

**ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

April 11, 2012

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. Brookes; T. Owen; S. Coppola  
J. Cosgrove; S. Oropollo; R. Lowery

Council members absent: None

Officers present: J. Hopely, Mayor; G. Seflin, Solicitor;  
T. Quinn, Treasurer; G. Kaut, Secretary

Officers absent: None

**MINUTES**

On a motion made by R. Lowery seconded by S. Oropollo minutes from the March 14, 2012, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

No written correspondence tonight.

**VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE**

No verbal correspondence tonight.

**MAYOR REPORT**

Mayor Hopely read a Proclamation to the people of the Borough of Aldan, the month of April, 2012 is hereby set aside as Aldan Girls' Club month.

Mayor Hopely reminded the residents to please be safe around your home keeping your doors and windows locked and lights on. Also if you see something that does not seem right please call the police immediately, do not wait till the next day.

**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	\$ 335,546.32	\$ 10.19	\$ 152,166.25
Interest		\$	\$
Receipts for period	\$ 404,880.42	\$ 75,896.09	\$ 221,713.73
Expenditures Prior Month	\$ (201,286.09)		\$ 151,566.25
Add Sewer Interfund Transfers	69,701.79		
Net Checks	\$ (131,584.30)		
Loan Returned			\$ 80,000.00
Balance	\$ 608,842.44	\$ 75,906.28	\$ 142,313.73

Terry is asking Council's approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$ 366,525.61 and from the Sewer Fund a check totaling \$50.50 there are no checks from the State Highway Fund. Councilwomen Brookes made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and authorize her to release the checks as indicated on the bills list, seconded by Councilwomen Owen and unanimously approved.

**SOLICITOR**

Mr. Sefflin reported on our Tax Delinquency Program for 2010, we currently have 7 hearings for delinquents and this is down from about 11 and they are scheduled for April 26, 2012 at 1:00 in front of Judge Perfetti. For 2009 we still have a couple of delinquencies outstanding and both are in Bankruptcy. Mr. Sefflin did receive a check today for \$33.03 for 31 E Wayne Avenue. We do have some nuisance to report on. We currently have 3 we have taken action on where the properties deteriorated so badly that have become nuisances. 2 we have law suites pending against them and 1 has just disappeared and has not been served by the court and constable. One property we received a check last week for \$2,278.61 for 122 Merion Avenue.

**ENGINEER**

Mr. Close reported we applied for \$15,000.00 for a CDBG grant for the 2012 Playground and Parking Lot repaving project for the Borough. Our project was included in the County March 22, 2012 Delaware County Times notice for projected use of funds. That is promising we are on the list and according to the notice County Council held a public hearing today to solicit public comment on the proposed annual plan. It also indicated that County Council is scheduled to adopt the final fiscal year 12 action plan at their May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. We should hear about our project in May.

Mr. Close reported on the miscellaneous work that we do; the 2012 Road Program, NPDS MS 4 Annual Report, and some potential Storm Sewer and Sewer Projects for the year. Mr. Close will be available during any other reports for questions.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

Councilwomen Owen reported on questions from Dan Procopio from last month about the totals of recyclables submitted to the County for the recycling report. The report reflects the curbside, commercial and drop off methods of recyclables in 60 different categories. 5 categories reflect commercial contributions and these amounts were reported either directly to the county or by the hauler that has a contract with a particular client. 6 categories reflected the drop off program that we have here in the Borough and they are divided up between glass in the different colors, single stream and the paper and cardboard through Accurate Recycling, the igloos, and the bin behind the Elementary School. Unfortunately not all of these totals are included in the states DEP Recycling Program from which the Performance Grant arises. There is a copy of the report that was submitted for review after the meeting. Dan also asked the total of savings in recyclables from the year 2011, which was just the drop off program. Accurate was the company we used as the hauler for our paper, cardboard and newsprint. We received bills and in some cases checks and the charges that were above the rebate level was \$621.15 for the year 2011 and the receipts above the rebate fee that was identified for a particular month was \$549.05, that difference was \$72.10, which is what the Borough had to pay Accurate Recycling after everything was checked and balanced. It seemed in the later quarter of the year the market for paper tend to turn and that is when we started to see checks on a monthly basis. The igloos on the other hand collected colored glass and in the later part of the year extended that into single stream with aluminum and plastic being allowed. We were not charged nor were we reimbursed any money from that program. If no program had been in place we would have had to pay the Solid Waste Authority approximately \$1,600.00 more in fees. The Accurate tonnage we had was 58.74 tons and the igloos had 9.48 tons so this was a little more than 68 tons. For the past few years we pay the Solid Waste Authority \$23.45 per ton and that equates to the \$1,600.00 take out the \$72.00 that we paid Accurate we would have paid Solid Waste Authority \$1,527.00.

