

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

November 14, 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 Reindl Recreation Building on the above date with Vice-President Brookes presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Vice-President Brookes.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: P. Brookes; T. Owen; S. Coppola
J. Cosgrove; S. Oropollo;

Council members absent: H. Short; R. Lowery

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

Officers absent: None

MINUTES

On a motion made by T. Owen seconded by S. Oropollo minutes from the October 10, 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 reported we are going to recognize some special people who help our Community. Vice-President Brookes explained tonight we would really like to thank a number of local businesses because without their help and support we would never be able to accomplish in our Community some of the events such as Safety/Founders Day. We would like to acknowledge Mike Cocco, owner of Cocco's Pizza and Chris a representative from Giant Food Store who is with us tonight.

Cocco’s gives us many, many pizzas the day of the event and Giant supplies us with great quantities of food and lots of the things we need to go along with the days events. Along with Cocco’s and Giant we would like to thank Phillips Enterprises and Wawa for all their donations. You make our day a big success. Mayor Hopely presented Cocco’s Pizza, Giant Food Store, Phillips Enterprises and Wawa Certificates of Citizenship from the Borough of Aldan for their actions that represent the highest degree of spirit, integrity and enthusiasm of citizenry. Vice-President Brookes also commented we want to thank Russ Carlson the President of BeneServ, a benefits organization. Russ was born and raised in Aldan and every year he does a give back to the Police Department and this year the police department was able to purchase a Crime Scene Camera which will help in investigations. We would also like to thank Joel Peskin of Peskin Realty who manage the Providence Village Shopping Center also gives the Police Department a donation and this year it will be put towards the purchase of our new police car. Thank you to all you do really help and make us the Community that we are and we are very, very grateful that you are part of our lives. Thank you very much.

Mayor Hopely also reported he and the Chief were out riding around and as many residents are aware we lost power at different locations throughout town has Hurricane Sandy hit our area. As you are also probably aware the vast majority of homes were restored within 2 to 3 hours. We want to thank the men and woman at PECO who work so hard to make that happen.

Mayor Hopely reported various training continues each month for police officers. Two officers attended a seminar that brought officers up to date on a system that will make it much easier to find stolen items from thefts and burglaries. One officer also attended a PA Juvenile Officers conference. Officers bring back this information and share it with the other officers in the department.

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	\$ 279,004.04	\$ 40,113.70	\$ 167,736.45
Interest		\$	\$
Receipts for period	\$ 97,316.17	\$ 2.65	\$ 30,272.57
Expenditures Prior Month	\$	\$ (6,870.90)	\$ (3,691.38)
Add Sewer Interfund Transfers			
Net Checks	\$ (174,081.51)		\$
Loan Returned	\$		
Balance	\$ 202,238.70	\$ 33,245.45	\$ 194,317.64

Terry is asking Council’s approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$200,651.27 and from the working Sewer Fund a check totaling \$11,132.75 and from the State Highway Fund checks totaling \$6,870.90. Councilman Coppola 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 Councilman Cosgrove and unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Seflin reported on the Tax Delinquency Program. From a 2009 Tax Delinquent we received a check for \$33.79 for the property at 31 East Wayne Avenue, the owners are under the protection of the Bankruptcy Court. For 2011 there were 24 delinquents but we are now down to 20 with 2 other folks in a payment plan; 312 Birchwood Road is now paid in full; 413 E. Rively Ave is paid in full; 317 Birchwood Road is also paid in full; the properties at 229 Hazelwood Road and 133 Oak Avenue both made payments yesterday and today. We are making some progress but would like to make more because even with these payments we still have more delinquents than we normally have at this point. We have discovered the owner of 114 Beech Avenue has passed away and neither the executrix nor the attorney has advised the Delaware County Treasurer or the Borough of Aldan that this person has passed. Mr. Seflin will redraft the lien and send it to the attorney of record. The other property at 11 North Sycamore both the husband and wife who are listed on the tax records and both are passed away but their children who are the co-executors have never told the Borough. Again Mr. Seflin will redraft the lien and send to the co-executors.

Mr. Seflin turned over a check for \$575.00 from All State Insurance Company from a motor vehicle accident that occurred on August 9, 2012 on Springfield Road and Glenwood Avenue and took out a Street sign.

