mayview Rd., and Chartiers Street. He thanked the Police Department for keeping the traffic moving through town last weekend during the neighborhood garage sales. Mr. Henderson recognized Michelle Terrel for organizing this event.

CHAR-WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, JASON FERRI – Mr. Ferri had no report.

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland stated that she is looking forward to “Day on

the Avenue” that will be held this Saturday. She also reported that the Knights of Columbus will have the annual Flag Day Ceremony at 7PM on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at Holy Child Church.

POLICE CHIEF, CHAD KING – Chief King thanked the Borough Council for the hiring of Officer Evans. He also stated that the Police Department will be giving out free bicycle helmets for children at Day on the Avenue.

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

BOROUGH ENGINEER, JOHN HEYL – Engineer Brett had no report.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – Asst. Chief Siegwarth reported that the Department responded to 37 calls last month and 196 calls year to date.

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 June 25<sup>th</sup> and the topic is on the “History of the Berlin Airlift”. She also reported that the John Oyler Foundation has funded an internship that will do achieving this summer. The Mayor stated that the Society has a new LED message sign on Station Street and still has 75 street name signs left for sale.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Director Weaver reported that a new story has been posted in the Chartiers Park Story Walk and that the Summer Programing started today. She reported that free classic movies will be shown each month at the Library by the Pittsburgh Classic Movie Club. Lastly, Director Weaver reported that on June 26<sup>th</sup>, a personal story from the Holocaust will be presented.

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 completed improvements in Lots 1 and 2. Mrs. Colosimo stated that the Authority is working now to improve the security cameras on the Baldwin Street Lot.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Mr. Tolmer reported that the Planning Commission is discussing recommendations on creating a Bridgeville Shade Tree Commission and ways to improve the Baldwin Street flood lots. He also reported that South Fayette Township is now working on creating an Active Transportation Plan for their community and that we should share our plan with them so that interconnectivity between the two towns can be advanced.

Ms. Cimarolli stated that regarding the Shade Tree Commission, it is being discussed that they only regulate trees on borough properties, parks and right of ways.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported that both the 2024 Road Paving Program and Sewer Lining Contract work is scheduled to start next Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> and take multiple weeks to complete.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Henderson stated that in the new Comprehensive Plan it references the creation of an Economic Development staff member position, and that he noticed that Canonsburg recently hired such an employee. He stated that they are doing a great job attracting new businesses to their community. Mr. Verduci agreed stating that this position is helping to make Canonsburg a more vibrant community.

Mr. Verduci stated that the Rotary Club will have a dunk tank booth on Day of the Avenue raising funds for their scholarship fund. He said many of the local officials will be volunteering for the booth during the day.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick, the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:59PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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Joseph Kauer  
Borough Manager / Secretary