Councilwomen Owen had some dates for residents; April 21<sup>st</sup> is the second Household Hazardous Waste Collection. The will be held at the Marple Transfer Station at Marpit Drive & Sussex Blvd., Broomall. The event will be held 9 to 3 rain or shine. They will be accepting flammables, caustics, pesticides, toxics, batteries, cell phones, and small electronics. No collection of small appliances such as computers or small TV's stereos at this event but the 2 collections in the fall will allow those items.

Councilwomen Owen reported on April 28<sup>th</sup> we will again be hosting the National Take Back Event. This will be held in the Municipal Building Parking Lot from 10 to 2. If there is rain it will be held in the lobby of the Municipal Building. This event is held to properly dispose of unwanted, unused, expired prescription and over the counter drugs. This consists of pills, capsules, liquids and inhaled medication. At the last event we collected approximately 128 tons and we were very proud of getting those products out of the solid waste stream, out of the water or wherever they may have been inappropriately disposed. This is a very worthwhile event.

Councilwomen Owen reported the Annual Bulk Pick Up Dates: Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> for the East Side of town from Clifton Ave. to Springfield Rd. and on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> for the West Side of town from Clifton Ave. to Oak Ave.

Dan Procopio thanked Councilwomen Owen for the figures provided but may have asked the question correctly. Dan commented it was reported 57 tons of recyclable material in January and February is there an update for March. Councilwomen Owen responded we just received it and it is 30.89 tons so we are on par with January's figure. Dan asked how much has the tonnage gone down that is being taken to the trash landfill. Dan also commented people have told him they used to put 2 trash cans out each trash day and now they are down to 1 each trash day or sometimes even 1 a week, they did not realize how much they could recycle. So the question is are we still dumping the same amount of trash or is it down a little or equivalent. Councilwomen Owen reported in February what our tonnage was from January of this year to what it was January of last year and those are the only figures I have to draw upon to make a comparison. I don't know of any other calculation I can make to answer your question but did notice there was a bit of drop off from last year to this year. I will look through data I have to see if there is some way that I can compile some sort of equation or data to answer your question. Dan responded you paid a certain amount per ton and whatever that dollar figure is if is paid monthly or quarterly but maybe look at the bill to see how many tons in order to bill you and that might be a way. Councilwomen Owen explained the Solid Waste Authority bills us monthly and again that is what I used to give you that information in February about January's totals. President Short commented that if you ride around town on Thursdays the second trash day of the week you will notice a big drop off on the amount of trash that is put out on Thursdays. It has to be going somewhere we can only assume it is going into recycling.

## **HIGHWAY**

Councilmen Cosgrove reported the LED Traffic Light Project is finally completed. The modules were installed and there were no issues and all are working properly. Councilmen Cosgrove will contact PECO to advise them those lights have been installed. Coincidentally we received a letter from PECO with the name and number of a new Marketing Manager introducing himself and asking us to verify what our lights look like with regard to size and count. Councilmen Cosgrove will fill in the form and send it in and the savings as far of cost would start from there.

Councilmen Cosgrove also reported on the 2012 Road Resurfacing Program. President Short and Councilmen Cosgrove will go out on Friday to finalize the road review and selection for repaving during the 2012 year. Then we can go to newspaper advertising, bidding and awarding. We will expect the work to be done during July or August.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Councilmen Oropollo reported we will start the annual drain cleaning to avoid any potential problem buildup. We are waiting to hear from General Sewer on the cost.

Councilmen Oropollo also reported on the Providence Rd. Sycamore Avenue area when we get a major rain fall and the area floods. After talking with Mr. Close and the last time we did work in the area is was part of the Safe Water Grant. President Short and Councilmen Oropollo will try to meet with Representative Micozzie to see if there is any money available to fix that area from the major flooding and to avoid a potential accident of someone getting hurt. These are the 2 major projects we are working on.

