

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2023 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, Joshua Sloan and Joel Pilgert.

Also present: Solicitor, R. Tim Curley; Borough Manager, Wendy Mutter; Borough Secretary, Tammy Wood and Public Works Superintendent, Nathan Heffner. Mayor David Schott was absent. There was 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– No residents.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of April 4, 2023 Council Meeting- A motion was made by Joshua Sloan, seconded by Michael Moll, to approve the minutes. Joel Pilgert abstained, all others Aye.
- b. Approval & Affirmation of Bills Presented- A motion was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Michael Bauman, to approve the bills All Ayes.

PRESIDING OFFICER REPORT: No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Health, Safety, & Welfare

Fire report-Total fire calls for April were 43, with 10 in Bally. Year-to-date is 163. EBFD responded to quite a few house and brush fires, including traffic control at the RM Palmer explosion. EBFD is waiting for a new traffic unit and attack engine to be built, and hopeful about potential progress on land for the new station. Steady funding is critical for us to deliver the high quality fire and rescue service you have come to expect of us. If you have any questions about service in your municipality from the fire department, Fire Chief Mike Mutter is able and willing to assist.

Police report- All 4 police officers have completed their mandatory yearly certification training. The police drove a total of 1532 miles, and used 161.87 gallons of fuel. Both vehicles are running well. There was a total of 82 calls for April. There were 153 traffic citations, 1 non-traffic citation, 1 DUI arrest and 3 misdemeanor arrests.

Bally Ambulance - No report

Planning Commission - Did not meet

Municipal Authority- Joel Pilgert stated at the April 11th meeting, they went over well proposals. None of these were sufficient for our needs. A request for municipal water from Washington Township

received a yes/but... answer, basically stating they do not want to add additional users until there is a secondary water source. Joshua Sloan asked if we were contractually obligated to Washington Township customers. He was told we do not have a water agreement with Washington Township as all water lines are owned by the Bally Borough Municipal Authority.

Zoning Hearing Board –Did not meet.

BARDS Committee –The pool pavilion concrete slab is finished. BARDS is attempting to make a shade canopy that can be moved and removed if needed. They plan to stain the benches at the smokers' corner. The advertising of the community yard sale is getting a lot of hits. Joshua has extra yard sale signs if anyone is in need. BARDS will be cooking hamburgers and some other items in the pool snack shack at the Tractor Show. BARDS is still looking for fence banner sponsors at the pool. Joshua asked for permission to purchase urinal partitions for the Men's bathroom at the pool. Wendy stated she prefers that Public Works install the partitions.

WWTP Report- Public Works is ahead of schedule for the pool opening. The pool is painted and skimmer boxes are replaced. There is a broken relief valve in the floor of the pool, which will be temporarily fixed for this coming season. They will begin filling the pool on Monday, May 15th. Storm water project on Chestnut Street is continuing. There were some buried electrical lines that MetEd had not marked and there were a few days that went quite slow because of it. They are waiting on the weather to clear up and until after the Tractor Show to continue digging through the park. They are working on a small water leak on Kulps Road. Nate received a quote for the lateral work on Pine St. and Nate is working with them on the quote, as it had more than we needed, for instance televising, which we do not need them to do. These laterals are not leaking and are able to be lined. The tennis courts will be ripped out after the Tractor Show. Black top patches to be done throughout. Joshua Sloan inquired if there are any problems with chlorine this year. Nate has not heard of any.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Paving bid results Pine St, N Church St and Basketball Court** –Bids came in from H&K Group at \$210,051.96, Construction Masters at \$211,492.55 and Schlouch at \$238,510.00. The lowest bid went to H & K Group. Breakdown of the costs is as follows: Pine St-\$47,153.10 with mesh. Expense will be taken from streets in the general fund; N. Church St.-\$128,914.96 without mesh. Expense will be taken from restoration of sewer work coming from the sewer fund and the basketball court at \$17,430.15, which will be reimbursed from the grant in the general fund. The remaining \$16,553.75 will be mobilization costs and will be coming from the sewer fund.
- **Notice of intent to award paving bid to Haines & Kibblehouse \$210,051.96**– Motion to give a notice of intent to award bid to Haines and Kibblehouse was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Michael Moll. All Ayes.
- **July council meeting** –The normal scheduled 1st Tuesday of July falls on July 4th. A motion was made by Michael Moll to advertise the meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 5th. Paul Gehringer seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Purchase new water/sewer billing system from CUSI in the amount of \$15,240.00 with annual maintenance each year thereafter of \$3,700.00.** Benefits of the new system to customers would include online access to their account information. Third party credit/debit card payment. Options to receive bill by mail, email, or text and to multiple parties for rentals. A motion was made by Joshua Sloan and seconded by Matthew Gehman to allow the Borough Manager to purchase the CUSI billing system. All Ayes.
- **PW garage application payment #2 to Leibold for HVAC \$6,300.00** – Motion made by Paul Gehringer to approve payment. Michael Moll seconded that. All Ayes.
- **PW garage application payment #3 (Final) to Leibold for HVAC \$9,200.00** – Motion made by Michael Moll to approve payment. Matthew Gehman seconded that. All Ayes.

