

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 3, 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, Michael Moll, and Joshua Sloan. Joel Pilgert was absent.

Also present: Mayor, David C. Schott; Solicitor, R. Tim Curley; Borough Secretary, Tammy Wood. There were 2 residents and 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—Resident Barrie Weller inquired as to why the signs were placed at the pool overflow parking lot, when residents are having trouble finding parking. Sandy Smith stated that Park Place bi-laws instruct homeowners that they have 2 parking spots each; one in the garage and one in the driveway. Council responded that we were having problems with residents parking there and not moving their vehicles for days. Rich Mingy asked if the board would allow the solicitor to enter into a professional services agreement to attend a meeting with him and the Borough engineer on the possibility of extending water and sewer service to some of his developments. Council President explained that Washington Township needs to send a letter stating that they approve of development and request the service on your behalf. Per Bally Borough solicitor, we need something in writing stating that Washington Twp approves the plan that will be going in at 1606 Main Street. At that point, we can go further with the discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of July 6, 2021 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 Michael Bauman, seconded by Matt Gehman. All Ayes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Health, Safety, & Welfare – Speeding issue on Dogwood has been addressed with police doing more speed detail in that area. We hired a new part time officer James Mains. EBFD reported 120 calls in the 2nd Quarter. EBFD finished a class on electric vehicle rescue. The chicken BBQ will be held August 21, 2:00pm until sellout at the Bally station.

Planning Commission – Did not meet

Municipal Authority –Did not meet; next meeting is Tuesday, September 21, 2021.

Zoning Hearing Board - Did not meet

BARDS Committee –Joshua Sloan would like to move forward with a thank you event for BARDS volunteers. There are now flood lights at the pool, that lights up the entire pool deck; along with a portable rechargeable lamp to hang on the fence in order to see the slide ladder. Dog swim is scheduled for Saturday, September 11. We will have flyers made. Donations for the pool this month were small security signs and the solar power and motion activated flood lights. Cicada bug challenge performed by Joshua Sloan only brought in about \$60.00. Joshua ate 200 cicadas. Santa parade and kid's crafts should be first Saturday of December. Lions Club still wants to do the hot chocolate and hot dogs for the Santa Parade. Slide at the playground is repaired.

WWTP Report – Nate helped in water meter reads this month. Victoria Village are all manual reads and some of these manual reads require going into residents' yards, sometimes having to jump fences or get chased by dogs. We should have readers installed for about 5 residents in this area. Nate will get prices for new meters for next month's council meeting. Well 5 pump test went well. We are waiting on analysis and report from the hydrologist.

The water main cap issue at Butter Valley Church appears to be moving forward. They seem to want to blame Nate for delays but he has responded to the same questions before.

Rags, gloves, masks, etc are still being flushed down toilets. At the end of 2019 we replaced 2 return pumps at the plant. About 2 weeks ago, one of the pumps had the bearings knocked out of it. We lost a pump due to rags getting caught in it. We had that pump repaired but we were informed the propellers are worn about halfway already. The grinder was installed in 2012, and was very effective for the first 2 years. We have options to re-build the grinder, which will solve some of our problems. There are many options in many different price ranges. Nate will get some quotes for next year's budget.

Even though short-handed, public works is not behind on projects, but it is hard to get to the bigger projects complete with the staff we currently have. With the public works position, we only had 3 applicants, which did not respond for interviews. We are also competing with other municipalities that can offer better wages.

