

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

October 10, 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 President Short presiding.

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

ROLL CALL

Council members present: H. Short; T. Owen; S. Coppola
J. Cosgrove; S. Oropollo; R. Lowery

Council members absent: P. Brookes

Officers present: J. Hopely, Mayor; G. Sefflin, 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 September 12, 2012, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

No written correspondence tonight.

VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Armbruster from 406 W. Wayne Avenue had a complaint about dog walkers not picking up after their dogs and what could be done about it. Chief Coppola will talk with Mr. Armbruster after the meeting to see if he can get it straightened out.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Hopely reported on Founders/Safety Day and wanted to acknowledge some of the people. The police officers volunteered their time to coordinate the food; they pick up trash, clean-up and various other duties throughout the day.

Various members of council, the mayor and building inspector volunteered their day to cook and hand out food. Mayor Hopely commented Robin has for the last 2 years came in the circle where all the cooking is being done and works really hard.

Mayor Hopely reported the police spend a considerable amount of time each day to patrol the various 15 MPH school zones as we care deeply for our children. Tickets are issued as warranted for speeders.

Mayor Hopely also reported various training continues each month for police officers. We not only send our officers to state mandated training but are also proactive in officers going to many seminars, etc to keep them up to date on the many issues that they face each day.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

SOLICITOR

Mr. Seflin reported on the Tax Delinquency Program. From a 2009 Tax Delinquent we received a check for \$1,670.85 for the property at 269 Priscilla Lane; this property was sold at Sheriff’s Sale. Also for 2009 the property at 31 East Wayne Avenue, the owners are under the protection of the Bankruptcy Court and we received a check for \$34.13. For 2010 we have 5 judgments outstanding that are waiting execution by the Constable. There are also 2 other properties where we have not been able to find the delinquents and they have just abandoned their homes. We have our liens and judgments on the properties so at some point the mortgage companies will foreclose on them and we will get paid at that point. For 2011 there are 24 delinquents so far for a total lien amount of \$ 33,013.91.

In looking at this 2 properties are from Collingdale that are hooked into our sewer system; 2 other are abandoned properties; and 3 others that are owned by non resident property owners. 2 of the 3 have abandoned the property but have tenants living there. We are hoping that once the liens are received some of these folks will contact our Tax Collector or Mr. Seflin to try to make some payment plan. Mr. Seflin will continue to report on these matters.

Mr. Seflin reported we are pursuing a claim against a Bucks County man who had a motor vehicle accident on August 9, 2012. He took out a wall and one of our street signs. Mr. Seflin has been in contact with his insurance company and provided them with the police report, pictures, and damage estimates and will keep Council up to date on this.

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	\$ 382,919.72	\$ 46,981.19	\$ 244,569.38
Interest		\$	\$
Receipts for period	\$ 109,611.13	\$ 3.41	\$ 21,118.04
Expenditures Prior Month	\$	\$ (6,870.90)	\$ (97,950.97)
Add Sewer Interfund Transfers			
Net Checks	\$ (213,526.81)		\$
Loan Returned	\$		
Balance	\$ 279,004.04	\$ 40,113.70	\$ 167,736.45

Terry is asking Council's approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$194,927.87 and from the working Sewer Fund a check totaling \$3,691.38 and from the State Highway Fund checks totaling \$6,870.90. Councilwoman Lowery 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 Coppola and unanimously approved.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported on our 2012 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project, that is our Maryland Avenue Playground and Parking Improvements. Mr. Close spoke yesterday with the Office of Housing and Community Development. Environmental clearance and notice to proceed are expected about the 2nd week of November. Mr. Close is submitting the construction plans and contract documents for OHCD to review and approve so upon issuance of the notice to proceed in November we will be able to advertise to bid and open those bids at Caucus in January, 2013 for an early Spring 2013 start to that project.

Mr. Close reported on our 2013 CDBG project that we discussed last month for the Meter 3 Collection System I & I Rehab Project. We are expecting an application package from OHCD this month. At that point we have a process we do each year; we will prepare public advertisement in early November for a December 12, 2012 Public Hearing and then the application will be completed and submitted before Christmas in time for the early January deadline.

Mr. Close reported about DELCORA Sewage Planning Act 537 Update and this is an active topic for us. We will be attending a progress meeting on Wednesday, October 24th at 11:00 at DELCORA to discuss the next chapter of that update and will continue to report on this as it moves forward.

Dan Procopio asked when Act 537 has to be finished by. Mr. Close explained they have a target schedule of mid to the second half of 2013 to finish that document. It then goes through a process of Municipal adoption acceptance and after that it is then sent to DEP for their review and approval.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilwoman Owen reported the County is hosting the final Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, October 13th at the Upper Chichester Municipal Bldg. At this event they will collect flammables, toxics, caustics as well as small appliances such as microwaves, toasters, blenders, mixers, power tools hair dryers, vacuums, and adding machines, etc. This event will be held rain or shine from 9 to 3.