Dan Procopio asked how long ago did the cleaning of the drains stop. Councilmen Coppola explained it was never stopped but when we got involved with the Lobbs Run project the quadrant in that area was cleaned and televised, so that was considered a quadrant cleaning. The project was never stopped it was part of the Lobbs Run Project. Rosewood Avenue, Springfield Road, Priscilla Lane, Merion Avenue and Woodlawn Avenue were all cleaned under that contract because they had to be cleaned before they could be televised. President Short commented we also had another issue on Rively Avenue that required a large clean out of that area. The cleaning never really stopped but just went out of rotation because there were other areas that needed attention that diverted the regular quadrant cleaning. The problem on Rively Avenue was last year around Sycamore Avenue with a real heavy grease buildup and also involved Ridley Avenue and Beech Avenue.

## **FINANCE**

Councilwoman Brookes reported we received a check for our Liquid Fuel Funds in the amount of \$75,896.09. Also the Treasurer submitted the PURTA report before the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline (Public Utility Realty Tax Report) that is not a requirement to submit this but Mrs. Quinn does this every year and we will receive funds as a result of it. We also received the 2011 allocation for State Fuel Tax in the amount of \$1,724.00 submitted by the Police Chief for fuel used by the Police. The State came in and did the Liquid Fuel audit for 2010 and 2011 and there were no negative findings.

Dan Procopio asked if they had the reserve funds that are available for the Sewer Fund and General Fund. Councilwomen Brookes reported the General Reserve is \$339,907.23 and the Sewer Capital Reserve is \$242,105.58. Dan asked does that reflect the \$8,000.00 repayment that was a loan. Councilwomen Brookes responded yes.

Paul Krueger commented that in February he had a question on his tax breakdown as far as the budget compared to what we get on the statements. I did not get an answer but Councilmen Oropollo did speak to me after the meeting and I was not at the meeting in March but it is still not clear. Why don't the numbers reflect from the tax statement and the budget report? President Short responded that he will sit with Mr. Krueger and Councilwomen Brookes and Mrs. Quinn after the meeting and go over your tax statements.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Councilwomen Lowery reported for the month of March, 2012 the Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 7 calls in the Borough of Aldan all with no damage. During the month of March, 2012 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 33 calls in the Borough of Aldan. Regarding the 2 house fires in February, the total lost amounts are not available at this time but hope to have them by next month.

## **LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

Councilmen Coppola reported for the month of March there were 21 Building Permits issued with a construction value of \$75,154.00; there was 1 Plumbing Permit issued with a construction value of \$3,000.00 and there were 64 Transfer & Mid-Term Inspections by the Residential Inspector.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, May 2, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 PM.; and Council will meet on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 8:00 PM.

**PRIVLIDGE OF THE FLOOR**

Dan Procopio commented the Solicitor mentioned he was working on an Ordinance to do with containers such as dumpsters and PODS when will Council be considering that Ordinance and will the Ordinance be available on line to look at prior to a vote. Mr. Seflin responded, no, it will not be made available on line prior to the vote on that subject and it is still in the process of being drafted. Dan asked how will the residents have any sense as to what the Ordinance might include and how to ask intelligent questions at the meeting if it is not made available. Mr. Seflin stated the only thing he will prepare for Council is a draft and Council can do whatever they want and pass the Ordinance as is, they could change the Ordinance dramatically and radically and they will do that as they see fit. Dan commented that not everyone is available to get to the Municipal Building between 9 and 4 to get a copy. Other Municipalities and the William Penn School District makes available on line prior to their meeting if they are going to be passing an Ordinance or Personal Policy so people can have a chance to review it to ask questions. President Short commented it would not be passed until the meeting and the vote is taken. Mr. McBlain commented that it does get advertised in the newspaper the entire Ordinance prior to the meeting as required by law as it has always been done and available for the public to inspect at the Borough Building and we can mail it to anybody who requests it. We don't want to leave it to a notion there is not open and transparency. Mr. Seflin also responded all Ordinances are advertised as this one would be. Mr. Seflin thought Dan was asking about the internal working procedures of Council. Council has not even considered this yet it is still in the drafting stage. There is not even a proposed Ordinance yet. Once there is a proposed ordinance that has been approved by the Council Committee that is considering it, the Law and Ordinance Committee, then it would be available for publication. Mr. Seflin explained a rough draft would not be put on the web site that is not the way it is done. Dan said that was not the nature of the question he was asking prior to the vote when the ordinance was in final form. Gary said final form is whatever Council passes. When it is in a proposed form it will be advertised.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Councilmen Coppola seconded by Councilwomen Brookes and unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

**ATTEST**


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MARIE V. KAUT  
Borough Secretary