Mr. Seflin reported we have liens out for 2 folks we could not find who were the owners of 114 South Woodlawn Avenue. Over the last 2 years the Borough has been maintaining this property, removing snow and ice, bushes and these kinds of things. Through some research Mr. Seflin found their address in California and we put them on notice and are sending these liens. Mr. Seflin also put the Delaware County Sheriff as well as the attorney for City Mortgage of our lien and reminded them that at any type of Judicial Sale that the Borough has to be protected first before their mortgage is paid off.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported on our NPDS MS4 Storm Water Program we had to submit our renewal application, it is a 5 year term it has been reviewed by the PA DEP and they do that for all Municipalities in the State. They have a couple small administrative items for us to correct. We got those back and we expect to get the renewal in the near future.

Mr. Close reported about DELCORA Sewage Facilities Act 537 Plan update and we are piggybacking on top of that with all the Eastern Municipalities in that part of DELCORA's system. Mr. Close did attend the October 24th meeting and they are doing 1 chapter at a time and they are up to Chapter 5 and also discussing a Model Lateral Repair Ordinance and asked us to submit some comments and we did last week. The next meeting is scheduled for December 5th at DELCORA to discuss Chapter 6 and continue talking about this Model Lateral Repair Ordinance.

Mr. Close also reported on our 2012 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project, that is our Maryland Avenue Playground and Parking Improvements. Mr. Close is glad to report OHCD issued a Notice to Proceed as of today allowing us to put the project out to bid.

The construction plans and documents are done and approved by OHCD so at this point Mr. Close is requesting Council to authorize him to advertise the project for bidding. Councilwoman Owen made a motion for the Engineer to advertise the bidding for the CDBG project, seconded by Councilman Coppola and unanimously approved. Mr. Close explained the bids will be opened at Caucus on January 2, 2013 and the goal is to award it and get the work done prior to the Aldan Swim Club opening up on Memorial Day weekend.

Mr. Close reported on our 2013 CDBG project that we discussed the last few months this is a continuation of our I & I Sewage Work to reduce the inflow and infiltration into our sewer system. This is for the collection system that connects to the Lobbs Run Interceptor. We have received an application package from OHCD and there is a lot to do on the application packages and it is due January 9, 2013. One of the things we have to do is have a public hearing to discuss that project and what the program is all about. Mr. Close requested Council to authorize him to advertise for the required Public Hearing to be held on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 7:30 in the Reinl Building. Councilman Oropollo made a motion to authorize Mr. Close to advertise for the required Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 7:30 in the Reinl Building, seconded by Councilman Cosgrove and unanimously approved.

Dan Procopio asked about the Lateral Ordinance for Act 537 is that for individual home owners connecting into the sewer mains. Mr. Close explained yes it is for the private lateral portion connecting into the sewer main. Dan asked the home owners would be responsible for maintaining that and paying for any upgrades. Mr. Close commented the current Aldan Code required that each home owner is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their own lateral up to where it connects to the sewer main, which is already part of our rules and regulations. This Ordinance will provide a proactive mechanism such as at the time of the sale of a property it would require the homeowner to have that lateral inspected to make sure there are no problems, and if there is a problem that would need to be repaired. One idea is the Municipalities are handling the I & I work on the public portions of the system but a lot of the I & I that comes in comes in on the private portion which could be the laterals. It is also the potential for sump pumps or roof drains that are really illegal connections but they need to be identified and disconnected and this makes for a more comprehensive way of trying to go about getting this I & I out of our system. It is really just in the talking stage right now and it is a difficult thing to do but that is what is being pushed by DEP, pushed down through DELCORA to the Municipalities and we are deliberating very carefully on that but just in the initial stages at this point.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilwoman Owen reported there will be no trash collection next Thursday, November 22nd in observance of Thanksgiving Day but trash will be collected on Friday, November 23rd.

Councilwoman Owen also reported on correspondence to all Municipalities and Haulers received from the Delaware County Recycling Manager, Susan Cordes regarding Electronic Recyclables also known as E-Waste. The letter reads 2 years ago the PA. General Assemble passed the Covered Device Recycling Act (CDRA). The term refers to: desktop computers; laptop computers; computer monitors; computer peripherals and televisions. A Landfill Disposal Ban goes into effect January 24, 2013. From this point forward, no person may dispose of a covered device, or any of its components, with their municipal or commercial solid waste. These devices and their components must be properly recycled and may not be taken to, nor accepted by transfer stations; energy-from-waste facilities or landfills. Residents that wish to dispose of their covered devices should be directed towards: Retailers that sell these devices. Retailers that offer this service are not permitted to charge a fee unless a financial incentive of equal or greater value is provided, such as a coupon or rebate. Another method is E-Waste Programs offered by the County of Delaware in conjunction with their Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events. There are 4 events annually. The third method is E-Waste Programs offered by local businesses and/or municipalities. Councilwoman Owen will remind everyone again at the January meeting and this will give residents time to take full advantage of the Household Hazardous Waste Events that our announced every year. 2 events are held in the spring and 2 are held in the fall and three of them are local or take to the stores that sell them.

