

BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 14, 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.

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 Heyl, Borough Manager Joseph Kauer, Assistant Fire Chief Bob Siegwarth, Police Sgt. Gary James, and EMS Chief Dan Miller

Absent: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Verduci stated that the Borough Council met in Executive Session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

1. Mr. Pat DeBlasio, 447 Washington Avenue, encouraged the Borough Council to seek FEMA funding for a second round of property acquisitions of flood prone properties on Baldwin Street.

BUSINESS

1. A motion to approve the September 9, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; Ms. Cimarolli asked that the minutes be amended to include her statement about the proposed Downtown Zoning Project will require multiple Planning Commission and Council Meetings. After a final version is presented to Council by the Planning Commission, the Council will then vote for final adoption. Motion carried unanimously as amended.
2. A motion to approve the October 2024 Bill List was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion to approve the October 18, 25, November 1 and 8, 2024 payrolls was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; motion carried unanimously.

4. A motion to ratify Resolution No. 2024-11, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville authorizing the submittal of a Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant for the Chartiers Park Lighting Improvements Project was made by Mr. Franchick, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; the motion carried unanimously.
5. A motion to accept the revised 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) to the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$58,995 as prepared by the Borough Manager. Motion was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; Mr. Verduci stated that the revised MMO reflects the actual amount of state aid received per the advice of the Plan’s Actuary. Motion carried unanimously.
6. A motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-12, a Resolution of the Borough of Bridgeville, setting the Police Pension Fund Contributions to fund the shortfall in the Police Pension Fund evidenced by an Independent Actuarial Study and as permitted by previous Ordinances and the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; Mr. Verduci stated that this Resolution sets the police employees’ pension contribution rates for the remainder of 2024 and 2025. Motion carried unanimously.
7. A motion to accept the resignation of Lisa Adams from the Civil Service Commission as she no longer resides within the Borough of Bridgeville was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; Mr. Ghelarducci asked the Borough Manager to send a letter thanking her for her service; the motion carried unanimously.
8. A motion to appoint Edward Baca as a regular Civil Service Commission member to fill the remaining vacant term that will expire the first Monday of January 2026. This motion was tabled, no action was taken.
9. A motion to set the 2025 Budget Meeting for Monday, November 4, 2024, 7PM in Council Chambers was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick; the motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion to authorize the public bid of the Bluff Street Extension Slope Stabilization and Retaining Wall Improvements Project was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; Mr. Henderson asked what the scope of the project will be. Engineer Heyl reported that the project will include the construction of a small retaining wall at the base of the slope and then reestablish the slope above it. Mr. Verduci stated that the tentative bid opening is scheduled for November 6, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.
11. A motion to authorize the President of Council to execute the “Acknowledgement of Appraisal of Permit Conditions” and “Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit Completion Report” forms from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for the construction of Phase 1A of the McLaughlin Run Flood Control Project was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli, Manager Kauer stated that this is a significant milestone for our community as with this, the environmental

permits from both the DEP and Army Corps of Engineers have been secured and are in place to start construction on Phase 1A of the McLaughlin Run Flood Control Project.

12. A motion to accept the lowest responsible bid received from Edge AI Solutions in the amount of \$68,000 for the 2024 Sanitary Sewer O&M CCTV 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. Motion was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; Mr. Verduci stated that the Bid Opening for this project was Friday, October 11th. Mr. Franchick asked the Engineer if he has ever worked with this contractor, and Engineer Heyl affirmed that they have. Motion carried unanimously.
13. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$136,584.00 from the Sewer Fund to Jet Jack, Inc. for Partial Payment No. 1 of the Center Street Sanitary Improvements Project was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick; motion carried unanimously.
14. A motion to authorize the disbursement of \$101,630.05 from the Capital Project Fund to Pave and Plow LLC for Partial Payment No. 3 / Final and authorize the execution of Changer Order No. 2 that decreased the project costs by \$27,598.55 of the 2024 Roadway Improvement Program was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick; Ms. Cimarolli questioned what areas were paved in this contract. The Engineer reviewed the streets, and it included work in Cook School Park. Motion carried unanimously.
15. A motion to ratify the donation of \$4,000 to the Bridgeville Public Library was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Ms. Cimarolli; Mr. Sarasnick asked the Manager to explain where the funds came from. Manager Kauer explained that this year's Day on the Avenue, after donations received and bills paid, the event made a profit of \$4,000. To take advantage of Love Your Library Month where donations to the library are matched by an outside grant, it was suggested to donate the Day on the Avenue proceeds to the library to allow them for this donation to be matched and made even bigger. Motion carried unanimously.
16. A motion to accept and pay any commission due – September 2024 Real Estate Tax Collector Report was made by Ms. Cimarolli, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.
17. A motion to acknowledge receipt of the September 2024 Treasurer's Report was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Franchick; motion carried unanimously.
18. A motion to accept all submitted September 2024 official reports was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Ghelarducci; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION, BRUCE GHELARDUCCI – No report.

