

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 2, 2022 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 7:37 pm, due to an Executive Session for a personnel matter held before the meeting. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also present: Solicitor, R. Tim Curley; Borough Manager, Wendy Mutter; Borough Secretary, Tammy Wood and Mayor, David Schott. There was one reporter in attendance.

President Mutter announced the meeting is being broadcast via Zoom and recorded for minute taking purposes.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS – No residents in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of July 5, 2022 Council Meeting- A motion was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Paul Gehringer, to approve the minutes. All Ayes.
- b. Approval & Affirmation of Bills Presented- A motion was made by Matthew Gehman to approve and affirm the bills, seconded by Paul Gehringer. All Ayes.

PRESIDING OFFICER REPORT: No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Health, Safety, & Welfare

Fire report- Fire calls for the month of July is 23; 270 total year-to-date. The Bally Firehouse will be conducting a chicken BBQ fundraiser on Saturday, August 20th from 2pm until sellout. This will be a drive-thru pickup.

Police Report- The police received a Highway Safety Network Grant program that lasts until the end of the year. With this grant, our officers will be conducting roving DUI patrols in the Borough and throughout Berks County helping other municipalities.

Bally Ambulance- The ambulance had a total of 131 calls in July, with 10 in Bally. The Bally Ambulance has been taking on many extra calls outside of their area, due to staffing issues in other areas. They are currently trying to come up with a plan to help with this.

Planning Commission- Did not meet

Municipal Authority- Met on July 19th. The Municipal Authority approved the resolution for the water rate to be advertised. Next meeting is Tuesday, August 16th.

Zoning Hearing Board – Did not meet.

BARDS Committee – Joshua stated that there are some annual events being discussed, such as the dog swim, basket raffle and craft show. Trunk or Treat will be a new event, that will include a free

movie in the park afterwards. The Borough will consider taking the trick-or-treat nights down from 2 nights to 1 night, with the Trunk-or-Treat event.

WWTP Report –Sewer Project #3-all linings, lids and frames are done. The next step is lining manholes, which is in process at about 3 manholes per day. This project should be complete by the end of August. The leaking valve at 7th and Walnut Sts. has been corrected. We ordered chlorine cylinders for Well 4 a while back, which the delivery date keeps getting pushed back. We do have a 60-day supply at this point. Joshua Sloan asked Nate what could be done if we come into a problem with this. Wendy Mutter stated that the Government will have to step in, as this is becoming a major problem for many. Street sweeping has not been done yet. The ground needs to be a bit wet, in order to avoid creating a dust ball in the Borough. We are waiting on pipe to be delivered for the stormwater project for this fall. Mayor Schott inquired if public works received their new truck. Nate replied that we do not even have a production date as of yet. There has been some high water usage that seems to be coming from the fact that Aqua Duck and Mobile Dredging and Video Pipe have been filling up a lot lately, along with the water leak at 7th and Walnut.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Payment Application #2 for sewer project #3 to Mobile Dredging and Video Pipe, Inc. in the amount of \$37,877.63.** Michael Bauman made the motion to approve payment to Mobile Dredging and Video Pipe, Inc. Joshua Sloan seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Police CBA-** Tabled.
- **Approval to return remaining escrow to Butter Valley Church after Hildenbrand invoice received.** Butter Valley Church is requesting that they have a check for the remainder of their escrow, which would be in the amount of \$19,461.39. Council agreed that public works needs to invoice Butter Valley Church as they used their time, tools and material to help. This is tabled until next council meeting.
- **Approval to purchase replacement effluent flow meter for WWTP at a cost not to exceed \$7,400.00.** This was not in our budget. Our effluent flow meter is very old. There has been a lot of money spent in the last 3-4 years for replacement parts for it. The temperature sensor is not working properly and with the flow being so low it is having a hard time reading properly. There is a project that was budgeted for this year that will not be done, so hoping to be able to purchase the meter in place of the project. A new one is about the same price as having someone come out to repair the one we have. It just makes sense to upgrade at this time. Joshua asked what the life expectancy is for this meter. Nate believes it to be about 15 years or so. This is a DEP requirement. Matthew Gehman made the motion to approve the purchase of a new effluent flow meter for WWTP at a cost no greater than \$7,400.00. Joshua Sloan seconded that motion. All Ayes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Vacating of N 5th Street update** -No progress.
- **Tree ordinance update** – Tabled until next month, so all council members have the opportunity to read it.
- **Resolution 2022-3 - Setting sewer rates.** Municipal Authority advertised the rates for water. We have discussed sewer rates in a previous meeting taking effect November 1st for the March 1st billing. Wendy presented council with a spreadsheet showing the new rates and the difference in cost for Bally residents per quarter and annually. Paul Gehringer made the motion to approve the new sewer rate; Matthew Gehman seconded that. Joel Pilgert opposed the motion. All others, Ayes. Motion passed. Council has been advised of the submission of the Resolution for the Municipal Authority's rate increase.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – The Solicitor requests an executive session for legal issues.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Police calls-95 in the month of July, total for the year is 595. Police used a total of 172 gallons of fuel, traveling a total of 1,270 miles with both vehicles. There were 150 traffic citations, 2 drug related arrests, 1 arrest for fleeing from police and 2 non-traffic citations. Both vehicles are running good at this time.

OFFICE REPORT- Security cameras have been installed. We have secured the new Borough domain of ballyboro.org and email. Joshua has been working with the web design and conversion, on a volunteer basis. Nate has received some information on ordering the new dump truck. Nate explained that 2023 pricing has not been set yet and that Co-Stars should have that pricing ready in October sometime. We are able to pre-order without signing a contract or being locked in to the purchase. The signing of any contract would be whenever the pricing comes out. The “Kids Camp” is in the park this week. The engineers completed the sewer tapping fee calculation. Sewer EDU can be increased to \$6779.83. The engineers recommend going to \$6500.00 in case of any challenges or miscalculations. Our fee is \$2600.00 at this time. There is no one in need of purchasing any EDU's at this time. We would need to update the Ordinance. Joshua Sloan stated that we are ready to go with some procedures for the new Borough website. Wendy stated that we will talk about it and get that going. The new domain for the website is ballyboro.org

QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS – No residents.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS – Joshua Sloan needs an update for the Halloween Parade. Wendy stated the permit and all needed to get the parade approved is in progress. Joshua thanks council, public works and Wendy for help with the Free Library box.

ADJOURNMENT- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joshua Sloan, seconded by Michael Bauman at 8:32pm. There was an Executive Session held after the meeting for legal issues.

President

Secretary