Joshua inquired about the flood diversion tubes being placed inside the fence, due to the fact that they seem to have gotten vandalized with puncture holes. The length of the tubes and the fact they can roll needs to be taking into consideration on where to place them. The big pool is the biggest concern with flooding, as the baby pool is not much of a problem to clean up.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Payment application #4Contract A to Rebcor Construction in the amount of \$69,195.64 was presented. Joshua Sloan made a motion to approve, Paul Gehringer seconded the motion. All Ayes. President Mutter stated there was a construction meeting Thursday night to discuss some Change Orders from Rebcor. We will not be looking to approve any change orders at this time. Some things we are asking for is actual invoices, not estimates or quotes; specs that were wrong and the lumber that was not ordered correctly should not be our responsibility.
- Payment application #1Contract D to A.N. Lynch Co., (electrician) in the amount of \$37,408.50-. A motion was made by Michael Bauman, seconded by Matthew Gehman to approve the payment. All Ayes. President Mutter stated the plumber and electrician are easy to work with, when there are issues, they have no problems with changing things when needed.
- Resolution 2021-1 Supporting PA Commission for the US Semi-Quincentennial. Matthew Gehman made a motion to approve the signing after a rogue "h" is removed. Joshua Sloan seconded the motion. All Ayes.
- Addendum to Bally Police Collective Bargaining Agreement. The appointment of Jeffrey Ellick as Police Chief from Officer in Charge and Officer Patt to Corporal Patt. This item was tabled to the next meeting and will be discussed further in executive session.

- Ratify the hiring of part time police officer James Mains. Motion made by Paul Gehringer, seconded by Joshua Sloan. All Ayes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Music in the Park- Bally Mennonite Church will be hosting an event in the Borough on Saturday, September 25th from 2 to 7pm, for a community gathering with food, music, local talent and time of worship. This is open to the public and free of charge. The Solicitor asked if they provided a certificate of insurance. The Secretary verified they have.

Bally Borough State of Emergency-Borough Solicitor advised the council that the Borough should continue to suspend the State of Emergency.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT- The Solicitor requested an Executive Session after the Council Meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT –Nate is in the process of changing oil in both police vehicles. Intoximeter has come in and is installed in the 2nd vehicle. We are currently waiting for the rifle to come in. Once that comes in, both vehicles will have the same equipment and the police will no longer need to worry about exchanging any equipment from vehicle to vehicle. 107 gallons of gas was purchased, travelling 671 miles. 13 citations were issued from traffic enforcement. We hired 2 part-time police officers, Kristen and James, both come from previous police positions. Kristen has completed her field training and James will be completing his field training in the next few weeks. Officer Schott has retired and is no longer with the department. The Mayor performed 5 weddings in the last month. On Friday July 30th, the Mayor swore in Jeffrey Ellick as Police Chief, Jarred Patt as Corporal and James Mains as Officer; all of the Bally Police Department. Special thanks to the Town and Country for sending a photographer to take pictures. Thanks to Glenn for being a part of that. We will be buying a spare pistol for the police department, with the plan of filling a final part-time police position in the next 2 months. The Mayor has been receiving some calls for loud music at Fentsy's, which he is powerless to do anything about. The Mayor urges all residents to call 911 for police matters, as the number for Bally Police will only get you to a voicemail when the Borough office is closed. 911 will contact the State Police if there are no police on duty in the Borough. Saturday, September 4th at 11am, the Lion's Club will be holding a dedication of their new building in Honor of Dennis Hafer. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

OFFICE REPORT-No report.

There has come the opportunity to purchase a used backhoe from a very reputable owner. The owner of this backhoe takes exceptional care of his equipment. There are no extra buckets with it, but the 24 inch is the one we would utilize the most at this time. This will be a very reliable piece of equipment, knowing who it is coming from. The price will be \$45,000.00, which is higher than the amount budgeted for a used backhoe, but all of those backhoe's came with small issues. Matthew Gehman made a motion to approve the purchase of the backhoe, as long as it is within the total budget to do so, capping it at \$45,000.00. Joshua Sloan seconded that motion. All Ayes. Nate will be looking into any extra buckets and will bring that information to the table next council meeting.

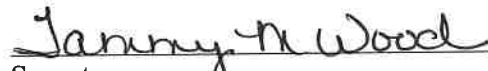
A Finance Committee meeting should be scheduled near the end of August to start the budget. Wendy will let us know when the meeting is scheduled. If there is anything that needs to be put aside for the 2022 budget, let Wendy know.

Questions from Residents - None

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS –Matthew Gehman thanked public works for getting the bushes cut at Redner's.

ADJOURNMENT- A motion was made by Joshua Sloan, seconded by Paul Gehringer to adjourn the meeting at 8:30PM. All Ayes. An executive session was held for an employee issue following the meeting.


President


Secretary