

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 6, 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 7:00 pm. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members present: Glenn Mutter, Michael Bauman, Michael Moll, Matthew Gehman, Paul Gehringer and Joshua Sloan. Joel Pilgert arrived at 7:01 pm.

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

The agenda for this meeting has been posted on the door and posted on the Borough website.

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 November 1, 2022 Council Meeting-A motion was made by Michael Moll, seconded by Paul Gehringer, to approve the minutes. All Ayes. Joshua Sloan and Joel Pilgert abstained.
- b. Approval & Affirmation of Bills Presented-A motion was made by Matthew Gehman to approve and affirm the bills, seconded by Michael Bauman. All Ayes.

PRESIDING OFFICER REPORT: No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Health, Safety, & Welfare

Fire report- EBFD responded to 3 calls on Thanksgiving. Fire calls for the month of November were 66; 460 total year-to-date. Training is ongoing, even as they are responding to 2-3 calls per day.

Bally Ambulance- Dues will be going out this month with some changes. Single membership will be \$85, senior single at \$60. Senior couple will be \$90 and family \$120. The ambulance has decided to purchase a new 2025 Ford F-550 4-wheel drive at just under \$256,000.00. A new electronic litter has also been purchased at \$20,000.00, as they had only 1.

Planning Commission- Did not meet.

Municipal Authority- Met November 15th and passed the budget for 2023. Will meet again January 17th 2023.

Zoning Hearing Board –Did not meet.

BARDS Committee – The basket raffle went very well at the tree lighting. In January they will start the pre-ordering for the pot pie fundraiser and will be available for pick-up in March sometime.

WWTP Report –Sewer lateral restoration has been completed on S. Church. All vehicles, including all snow equipment have been serviced. The new 2022 pickup should be delivered this month. Glenn asked if the plow would need to be installed and Nate replied that Kutz will be installing the plow. All other items will be installed by Public Works. Stormwater projects are dependent upon weather at this time. The big stormwater project between Cherry and Chestnut Sts. is in the works. Hydrants are being flushed, serviced and inspected. Joshua asked if we had enough of a salt supply and Nate says we have enough for 4 storms at this time. Currently we have 3 trucks with plows and 1 with a salt spreader. Glenn asked if the new truck is getting additional lighting and Wendy replied yes. Glenn asked if lettering is going on the truck and Wendy replied that we have to sort that out. Glenn stated that Graber in Boyertown has the ability to scan a picture to apply that to the truck. Nate said he will contact Graber to inquire about getting the Borough logo on the new truck.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Ordinance 303 – Setting the real estate tax rate for 2023 to 5.3 mils** – Matthew Gehman made the motion to approve the new tax rate. Michael Moll seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Approval for Council President to sign Berks County Tax Form** – Michael Moll made the motion to approve President Glenn Mutter to sign and Matthew Gehman seconded it. All Ayes.
- **Line Item reading of 2023 Budget or motion to dispense with line item reading** – Matthew Gehman made the motion. Paul Gehringer seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Resolution 2022-5, 2023 Budget** - Michael Moll made the motion to approve the 2023 Budget. Joel Pilgert seconded that. All Ayes. Glenn Mutter abstained from the vote.
- **Resolution 2022-6 Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collection 2023** – Matthew Gehman made the motion to approve. Michael Bauman seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Resolution 2022-7 Employee Pension Contribution Waiver for 2023** – Michael Moll made the motion to approve. Paul Gehringer seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Appoint Kraft Municipal Group, Inc. as Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer (name change)** – Kraft Code and their separate engineering firm will be combining their companies to now be Kraft Municipal Group, Inc. Joshua Sloan made the motion to appoint Kraft Municipal Group, Inc. Paul Gehringer seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Appoint Tomkins Insurance as the Broker of Record for the Borough Liability, Auto, Property Ins.** – Matthew Gehman made the motion to appoint Tompkins as broker of record for Selective Insurance. Michael Moll seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Appoint Joel Pilgert to 4 Year Term Municipal Authority Board (2023 through 2026)** – Michael Moll made the motion to appoint Joel Pilgert. Matthew Gehman seconded that. All Ayes. Joel Pilgert abstained.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Vacating of N 5th Street update**–Tabled until January 2023.
- **Dedication of N 4th Street update**–Tabled until January 2023.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT– The Solicitor requested an executive session after the meeting.

MAYOR’S REPORT –The tree lighting went fabulous with at least 150 people. The Mayor would like to thank the Lions Club for the food and refreshments, the Borough maintenance crew for getting the tree, putting it up and adding the lights on it. The Mayor also thanks Wendy for the crafts for the kids, Melanie and Tammy for dressing up as Elves, and Matt and Cindy for the part they played (not wanting to disclose their secret identity)! He also thanked Rob and friends for providing music. The police had 70 calls for the month of November, 891 total for the year. They used 120 gallons of gas and travelled a total of 1105 miles. They had 62 traffic violations, 1 DUI arrest and 2 parking tickets.

OFFICE REPORT- Our new Public Works employee Sam is now off of his 90 day probation period. The water/sewer money market at Fleetwood Bank was closed and moved to Ambler Bank. The pre-audit on November 30th and December 1st is complete with no issues. The actual audit will be January 16th. The water/sewer bills went out last week. Joshua asked about the water billing system that Wendy was looking into. Wendy stated that she did like the system and the options it gives us. There were some leak alarms last month for some residents and there was one older resident on a fixed income whose water bill was over \$1000.00. Wendy stated that Council might want to consider giving some forgiveness for the leaks that residents have.

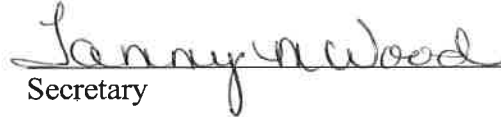
QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS— No residents in attendance.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS – Joshua Sloan thanked Wendy for allowing him to set up the basket raffle in the council room.

ADJOURNMENT- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michael Moll, seconded by Paul Gehringer at 7:40pm. All Ayes. Council moved to an executive session for a legal matter.



President



Secretary