

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 6, 2024 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, Paul Gehringer, Joshua Sloan, Michael Bauman, Michael Moll, Matthew Gehman and Joel Pilgert were all present.

Also present: Mayor, David Schott; Solicitor, R. Tim Curley; Borough Manager, Wendy Mutter; Secretary, Tammy Wood; Public Works Superintendent, Nathan Heffner. There were 3 residents and one reporter in attendance.

The agenda for this meeting had been posted on the door and posted on the Borough website, at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

President Mutter announced the meeting is being recorded for minute taking purposes.

**COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS –**

Ian Meintzer from Bally Hotel spoke to Council concerning the annual Irish Wake. Tentatively being from Thursday March 14 to Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>. There is a band scheduled for Sunday from 4-7PM and DJ from 7-11PM. Ian requests that Borough Hall office contact Police and Fire Police for traffic/foot control.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Minutes of January 2, 2024 Council Meeting- A motion was made by Michael Moll, seconded by Michael Bauman, to approve the minutes. All others Ayes.
- b. Approval & Affirmation of Bills Presented- A motion was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Paul Gehringer, to approve the bills. All Ayes.

**PRESIDING OFFICER REPORT** - No report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Health, Safety, & Welfare:**

**Police report-** Chief Ellick and Corporal Patt attended a mental health and crisis intervention certification class.

**Fire report-** There were a total of 47 calls in Bally for the year of 2023, with a grand total of 471 calls all municipalities combined. EBFD will be purchasing the lot that sits on the corner of Rt 100 and Hoffmansville Rd. They will be able to utilize the existing building, eliminating the need to build one. They will be selling the property across the street that was initially purchased. There will be one fire truck kept in Bally and one in Bechtelsville. The remainder will be stationed at the new property.

**Bally Ambulance –** January calls in Bally were 16, with a total of 113 calls for the month of January. Mike Groff, Chief of Bally Ambulance presented a letter for Bally residents about an EMS tax that is much needed, as all Fire and Ambulance in the State are struggling financially. This will be presented at all surrounding municipalities. The tax requested is a .5 mil emergency tax. This would eliminate the requests of Ambulance Memberships. Mike also presented Council with a packet of information with

highlighted items consisting of sustainable funding, staff shortages, educating public on financial state of EMS and a possible pilot program for remainder of PA.

**Planning Commission** - Did not meet

**Municipal Authority**- Did not meet. Next meeting February 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Zoning Hearing Board** –Did not meet.

**BARDS Committee** – BARDS will be getting new quotes for the seal coating of the pool parking lot. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual community yard sale hoping to be in May this year. BARDS will match the \$200.00 that the Borough budgeted in the tree fund. They would also like to invite the residents to donate to the tree fund.

**WWTP Report**- The digester project has started, with removal of the metal inside. It was found that there is ground water getting in through the valves, so the project is put on hold until a meeting with our Engineers and Blooming Glen, to figure a way to stop the water. January had the highest flow since March 2021. There are still some things to get done, but the plant held up well with the amount of rain and snow we had. There were 3 snow storms this season. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> storm, while plowing, a water main break was found on Walnut St. The break was repaired, but it was found that the blacktop is only about ½” thick and there is no base. This seems to be the norm for that area. There was 40 feet of pipe laid across the pool parking lot. The new truck seems to be working fine. There have been no problems with getting salt this year. There is about 75-80 tons stocked right now.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Traffic Study Main Street, requested by Joshua Sloan** – There is no cost for PennDOT to do a traffic study, but must be requested by the Borough. The concern from residents is due from the accidents that have been occurring lately on Main Street. The Senators office stated that we should have a traffic study. Tim states that a traffic study could be used as a base line for any potential issues that may arise in the future. It can also be compared by the number of speeding tickets issued. Council would like more information as to how a traffic study will benefit the Borough. This topic will be tabled until Joshua can get more information.
- **Reflective Tape on Utility Poles Main Street, requested by Joshua Sloan** – We do not know exactly who owns the poles on Main St. The reflective tape on these poles are worn and are not in line of sight anymore. Joshua Sloan will do some fact finding on the ownership of poles and if there are any requirements to putting reflective tape on the poles.
- **Lions Club Egg Hunt, requested by Joshua Sloan** – The Lions Club would like to have the Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00pm. Council gives the ok for the Egg Hunt. Joshua will inquire about the liability insurance and present it to the Borough.
- **PAHAF program involvement** – The State would like us to enroll in the PA Housing Finance Fund. Wendy does not see anything that would hurt the Borough if we would enroll. This program helps with mortgages and utilities for homeowners. Tim Curley would like to review this before we make the decision to be an approved vendor. This will be tabled until Tim has the chance to look into it.

#### **OLD BUSINESS: None**

#### **SOLICITOR’S REPORT:**

- Official notification from Washington Township for sewer capacity for 1606 Main Street for 48 EDU’s- This is only notice that they intend to ask for these EDU’s. Rules and regulations set forth by the Engineers and Borough must be followed.
- Washington Township Sewer Agreement – Still working on language for the agreement.

- Land access agreement with James Longacre – James Longacre does want to meet with Wendy Mutter and Tim Curley in respect to the sale of his land for the new well.
- Dissolution of land agreement with Kenneth Ehst – There was a letter sent with no reply as of now. We are waiting on word back from them.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Schott reported that the police had 48 calls for the month of January. There were 106 gallons used in January and they drove 1059 miles. There were 60 traffic citations.

#### **ENGINEER'S STATUS OF PROJECTS:**

The engineers will be applying for the permits for the Chestnut Street stormwater project. They have yet to meet with Nate to go over the project of stormwater work on Chestnut St and North and South 7<sup>th</sup> Sts.

#### **OFFICE REPORT**

- a. The audit of 2023 did not have any extreme issues. There were 2 audit adjustments that needed to be made.
- b. We have a quote from Co-Stars for swings in the park, of \$14,250.00. This includes all hardware needed and shipping. Public Works will be installing the swings. If there are enough funds left over, a slide will be purchased. Joshua Sloan made the motion to approve the purchase of the swings. Michael Moll seconded that motion. All Ayes.
- c. Please think about the date for the annual community yard sale.

**QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS** – No questions or comments

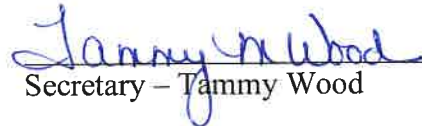
#### **COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

No questions from council

**ADJOURNMENT-** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Joshua Sloan at 8:43 pm. All Ayes.



President - Glenn Mutter



Secretary – Tammy Wood