- **PW garage application payment #5 to AN Lynch for electric \$7,507.50 – Note that this is not the final payment for electric.** Motion made by Paul Gehringer to approve payment. Matthew Gehman seconded that. All Ayes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Adopt Ordinance 306 Amending Non-Uniform Pension Plan agreeing to be bound by all provisions of PA Municipal Retirement Law as amended** –Michael Bauman made the motion to adopt Ordinance 306, Michael Moll seconded it. All Ayes.
- **Adopt Ordinance 307 Amending Police Pension Plan agreeing to be bound by all provisions of PA Municipal Retirement Law as amended-** Matthew Gehman made the motion to adopt and Paul Gehringer seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Required deposit of 2015 reimbursement of State Aide in the amount of \$2360 plus interest since October 2018-** We are still waiting for the total amount from PMRS.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT–No report

MAYOR’S REPORT –No report

OFFICE REPORT-

- a. Borough office addition/grant, update (meeting with PA Senator Pennycuick’s office). Paul Gehringer is working on some drawings to extend the office for the police. Wendy, Chief Ellick and Mayor Schott met with Senator Pennycuick’s office to discuss getting a grant for a Borough Hall addition for the police.
- b. Bad behavior in the Park – Wendy spoke with the Solicitor about the incidents. There is a resident walking aggressive dogs in the park that warns other people to turn around and walk the other way. This resident has been quite forceful with his words to other people in the park. Wendy and Chief Ellick discussed installing more cameras in the park. The Solicitor stated that he would like to see the dog ordinance. Council is ok with putting signs in the park and installing more cameras. Matthew Gehman made a motion to purchase a maximum of 3 additional cameras to put in the park. Michael Moll seconded the motion. All Ayes.
- c. New redundant well site update. A meeting with the engineers and DEP/PES about possible new well locations was held. All recommended locations go further North on Route 100. We asked if they could investigate locations South of the Borough, possibly along Old Route 100. Also looking at “packing” Well 5 to block off surface water and only pump from the bottom of the well and hopefully not affect the wetland.
- d. Playground grant update- We have a bid for the basketball court macadam, looking at getting quotes for the basketball equipment and SDE surveyor was here today to work on storm water plans. We have the finalized contract from the LSA Grant.
- e. Water shut off notices/liens. We have started the process of water shut-offs. There are 2 in the Borough and 1 in Washington Twp that will be receiving liens.
- f. Park trees (4 total) not yet received. We have not received the trees that were ordered over 2 months ago. The company stated that they were delivered. There has been no response since from the company.
- g. China House grease clog in sewer main. The grease clogged our sewer line and was coming out of the manhole. Nate, along with public works spent 2 days cleaning up, along with Hilltop and the fire company. The China House will be billed for all hours, equipment and disposal of grease. They did get their line cleaned. Joshua asked about the quarterly inspection. Nate stated that they will be televising any lines that are directly connected to a business that disposes grease, as an initial inspection. Thereafter, it will be televised in time periods based on the initial inspection. Tim Curley suggested that we draft a policy of

procedure for commercial properties. Wendy states that she will send Tim the FOG Ordinance.

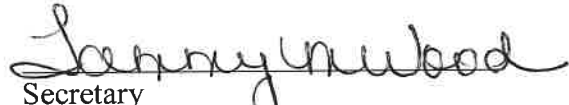
- h. Required deposit of additional funds from audit of 2015 pension plans. We deposited the funds received from October 2018 from the 2015 audit of the pension funds. I didn't want to accumulate more interest waiting on PMRS to calculate the interest.
- i. The Borough Manager reviewed the new sewer agreement with Washington Township provided by the engineer. Most of the revisions involve removal of language referring to the plant expansion and loan repayment. The document already contained requirements for metering of sewer lines coming into the Borough's sewer lines. It did not contain language requiring Washington Township to maintain the first manhole receiving sewer from Washington Township.
- j. Resident Carol Graves donated 3 benches to the Borough park in honor of her late husband.
- k. Bally Ribbon Mill will be having a 100 year anniversary employee picnic in the park May 20th.

QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS— No residents

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS— Joshua Sloan commented that The Lions Club would like to put the Hometown Heros banners at a height of 12 feet and facing inward, not toward traffic. This will make it easier for hanging and hopefully alleviate some damage and whatnot with them facing the street. The Solicitor recommend they contact the utility and give them notice.

ADJOURNMENT- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Joshua Sloan at 8:35pm. All Ayes.


President


Secretary