FINANCE, JOE VERDUCI – Mr. Verduci reported that the Borough Manager submitted multiple

grant applications this past month including an application that seeks \$400,000 to upgrade the baseball field lighting at Chartiers Park. Mr. Verduci stated that work continues preparing the 2025 Budget and that the first budget meeting will be held on November 4th.

PARKS & RECREATION, SHANE FRANCHICK – Mr. Franchick thanked the Manager for preparing and submitting a grant to upgrade the field lighting at Chartiers Park. He also stated that an Eagle Scout is working on a community project to improve the dugouts at Chartiers Park. Mr. Franchick reported that fall baseball is underway and that park restrooms will be closed and winterized the week of November 4th for the season.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS, JASON SARASNICK – Mr. Sarasnick reported that the Public Works Department has been busy maintaining vehicles. He stated that political signs that were recently removed from public areas where the DPW was cutting grass and completing maintenance work are at the Public Works garage for candidates to pick up and put back if they wish.

PUBLIC SAFETY, WILLIAM HENDERSON – Mr. Henderson reported that it is getting dark earlier now and encouraged motorists to drive safely.

CHAR-WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, JASON FERRI – Mr. Ferri reported that Representative Kulik attended the last COG Meeting and reviewed this year’s state budget. He reported that the budget did not raise taxes and increased funding for public education.

MAYOR, BETTY COPELAND – Mayor Copeland reported that the annual Halloween Parade will be Saturday, October 26th, meeting at 10am at Bridgeville Manor on Gregg Avenue, parade starts at 11am marching to the Fire Station. She also stated that Trick or Treat in the Borough will be held Thursday, October 31st from 6pm to 8pm.

POLICE CHIEF, CHAD KING – Sgt. James stated that he can answer any questions regarding the written 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 Borough’s annual MS4 Permit application has been submitted to the State DEP. He stated that the 2024 Road Program and Cook School Park projects are now complete.

Ms. Cimarolli questioned the Engineer on the lighting that is proposed for the Gregg Avenue Steps Project. She asked if its “dark sky” compliant. He reported that it is suggested to be a West Penn Power directional LED streetlight that will direct the light downward.

FIRE CHIEF, RAY COSTAIN – Assistant Chief Siegwarth reported that the Fire Department responded to 24 calls for service in September and to-date has responded to 328 calls. He stated that the BVFD will host a Trunk or Treat event at the Fire Station on Wednesday, October 30th, 6pm to 8pm and that the BVFD will be out assisting with safety patrols during Trick or Treat.

SOUTHBRIDGE EMS, DAN MILLER – Chief Miller stated that he could answer questions on the

written report.

BRIDGEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MARY WEISE – Mayor Copeland reported that the Historical Society is having a Bake Sale this Thursday and Friday and that they have a raffle underway for a quilt.

BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE – Director Weaver reported that the library is hosting a Haunted Library event on October 25th from 6pm to 8pm. Ms. Cimarolli stated that Public Art Bridgeville is hosting a Bridgeville Artist exhibition on November 8th and that this art will be on display in the Library through November.

BRIDGEVILLE PARKING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE – Chairwoman Colosimo reported that the Authority will be meeting on October 21st and continues to operate in the “black.” She stated that Lot 1 has been sealed, in Lot 2 there are curb improvements underway, work continues to plan for lighting improvements in Lot 5 and security camera improvements for Lot 7 are underway.

BRIDGEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE – Ms. Guiliani reported that their will be a community tree planting on November 16th, meeting at 9AM at the Borough Building to plant 10 trees in public areas around town, volunteers will be needed to help. She stated that the Commission continues to discuss revisions to the Borough’s off-street parking requirements and the redevelopment of a Baldwin Street Flood Lot. Ms. Guiliani reported that the McLaughlin Run Park Meadow has been planted and the Commission is now starting to work on the planning to revitalize the north end of Washington Avenue.

BOROUGH MANAGER, JOSEPH KAUER – Manager Kauer reported that Center Street has been repaved completing the water main and sewer improvements on that street.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Verduci reported that the Rotary Club’s annual Chili Cookoff is this Sunday, 12-4pm at Fairview Park. He stated that there are over 37 chilis to sample and admission tickets are \$10.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Ghelarducci, seconded by Mr. Sarasnick, the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary