

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2021 MEETING**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Bally Borough Council was held on the above date at the Borough Hall. President, Glenn Mutter called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members present: Glenn Mutter, Michael Bauman, Paul Gehringer, Matthew Gehman and Joshua Sloan were present. Joel Pilgert and Michael Moll attended via ZOOM.

Also present: Mayor, David C. Schott (arrived); Solicitor, R. Tim Curley; Borough Manager, Wendy Mutter; There were 2 residents in attendance and one reporter attended via Zoom.

President Mutter announced the meeting is being broadcast via Zoom and recorded for minute taking purposes, and that an executive session was held Tuesday March 30th, 2021 to discuss an employee issue.

Ratification of the hiring of Tammy Wood as Borough Secretary and Assistant Treasurer effective March 25, 2021. A motion was made by Michael Bauman, seconded by Paul Gehringer to hire and appoint Tammy Wood as Borough Secretary and Assistant Treasurer at a rate of \$16.00 per hour. All Ayes. Tammy then took her seat at the table.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS- Brett Beitler provided insurance information and spoke about the tractor show in Bally Park on May 15, 2021 from 11AM to 3:30PM. He spoke about parking and unloading locations. As of this day, there are 47 tractors signed up. Mayor Schott, indicated that the police will be available to assist with motor and foot traffic.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of March 2, 2021 Council Meeting- A motion was made by Paul Gehringer, seconded by Michael Bauman. Matt Gehman abstained. All others, Aye.
- b. Approval & Affirmation of Bills Presented- A motion was made by Matt Gehman, seconded by Joshua Sloan. All Ayes.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT –No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Health, Safety, & Welfare—Met with officer Ellick to discuss items for the future.

EBFD reported they responded to 31 calls in March and 99 calls to date for the year 2021. Mailings went out for the 2021 Fund Drive. Blood drive at the Goodwill Fire Co. Social Hall, Bally location on April 10, 2021. You can sign up online. Drive up chicken BBQ at the Bechtelsville location on April 24, 2021.

Police Report-

Planning Commission – No meeting.

Municipal Authority – the next meeting will be on June 16, 2021.

Zoning Hearing Board Meeting- Met March 4, 2021 at 6:30PM. Zoning hearing board approved the exterior non-compliant signs for Redner's Quick Shoppe. Redner's is now open.

BARDS Committee –BARDS sold 698 quarts of Pot Pie for their pot pie fundraiser, ending with a net profit of \$3,900.00. Advertising for the tractor show is up online. Annual Community yard sale/bake sale will be May 22, 2021, at the Bally Pool, 7AM to 12PM. Dog waste pick up signs will be donated and installed around the park for approximately 1 month during the summer. There are volunteers to power wash the deck and pavilion and one to water seal the pavilion. Maintenance/renovations are started in the breezeway.

WWTP Report – Nate commented, the water main project on Cherry St. at the garage is complete. Water pipe for pool slide is installed. GPS mapping and some water meter installs are started. Street sweeping and pot hole repairs will begin around the end of April.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Accepted Joseph Viola's resignation as Bally Borough Police Chief, effective 04/10/2021. A motion to accept was made by Joshua Sloan, seconded by Matthew Gehman. All Ayes.
- b. Hire Jeffrey Ellick as full-time police officer at rank of Sergeant, effective 04/12/2021 at a rate of \$25/hour. A motion was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Paul Gehringer. All Ayes.
- c. Appoint Jeffrey Ellick as officer in charge of Bally Police Department. A motion was made by Joshua Sloan, seconded by Michael Bauman. All Ayes.
- d. Hire Travis Anderson as full-time public works/maintenance employee, effective 04/20/2021, at a rate of \$17.00 /hour with two 60 day probationary periods with \$.50/hr increases. A motion was made by Paul Gehringer, seconded by Joshua Sloan. All Ayes.
- e. Approve a Notice of Intent to Award Sewer Rehab Project #3 to Mobile Dredging and Video Pipe in the net bid amount of \$292,781.32, with a base bid and Alternate 1, declining Alternate 2. A motion was made by Joshua Sloan, seconded by Paul Gehringer. All Ayes.
- f. Appointed Thomas Leister to Bally Borough Planning Commission for the remainder of a 4-year term, expiring December 31, 2024. A motion was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Joshua Sloan. All Ayes.

OLD BUSINESS--

Bally Borough State of Emergency-A motion was made by Paul Gehringer to extend the State of Emergency in Bally Borough until next council meeting, seconded by Michael Bauman. All Ayes.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT- CBA Addendum to work Collective Bargaining agreement. Executive Session required for a legal issue.

MAYOR'S REPORT –The Mayor extended a "thank you" to Chief Viola for his 22 years of service to the Borough and wished him well in any future endeavors. There were 29 incidents, 29 cleared, 4 citations and 1100 miles driven. House Bill 606 is trying to pass in the Commonwealth of PA, which would allow local police to use radar technology. The Mayor has 2 weddings this weekend.

OFFICE REPORT-Garage construction is started. A construction meeting is to be held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Healthcare for Borough employees will no longer be offered under the same plan with UPMC, effective Sept. 01, 2021. They are not offering a comparable plan. We will need to research for comparable coverages. We have reached an agreement with Master Meter on replacement registers. 389 meters are in the warranty period and will be replaced for free. Reading

equipment has been tested and is reading fine. We need a new utility billing and data collection system. The old Sensus style meters need the whole replacement; Master Meters only require the register to be replaced. Well # 5 is moving forward with DEP. We are waiting on a response for pump test at reduced rate. The Borough is looking to purchase a used excavator. Mitch Crone with EPA will be updating shortly on cleanup site. Water shutoffs are able to resume, effective April 1, 2021. The shutoff notice will provide a 3-week notification. The Bally Pool will be offering memberships this year. We will be following any State and/or Federal Covid/Health Dept. regulations that may arise throughout the season. Boyertown Area School District is not doing their census this year due to Covid. Berks EIT meeting next week. We had 2 residents request tennis court repairs. Bally Borough will be allotted \$123,000.00 to use for Covid Relief. We are looking for suggestions/ideas on how we can use this money to benefit the community. Water hauling started. There is 1 open spot for the planning commission. Discussion on new/used gas powered maintenance truck with options for lift and plow.

QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS – None

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS – Matthew Gehman inquired about the retention pond/GBI. The Storm Water Plan is approved and escrow has been received at the office.

ADJOURNMENT- A motion was made by Michael Bauman, seconded by Matthew Gehman to adjourn the meeting at 8:33PM. All Ayes. Executive Session was held after the meeting.

President

Secretary