

**ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

March 11, 2015

The Borough Council met in an Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. and in a regular session at 8:00 p.m. at the William Reinl Recreation Building on the above date with President Short presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by President Short.

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**ROLL CALL**

Council members present: H. Short; P. Rankin; S. Coppola;  
M. Xavier; M. J. Corrigan; C. Maniaci;  
S. Oropollo

Council members absent: None

Officers present: G. Sefflin, Solicitor; J. Hopely, Mayor  
J. Perks, Asst. Borough Secretary; T. Quinn, Treasurer;  
J. White, Borough Manager

Officers absent: None

**MINUTES**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Rankin seconded by Councilman Maniaci the minutes from the February 11, 2015 Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE**

None

The meeting was interrupted in order for Mayor Hopely to introduce and swear in new part-time police officer, Thomas Piraino. Mr. Piraino grew up in Aston Township, is in the Army National Guard and served in Afghanistan. Mr. Piraino graduated from the Delaware County Police Academy and works full time for the Delaware County Park Police. Tom also serves with the Aston Township Fire Department.

Witnessed by his parents, Tom and Janice and Tom's aunt Mr. Piraino was sworn in by Mayor Hopely as a part time Aldan Borough Police Officer.

**MAYOR REPORT**

Nothing to report.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**TREASURER**

Terry Quinn read the Treasurer’s Report:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>State Highway Fund</u>	<u>Sewer Fund</u>
Balance of cash on hand	\$ 184,035.38	\$ 28,955.82	\$ 51,138.87
Receipts for period	\$ 131,282.02	\$ 88,662.60	\$ 49,873.68
Expenditures Last Month	\$ (150,320.93)	\$ (6,565.17)	\$ (2,809.50)
Loan from Reserve	\$	\$	\$
Ending Balance	\$ 174,644.97	\$ 111,053.25	\$ 98,203.05

Terry asked for Councils approval to release checks from the following funds; from the general fund checks totaling \$182,195.38, from the state highway fund totaling \$6,565.17, and from the sewer fund totaling \$6,680.25.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented and to pay the bills, seconded by Councilman Coppola and unanimously approved.

**SOLICITOR**

Mr. Seflin reported we have had a busy month, for our 2012/2013 tax delinquency collection program we filed last month twelve lawsuits, 11 representing delinquencies from 2013 and 1 for 2012 which we had been negotiating with the institution that owns the property for a while and finally negotiations broke down so we filed suit against them. We are seeking in those 12 lawsuits a total of \$17,300.71; Mr. Seflin noted there is another delinquency out there that again because of negotiation we decided to hold off on filing suit pending those negotiations, which \$1,315.25 is due on that property.

In addition to that we have filed this week 10 liens against individuals and/or institutions in the borough where the borough had to fix or otherwise get rid of nuisances on those property. The total of those liens are \$18,305. The vast majority of these properties had grossly overgrown grass, weeds, bushes and the like. In one instance there was damage to a roof of a property that had to be secured. Several had to have major work done to the extent that we have liens in the amount of \$4,825 on one property, \$3,300 on another and \$3,597 on a third. I told them in no uncertain terms that if they do not pay the liens or contact the borough within 30 days we will proceed with lawsuits against all of them.

## **ENGINEER**

Mr. Close reported, relative to our NPDS Storm Water Program, recently our MS4 coordinator, Heather Gill met with the borough MS4 liaison, John White and Police Chief Coppola for an annual meeting that we are required to do as part of our program to coordinate and update storm water activities as part of our program. Some of the items discussed were follow up action items from the DEP meeting in September where they did an inspection of our program; things like updating our outfall map, and updating our website. For those of you that don't know our website has a lot of neat links relative to storm water management, sort of educational opportunities, informational blurbs and posters, so if want to learn how you can help out and improve storm water in the borough there is some nice information on the website.

Also, on the back table are copies of a flyer from the Chester Ridley Crum Water Sheds Association for some rain garden workshops. They have two free workshops coming up, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm at Nether Providence Township building, another on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at Media Borough Hall.

Lastly, with the change of the weather we are thinking about our 2015 Road Program and also we have some bids for the 2014 CDBG project and I will be available during the respective committee reports for any input on those two items.

President Short asked if the rain garden would help a resident who has trouble with standing water on their property. Mr. Close answered that it could be because the soil mix is a porous soil that not only helps drain the water but the plants used are water loving plants that will absorb the water and not just the water but also the pollutants from a driveway or roof and that's the idea to take up the nutrients that are harmful to the stream. There are other things such as rain barrels that you can put on your downspouts that you can reuse the rain water to water plants and such.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

Councilwoman Corrigan was happy to report that in the Municipal Building we now have a drug take back box that all have access to while the office is open.

