

**BALLY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER4, 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, Joshua Sloan, Michael Moll, Joel Pilgert and Paul Gehringer. Matthew Gehman was absent.

Also present: Solicitor, R. Tim Curley; Borough Manager, Wendy Mutter; Borough Secretary, Tammy Wood and Mayor, David Schott. There was one reporter in attendance and 2 residents.

President Mutter announced the meeting is being broadcast via Zoom and recorded for minute taking purposes.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS—Brett Beitler requested permission for the tractor parade on October 29th for Just Farm Kids beginning and ending in the Borough as he has done in past years. Brett received Washington Township approval. Council gives their permission. There is no rain date. Bally Block approved parking in their field. Council gives their approval. Resident Glenn Owens stated that the trucks that come in through Bally on Main Street in the morning are using their jake brakes entering town. Glenn Owens inquired if police could be more vigilant on this aspect and maybe start citing some of these truckers that are repeat offenders. President Glenn Mutter, stated that there will be a conversation with our Chief of Police. Glenn Owens also asked if he could put his own water meter in. Borough Manager, Wendy Mutter stated that he could put one in a location after ours at his cost, but not to remove ours. Glenn Owens stated that he would do so, in order to compare his usage.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of September 6, 2022 Council Meeting-A motion was made by Paul Gehringer, seconded by Michael Moll, to approve the minutes. All Ayes. Correction: the motion for the minutes of the September 6th council meeting stated that the motion was made by Paul Gehman. That was incorrect, as it should have been Paul Gehringer.
- b. Approval & Affirmation of Bills Presented-A motion was made by Michael Moll to approve and affirm the bills, seconded by Joshua Sloan. All Ayes.

PRESIDING OFFICER REPORT: No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Health, Safety, & Welfare

Fire report-Fire calls for the month of September is 34; 358 total year-to-date. October is fire prevention month and EBFD will be visiting local schools, daycares and churches to educate and entertain the kids. EBFD will be attending several Halloween parades throughout the month also. EBFD would like to ask everyone to consider them in any budget talks, as it is getting harder to raise funds to maintain their level of care.

Police Report-Police car 2 had all 4 tires replaced. The officers completed a firearms and taser certification for the year. The Chief, along with Corporal Patt and Officer Mains attended a narcotics identification class.

Bally Ambulance-The ambulance had an approximate of 150 calls in September. The issue of coverage has gotten a bit better, but there is no solution as of now. They are weighing all options for

the future of purchasing a new ambulance; including the option of just purchasing a new chassis, as the expense of a new ambulance has increased approximately \$120,000.00 this year.

Planning Commission- Meets October 17th for the Membrino final sub-division on N 9th St.

Municipal Authority-Meets October 18th.

Zoning Hearing Board –Did not meet.

BARDS Committee –Joshua stated that Trunk-or-Treat has 10 out of 20 spots filled. Hoping for a few more “trunks” to sign up. The movie Hotel Transylvania is ready to go with all licensing approved. Wendy stated she will open the bathrooms for the night.

WWTP Report –September 12th we repaired a water main break at N 9th Street. All went smooth with the repair, but there was a lot of water lost. All curbs to be painted were pressure washed. Painting of the curbs has begun and will continue until finished. The new F250 should be delivered by December sometime. The procedure to order the new F550 is complicated this year, with a window of only 3 days to order. The old reservoir tank is in bad shape as the top is cracking. The old reservoir should be filled in. Public works would like approval to open a hole in the top of the front section and use fill currently at the sewer plant and any additional fill from lateral replacements. Council stated that there should be “No Trespassing” signs put all around the property, along with some kind of fencing to go around the tank. Borough Solicitor, Tim Curley stated that OSHA requirements should be looked into. Council agreed that this project should move forward, with the signs and fence.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Change order #2 for sewer project # 3 in the amount of \$1008.00.** This was due to some manholes being a little deeper than the estimate. Motion to accept change order #2 made by Michael Moll. Paul Gehringer seconded that. All Ayes.
- **Change order #3 for sewer project #3 in the amount of -\$6699.32.** They came in under budget. Motion to accept change order #3 made by Joshua Sloan, seconded by Joel Pilgert. All Ayes.
- **Payment Application #4 (final) for sewer project #3 to Mobile Dredging and Video Pipe, Inc. in the amount of \$123,330.45.** This completes the project and puts us in the warranty period. Motion to approve Payment #4 made by Paul Gehringer and seconded by Michael Moll. All Ayes.
- **Ordinance #302 water/sewer regulations and fees.** This has gone to advertisement with the additional verbage concerning the late fee policy, the new fees for EDU's and water/sewer regulations and fees. Motion to approve Ordinance #302 made by Michael Moll, seconded by Paul Gehringer. All Ayes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Vacating of N 5th Street update**–The solicitor stated he was working with Wendy on this today. The Borough will need to pass an Ordinance vacating that portion of N 5th Street. We need to obtain an accurate description of the property and will need to send written notice to any land owners that would be affected by the change.
- **Dedication of N 4th Street update**–The solicitor stated that we will need an Ordinance because the transaction was approved and recorded, but an Ordinance was never adopted by council. We will need to advertise the ordinance prior to adoption.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT–The Solicitor requested an executive session for a pending litigation matter and a personnel matter following the council meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT –Police calls were 74 in the month of August, total for the year is 750. Police used a total of 96 gallons of fuel for half of September, traveling a total of 1486 miles with both vehicles. There were 156 traffic citations, 2 misdemeanor arrests, 4 parking tickets and 1 warrant from a traffic stop. The Mayor performed a marriage this past Friday at Borough Hall.

OFFICE REPORT-Last month we received permission to purchase trench boxes up to a maximum of \$15,000.00. The quote came in at \$15,010.00. Nate got a quote for the boxes and slings that came to \$15,285.00. Wendy is asking for approval of purchasing the boxes and slings at a maximum of \$15,500.00. Joshua Sloan made the motion to approve the purchase, Paul Gehringer seconded that. All Ayes.

The pool itself is looking in pretty good condition, as we had a professional come to inspect it. There are 2 filter boxes should be replaced and the paint should be removed as much as possible and do a full re-painting of the pool. There were no big cracks that need to be repaired. The drain also needs to be re-done.

Wendy is in the process of getting the Borough's property and auto insurance quoted from other insurance agencies. Hopefully we will have those numbers by next meeting to determine whether we stay with our current insurance or not.

All County, the engineers working with Camp Camino, came to survey the plant of where we could run the new sewer line and found out the Borough owns more property than we thought we did. There is a neighbor that will have to remove some vehicles off of our property there.

We had a finance committee meeting and it is looking as though we will have to be raising taxes next year. We are currently at 5 mils, looking to increase to 5.3 mils, which would put us at a comfortable spot, hoping to not have to increase again in the next few years. The Borough has not raised taxes since 2015. No decision will need to be made tonight, but Wendy is requesting an idea on what Council might want to do. Council seems to feel that the 5.3 mil would be the reasonable amount. Wendy will prepare an Ordinance for the next meeting.

QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS– None

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS –Joshua Sloan asked to have a few buckets of topsoil from the Borough to fix his yard that is sinking from the work that Mobile Dredging and Video had done.

ADJOURNMENT- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michael Moll, seconded by Paul Gehringer at 8:15pm. There was an Executive Session held after the meeting for both a legal and a personnel matter.



President



Secretary