

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 5, 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, and Matthew Gehman were all present. Joel Pilgert was absent.

Also present: Mayor, David Schott; Solicitor, R. Tim Curley; Borough Manager, Wendy Mutter; Secretary, Tammy Wood; Public Works Superintendent, Nathan Heffner. There were two 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 –

Sandy Smith asked if the Borough does anything with the leaves that are in the street. She stated that they are gathering in the storm drains. Wendy Mutter stated “the Borough does not own a leaf vacuum and Public Works will take care of it by cleaning out the storm drains.” Sandy also inquired if the Borough is putting any money away for a new pool. Wendy Mutter stated, “the pool is not spending any money, besides for maintaining the pool and will continue that until we can no longer.” Wendy believes the condition of the main pool is better than it was years ago. The baby pool does need replaced/repaired or a splash pad put in its place by the year 2026. Mary Leister and Sandy Smith- President of Park Place HOA inquired about the rental of the Senior Center to hold their HOA meetings. Mary stated that they have been holding their meetings at the Senior Center for over 20 years and believes that they should be able to continue to hold their meetings. Wendy Mutter stated that the Borough was not aware of HOA holding meetings there until recently. Glenn Mutter stated that he needs to know who gave them permission to hold their meetings there. Tim Curley, Solicitor, stated that anyone that uses Borough property must have insurance coverage, along with submitting an application for use.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of October 1, 2024 Council Meeting- A motion was made by Michael Moll, seconded by Paul Gehringer, to approve the minutes. Matthew Gehman abstained from the vote. All others, Ayes.
- b. Approval & Affirmation of Bills Presented- A motion was made by Joshua Sloan, seconded by Michael Bauman, to approve the bills. All Ayes.

PRESIDING OFFICER REPORT - No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Health, Safety, & Welfare:

Police report- The police would like to hire 2 new part-time officers. Joshua Sloan made the motion for the application to be advertised, seconded by Matthew Gehman. All Ayes.

Fire report- There were a total of 54 calls for October, with a grand total of 382 calls for the year. There is a county wide burn ban in place, which started November 2nd and continues for 30 days.

Bally Ambulance – October calls in Bally were 6, with a grand total of 127 calls for the month of October. Borough Manager Wendy Mutter, along with Council President Glenn Mutter attended a meeting concerning the future of funding of EMS in the state of PA. Bally Borough will implement an EMS tax of .5 mill (that will be passed this evening). This is a start of what local municipalities are doing to keep our ambulance running. The EMS is only able to get help from local Municipalities, not County, per legislation. Mike Groff, Bally EMS Chief, stated that some Municipalities give a donation, some have a tax implemented. Mike Groff commended Bally Borough for taking the lead in implementing the tax. There are some Municipalities that do not give anything or contribute a very minimum amount. Bonnie Eisenhardt, President of Upper Perkiomen Ambulance, also a tax payer in Bally PA, stated that she is in need for backup from Bally, due to only being able to afford to run 1 ambulance. It is agreed that something needs to be done for EMS services in the area.

Planning Commission - Did not meet

Municipal Authority- Met October 15th, discussed the well project and the proposed budget. Meeting again November 19th with the intention to pass the proposed 2025 budget.

Zoning Hearing Board –Did not meet.

BARDS Committee – Trunk-or-Treat was a success, even with less trunks this year. The movie in the park afterwards had a good turnout. Bally Mennonite Church will host a Craft Show on November 23rd from 9am-3pm. BARDS will attend the December 7th tree lighting with luminaries and a raffle.

WWTP Report- The swings have been put up in the park. The stormwater project in the park is completed with 471 feet of pipe and 6 catch basins. Public Works got a jump start on some pool projects, including skimmer boxes. Vehicle repairs have started this week.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Adopt Ordinance #310 Imposing a Fire Tax on Real Property** – Michael Moll made the motion to adopt Ordinance #310 Imposing Fire Tax on Real Property, Matthew Gehman seconded the motion. Glenn Mutter abstained from the vote. All others, Ayes.
- **Adopt Ordinance #311 Imposing an EMS Tax on Real Property** – Paul Gehringer made the motion to adopt Ordinance #311 EMS Tax on Real Property, seconded by Joshua Sloan. All others, Ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Change Order #3 to Blooming Glen extend project time** – This was due to a wrong pump that was ordered. Michael Moll made the motion to approve the change order extension time, seconded by Paul Gehringer. All others, Ayes.
- **Payment Application #3 Blooming Glen \$135,665.20** – Joshua Sloan made the motion to pay Blooming Glen \$135,665.20, seconded by Michael Moll. All Others, Ayes.
- **Authorize sewer lateral project to go out to bid** – There is a total of 23 total laterals. Matthew Gehman made the motion to go to bid, seconded by Michael Moll. Michael Bauman and Paul Gehringer abstained from the vote. All others, Ayes.
- **Adopt Resolution 2024-3 Setting Non-Uniform Employee Wages for 2025** – Michael Moll made the call to Motion. Matthew Gehman made the motion to adopt Resolution 2024-3 Non-Uniform Employee Wages for 2025, seconded by Joshua Sloan. Glenn Mutter abstained from the vote. All Others, Ayes.
- **Adopt Resolution 2024-4 LSA Grant Funding Application for Borough Hall Improvements (emergency generator, remainder of renovations in the office, and ADA**

ramp for voting accessibility) There is a \$100.00 application fee – Motion made by Joshua Sloan to Adopt Resolution 2024-4 LSA Grant Funding, seconded by Paul Gehringer. All others, Ayes.

- **2025 Budget approve for advertising** – Matthew Gehman made the motion to approve the 2025 Budget advertising, seconded by Michael Bauman. All Others, Ayes.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT: No report

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Schott reported that the police had 73 calls for the month of October, for a total of 460 for the year. There were 129 gallons of fuel used in October and they drove 1,092 miles. There were 56 traffic citations and 1 parking ticket issued. The Mayor married his 105th couple last month.

ENGINEER’S STATUS OF PROJECTS:

Wendy Mutter will scan the LSA application to SDE. There were no questions/comments on the Engineers status.

OFFICE REPORT

- Well 6 update** – The first site of the test drilling for Well 6 came up with no water. They drilled to 500 ft with 3 gallons of water per minute. They will be starting the second location drilling this week.
- Approval to sell street signs to the public for \$20.00 each** – The old street signs will be for sale at the Christmas tree lighting on December 7th. This will be on a first come, first serve basis with being advertised in the Winter 2025 Newsletter. Paul Gehringer made the motion to approve the selling of street signs, seconded by Michael Moll. All Others, Ayes.

QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS – No questions or comments

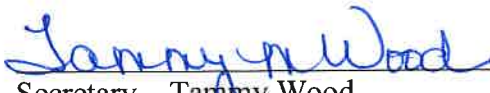
COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Glenn Mutter asked Joshua Sloan if every dollar of BARDS goes to the pool. Joshua said it does not, some are operating costs. Glenn Mutter stated that the Borough does a lot for the pool, not just BARDS.

ADJOURNMENT- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matthew Gehman, seconded by Michael Bauman at 8:33 pm. All Ayes.



President - Glenn Mutter



Secretary – Tammy Wood