Councilwoman Corrigan reported our Solid Waste for the month of February was 99.141 tons. There are no recycling totals as of yet.

### **HIGHWAY**

Councilman Maniaci announced the 2015 Snow/Salt Report; there were 17 salting events and 8 plowing events. We have used 218.66 tons of road salt for a total of \$46,499.06. Hopefully we are finished with snow for this year.

In the next few weeks Councilman Maniaci will survey the borough for potholes.

Councilman Maniaci made a motion to have the Borough Engineer submit the County Aid application, seconded by Councilman Xavier unanimously approved.

Tom Morse asked if there are potholes found on a state road, which is responsible for the cost of the repair, the borough or the state. He was informed that the state would take responsibility for the repair.

Carol Murray, borough resident explained that her complaint about the snow plowing on Woodlawn Avenue was due to pedestrians having to walk in the street and she was concerned about those pedestrians coming in harm's way.

Dan Procopio asked if there is a dollar amount attached to the County Aid application, Mr. Close said the annual allocation and request is \$5,468 for the 2015 Road Program.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Councilman Oropollo's made a motion to accept the 2015 CDBG Project grant to SWERP, Inc. who submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$73,838 which is contingent upon the acceptance of the Delaware County OHCD, seconded by Councilman Coppola unanimously approved.

There were two other bids for the 2015 CDBG project; Tri-State Grouting, \$87,434 and Cleaver Cable Construction, \$109,269.50. The engineer estimate for the project is \$96,112.90 and the grant is for \$100,000 so there is some wiggle room in case there are any adaptations which need to be made.

Once the weather clears out A to U Services will clean out 33 storm inlets between Clifton Avenue and Springfield Road.

Dan Procopio asked regarding the 2015 CDBG Project is the extra grant funds returned to the county or can it be used for other projects. Dan was informed that any funds not used would be returned to the county.

### **FINANCE**

Councilwoman Rankin announced that we are in the process of collecting taxes and the tax collector will be in the municipal building Monday nights thru the end of March and the taxes can also be mailed into Sharon Savings Bank.

Dan Procopio asked Councilwoman Rankin for the reserve fund totals; the reported totals are, in the general reserve \$205,227.87, in the sewer capital reserve \$470,390.75, and in the police capital reserve \$1,000.58.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Councilman Xavier made the Fire Marshalls report. During the month of February, 2015 Collingdale Fire Companies 1 & 2 responded to 6 calls in the borough of Aldan all resulting in no damage and the Collingdale Ambulance and Paramedics responded to 25 calls in the borough.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> Collingdale Fire Company #1 resumed employing their own paramedics. This will allow the Fire Company more flexibility while maintaining the exceptional public service the residents of Aldan Borough have grown to know.

### **LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

Councilman Coppola reported for the month of February there were 2 plumbing permits with a construction value of \$5,150. The Building Inspector issued 24 building permits with a construction value of \$79,178, and there were 23 Transfer and Mid Term inspections during the month of February.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building. Council will meet Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 7:30 PM for Executive Session and General Meeting starting at 8:00 PM at the William Reindl Recreation Building.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Carol Murray asked that the website be updated with current positions. Also, Ms. Murray asked if the Borough cards are being issued for new residents. Councilman Xavier informed Ms. Murray that both issues are being addressed. Ms. Murray expressed her annoyance that homeowners were not notified of the Septa project on Woodlawn Avenue. She wondered why Septa posted information for the project in Collingdale and Clifton Heights and Aldan residents were not notified. She also hopes that this project goes smoother than the past projects Septa had performed on Woodlawn Avenue. John White explained that Aldan chose to send letters along with the Septa information sheet to each resident informing them of the project and inviting the residents to a community meeting. The letters were delayed a few days due to the printer and mail house being closed as a result of the snow storm but the residents did receive the information Tuesday.

John McBlain wanted to thank council for their hard work and advocacy for the project with Septa.

President Short commented that the Septa's construction department appears to be in much better shape than back in the 1980's. All the projects seem to run on time and smoothly and he has all the confidence in Septa that this project will go as smooth as they promise.

Tom Morse asked where the Septa community meeting is being held, it was announced that the meeting will be held at Aldan Elementary Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-7pm.

Dan Procopio announced the Boosters Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> at noon, and in conjunction with that the Boys and Girls Clubs have scheduled their Field Clean-up Day for March 21<sup>st</sup>. Dan also wanted to congratulate the Police Chief for his son's return to duty. Finally, Dan commented that Councilman Xavier has not filed for re-election and wanted to acknowledge Councilman Xavier for his time and effort and that there are many residents as well as he that appreciate what Councilman Xavier has done for Aldan Borough.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Rankin and seconded by Councilman Coppola unanimously approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

**ATTEST**

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Jennifer Perks  
Asst. Borough Secretary