Dan Procopio asked about the Recycling Contract that was awarded last month and about any money received for recyclable materials that goes to the hauler, is that correct. Councilwoman Owen responded yes, that is correct. Dan asked do you have or have you gotten a report from the hauler as to the break out of aluminum, plastic and what kind of revenue he is producing or getting for this year. Councilwoman Owen responded no I have not.

Mr. Sefflin commented that he did prepare the contract and sent it to Christina Bizzari, President of Suburban Waste Services, but has not received it back as of yet.

HIGHWAY

Councilman Cosgrove reported, in large construction projects we withhold 10% of the total bill, to make sure all the items of the contract are completed. This was true this year for the Road Resurfacing Program with InnCon Corp. We recently heard from the Borough Engineer, PJ Close, that all the requirements for that project have been completed and they recommend that we complete payment to InnCon Corp. Councilman Cosgrove made a motion to pay InnCon the money withheld totaling \$6,730.48 to complete this project, seconded by Councilman Coppola and unanimously approved. PJ Close added this is an annual program that we do and this is the final step. We have a completion and close out the paper work with PennDot. Once they accept all the paperwork that allows the County Aid money we receive every year to come to the Borough. They like everything rapped up in the year the work was done. You can see we are in November so we close it out before the end of the year and we get approximately \$5,400.00, so this step allows us to get our County Aid money back. Vice-President Brookes thanked Councilmen Cosgrove and PJ for all they do.

Dan Procopio asked if there was an update on the paving of the private road by Providence Village Shopping Center. Based on e-mail conversations, Councilman Cosgrove expected it to be done by the end of October and now that has come and gone but in an e-mail from Joel Peskin was not sure why it was not done but may have been the weather. There was also an attached e-mail to his contractor asking that area be done as soon as possible.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Oropollo reported on the Jet Vac cleaning, reporting that sections 2, 3 and 4 have been completed. Section 1 has not been completed, Woodlawn to Oak, Providence to Rively, and they did have a problem on Rively Avenue where tree roots infiltrated the line and jammed the system. General Sewer is going to get back with the cost to clean out the roots again. After all sections have been completed we will then rotate with 1 section a year being cleaned. The total cost of this cleaning was \$9,900.00.

Councilman Oropollo would like to thank the Police Department for their assistance on the rainy night during Hurricane Sandy when the police parked their cars to make sure Councilman Oropollo was not hit or drenched. Councilman Oropollo also thanked Mr. Brady for doing a nice job trying to keep the drains clear during that time.

Dan Procopio asked about the Councilmen looking into changing the grates at that corner of Providence and Sycamore is there any up date. Councilman Oropollo responded that P J did a cost estimate to put a vertical drain in, the cost would be about \$15,000.00 and there are a few other projects we are looking at so we are still reviewing what we will do. To change a grate in that area we would have to check with PennDot. We would have to make sure the vertical drains would be sufficient enough to handle the issues in the area. It does seem to work on the other side where the vertical drains are but they also got clogged with debris but that was an abnormal day. We will look at it and make sure we are getting the most out of our dollar if we are going to do that. Councilman Oropollo would said he would like to do that because he thinks it would make the road safer by not flooding out the area and cause a major accident. Dan commented the grates were put in for a bicycle route but why didn't they put vertical cuts when they were installed. P J responded when we did that project there was a grate there but it went no where because there was no piping or inlets on Sycamore running down to Magnolia. The project put 2 grates in and piped it to a number of inlets down Sycamore connecting to Magnolia. These days PennDot requires a bicycle safe grate, it has to be the grate you see out there. It is good for bicycles but does clog easier than the old system. We are not alone every Municipality in Southeast Delaware County has crews out taking leaves off the grates but it just so happened the Hurricane hit when it was Fall and all the leaves were being blown off the trees, it is something that needs to be kept open. The reasons there is no vertical portion, call a type C inlet, is because the sidewalk is so flat. There is only about 1 ½ inch curb reveal there and it is expensive to build that up to an 8 inch height to get that vertical piece. We would have to reconstruct the sidewalk and curb all around it to pick the whole thing up. At the time when we did Sycamore we had a certain amount of money and it was better than we had before so this would be like a supplementation of what we have, if Council decided to do the project. Leaves will still build up and still have to be removed and that is part of having sewer inlets you just have to keep cleaning them.

LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Councilman Coppola reported the Building Inspector issued 30 building permits with a construction value of \$92,921.00; the Plumbing Inspector issued 1 plumbing permits with a construction value of \$5,000.00; and the Residential Inspector completed 22 transfers and mid-terms.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Vice-President Brookes in the absence of Councilwoman Lowery read the Fire Marshal's Report for the month of October; Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 3 calls with no damage. Also during the month of October, 2012 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 51 calls in the Borough of Aldan.

A note from the Fire Marshal: Fire Prevention week was in October. Collingdale Fire Companies 1 & 2 visited Aldan Elementary School and a presentation was made to the students on fire safety and an inspection was made of school property.

Fire Marshal also noted: as we approach the winter months, the Fire Marshal is asking all residents to have their heaters serviced and cleaned, this season always bring an increase in alarms due to faulty/dirty heaters and fire places. The Fire Marshal is also asking all residents to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Brookes reported we are still working on the budget and the preliminary budget is on the web site and for inspection at the Municipal Building. We will have our 2013 Budget ready for December's Meeting.

Councilwoman Brookes wanted to remind everyone the Tree Lighting for Aldan Borough is on December 1st. The Boosters always do a good job of getting everything ready and it just keeps getting bigger and better every year. The Trolley Stop will be open and we have our cider and Santa will make an appearance. There will also be Message to the Troops and Aldan Borough's Gifts for the Troops. Councilwoman Brookes read the flyer about the Gifts for the Troops. Early in 2013, a platoon of US Army Soldiers will be returning to Ft. Bragg, NC from an almost 12 month deployment in Eastern Afghanistan. Over half of these soldiers are single, have no local family and will be returning to empty barracks. We would like to supply these soldiers with personal items and a pantry start up gift bag so they have the basics when they return. This way they can spend their first days back in the States relaxing, not having to worry about running around to various stores. How can you help? You can make a monetary donation to Aldan's Gifts to the Troops C/O Aldan Borough Municipal Building 1 W. Providence Road, Aldan, PA 19018 or you can stop in the Citizens Bank located in the Aldan Giant and make a donation to the account "Aldan's Gifts to the Troops". To learn more about "Aldan's Gifts to the Troops" and how you can further help out, attend our meeting on Monday, November 12, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Reinl Recreation Building or contact George Dunton at 610-639-7921.

Councilwoman Brookes commented we are such a Community that loves to help and it is such an easy way for us to give back and thank these troops for defending us. George Dunton commented so far the response has been very good. On Election Day when handing out flyers I was not trying to collect any money but walked away with a nice little sum. Donations have started to come into the Municipal Building and others have made donations at the Citizens Bank already.

There will be another meeting on December 4th and also hand out another flyer for anyone who may have missed the first one. The solders are guys who have a real dangerous job they are a road clearance group, which means they go in first and clear out the mines and bombs that are waiting for our troops. The word barracks may confuse people they are small apartments with 2 to 4 guys living in each apartment and they are responsible for their sheets, pillow cases, personal item and they have a small pantry. When they get back rather than running out to the store there is a family who started this program and supply these things and have them there for the soldiers. Any money that goes beyond the cost of the needed items for these single soldiers will go into a General Fund because they are having a Welcome Back Celebration. Aldan has been generous so far and this would be a great thing to take this on as a town gift for the holidays. Vice-President Brookes commented that George being a humble man did not mention that George's daughter Heather's husband is one of the soldiers coming back in 2013. Heather is bringing Aldan down to North Carolina and is part of a committee that is helping get the housing set up for these guys. We hope to encourage everybody as a way to give back.

George also reminded everyone at the Tree Lighting Ceremony we will be making video to the troops as another way of showing our support to the troops.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jim Armbruster had a problem last month with some people walking their dogs on his property and the issue has disappeared and he wanted to thank the police and anyone who helped.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice-President Brookes reported Caucus will be Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at and Council will meet on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 7:00 PM for Executive Session; at 7:30 for the Public Meeting for the CDBG grant; and the Regular General Meeting at 8:00 PM

PRIVLIDGE OF THE FLOOR

Dan Procopio asked about the balance in the reserve funds. Councilwoman Brookes reported the balance in the General Reserve Fund is \$540,360.52 and the Sewer Capital Reserve balance is \$242,332.68.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-President Brookes wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

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

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary