

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 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, Paul Gehringer, Michael Bauman, Michael Moll, Matthew Gehman, and Joshua Sloan were present. Joel Pilgert attended via ZOOM.

Also present: Solicitor, R. Tim Curley; Borough Manager, Wendy Mutter; and Borough Secretary, Rochelle M. Gresh. There were approximately 2 residents in attendance and 1 reporter. Mayor, David Schott was absent.

The meeting is being broadcast via Zoom and recorded for minute taking purposes. An executive session was held on Monday November 30, 2020 for an employee issue. Another executive session was held from 6:45 PM to 7PM on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 for employee issues and will continue after the scheduled council meeting concludes.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS- Ian from Bally Hotel spoke about dates for the Irish Wake. They are planning on reopening soon depending on COVID-19 regulations and they plan to have the “Irish Wake” the weekend before or after St. Patrick’s Day.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of December 1, 2020 Council Meeting- A motion was made by Michael Moll seconded by Joshua Sloan. All Ayes. President Mutter commented that the idea of recognizing Raider was a great idea.
- b. Minutes of December 22, 2020 Special Council Meeting- A motion was made by Matt Gehman seconded by Paul Gehringer. 5 Ayes, Michael Moll and Joel Pilgert Abstained.
- c. Approval & Affirmation of Bills Presented- A motion was made by Matt Gehman, seconded by Michael Bauman to approve the bills. All Ayes.

PRESIDING OFFICER’S REPORT –No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Health, Safety, & Welfare – No meeting

EBFD- reported they responded to 445 calls for the year, the most they had since their merger in 2011.

Bally Police Department- Taser training was completed by all officers.

Planning Commission – No meeting.

Municipal Authority – Joel Pilgert commented that all documents are signed and that the next meeting will be held on February 16, 2021.

BARDS Committee – Preorders for pot pie fundraiser have begun, with over 100 quarts sold so far. March 8, 2021 is the last day for preordering pot pie. Upcoming events, yard sale/bake sale and dollar day. We ended year with over 10,000 in savings account to use towards pool upkeep.

WWTP Report – Nate reported that Christmas Eve and Christmas Day the Borough received a lot of rain and with the heavy rain we had no issues in the Borough. On December 20, 2020 there was a water main break that was repaired within 6 hours. The mapping system is working out well. We are planning on photographing intersections so that we can help to find the valves quicker with snow on the ground. The storm drain pipe at North 7th and Main has partially or fully collapsed and needs to be repaired. The borough residents did a great job of keeping the roads clear for the plows in the snowstorm, this was the clearest the streets ever were in his 7 years here at the Borough.

NEW BUSINESS

Employee Handbook Revision- A motion was made by Michael Moll to approve the revisions in the employee handbook. Seconded by Paul Gehringer. All Ayes. The solicitor is currently working on revising the whole employee handbook.

OLD BUSINESS–

Bally Borough State of Emergency- A motion was made Michael Bauman to keep the State of Emergency in Bally Borough the same until next council meeting. Seconded by Michael Moll. All Ayes.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT- Solicitor currently working on revising the employee handbook to clarify procedures. Bally Borough is now the proud owners of the Water Authority Infrastructure, which is leased to the Municipal Authority and began in November 1, 2020. Josh Sloan asked solicitor when the liability waiver will be ready for volunteers. Solicitor commented it will be ready by spring.

MAYOR’S REPORT – President Mutter read the December’s police report, there were 35 incidents, 2 arrests, and 8 citations. 1263 miles driven and 138.4 gallons of fuel of used.

OFFICE REPORT- Borough manager commented that the boil advisory for the water main was lifted on Christmas Eve, only a few residences were affected. The well information that Council decided on was forwarded to the engineers. They are currently still waiting on the permit for stream crossing. We may add more lining to use with the additional grant funds. Audit is scheduled for January 25 & 26, 2021. All went well with the Pre-Audit. The auditor commented that the Municipal Authority books must be done on the accrual method of accounting rather than the cash method. Borough Manager Wendy Mutter commented we may need to adjust our billing cycle for water and sewer, because of this. Letter went out to residents of Washington Township that will be affected by the new Municipal Authority. Discussion was held on possible new meters and which type of meters might be worth purchasing in the future.

QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS – None

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS – Sloan asked about the drop off for Multi-Service and Preston’s Pantry. Borough Manager stated that the first week resident dropped off 163lbs of food. The following week 38 pounds of food. Over the Christmas holidays no food was dropped off. Josh Sloan also asked if the letter sent to residents in paying water and sewer bill in full to waive the last fee was successful. Borough Manger stated that many people took advantage of it.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, a motion was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Paul Gehringer to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. All Ayes.

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President

Secretary