Councilwoman Owen reported the Nationwide Prescription Take-Back Event was held on Saturday, September 29th and once again Aldan Borough hosted the event, which was the 5th take back event. The Borough collected 95 pounds of unwanted and expired medications and we were glad to provide this service again for the residents. We were able to transfer the medications to the Springfield Police Department and from there it goes to the National Incinerator for disposal.

Councilwoman Owen reported the specification for the 2013 Recycling Contract and a letter with an invitation to submit an informal bid was sent to several trash haulers in the area. This year the upper range for submitting an informal bid was increased to \$18,500.00. We did have 1 hauler give a quote within that range permitted and that hauler is our current trash hauler Suburban Waste Services. The quote he gave the Borough was for \$9,900.00 the same price as last year. Councilwoman Owen made a motion to accept for the bid for the year 2013 Recycling Contract from Suburban Waste Services for \$9,900.00, seconded by Councilman Cosgrove and unanimously approved. This is for the curbside recycling every Wednesday.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Oropollo reported General Sewer cleaned the first quadrant for this year and each year a different quadrant will be done.

Dan Procopio asked the streets that were in the first quadrant; West and East Maryland Avenues, Willows, Birchwood, Elm, Shisler, Merion, Priscilla, Pennsylvania, Chester, Sylvan, West Wayne, Sycamore and Bonsall up to Woodlawn Avenue.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Brookes is at work tonight but President Short reported that notification of some checks we received during the month; General Municipal Pension System State Aid \$42,913.31; Volunteer Fire Relief Association for \$23,654.73; and the third was PURTA, Public Utility Reality Tax, for \$1,377.41. Mr. Sefflin also had a check from the Delaware County Tax Claim Bureau for delinquent real estate tax payments a check for \$2,647.39.

Dan Procopio asked what the reserves for the General and Sewer Funds. Mrs. Quinn reported the total for the General Reserve is \$540,314.75 and for the Sewer Capital Reserve is \$242,312.16. Dan also asked the fund set up for the Police has not been activated with any money till January is that correct. President Short commented yes.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Lowery read the Fire Marshal's Report for the month of September; Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 5 events with no damage. Also during the month of September, 2012 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 29 calls in the Borough of Aldan.

Councilwoman Lowery also want to add her thanks for the work the police did when they volunteered on Safety Day there were a ton of guys there and people did notice and made a point of saying they saw them. Also there were businesses in the Borough that donated many things and we will recognize them at the November Council Meeting.

HIGHWAY

Councilman Cosgrove reported on the Winter Services Contract for 2012-2013. Last month at the General Council Meeting we opened sealed bids and John Traboschia from Clifton Heights was low bidder at \$66.00 per hour for all trucks to salt and remove snow for the Borough. Over the past month we have reviewed the bid and everything is in order. Councilman Cosgrove made a motion to award Traboschia Company a 2 year contract 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 winter seasons to remove snow and to salt the streets of Aldan for \$66.00 per hour, seconded by Councilman Coppola and unanimously approved.

Councilman Cosgrove reported about the resurfacing of Merion Terrace which is maintained by 2 different groups one being the real estate company that manages Providence Village and the other being Joe Masticola from Roddy Products and the other business in the Industrial Park. The most important part for us is the first part off of Providence Road and that area will be done the last week in October and this is at no expense to the Borough because it is not Borough property.

Dan Procopio commented at the Council Meeting Councilman Cosgrove talked about the road resurfacing program for this year and there was to be an inspection. There was a walk around with Anthony Tartaglia , John Ruskay, and Joe Cosgrove. There was a small punch list with an issue in an area just off Linden going east on Walnut. This was an area that was just not right, the width of the street and 15 to 20 feet deep, and needed to be re-done. After review of the area with the owner of Inncon they have agreed to do the work within the next few weeks.

LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Councilman Coppola reported the Building Inspector issued 29 building permits with a construction value of \$83,264.00; the Plumbing Inspector issued 3 plumbing permits with a construction value of \$10,300.00; and the Residential Inspector completed 14 transfers and mid-terms.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business tonight.

NEW BUSINESS

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 PM and Council will meet on Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 8:00 PM.

President Short also reported we have been working on the 2013 budget and we will have a proposed budget that will be available for review on November 2nd and we will advertise in the news paper and try to get it on our web page that day or shortly after.

PRIVLIDGE OF THE FLOOR

Harold Borders of 503 W. Providence Road wanted Council to know that PECO finally came and transferred all the electric to the new pole and wanted to thank Council for all the help.

Steve Baldt of 20 Chester Avenue talked with the Chief about getting speed bumps in on W. Wayne and Chester Avenue because of the speed of the cars using Chester Avenue as a cut through. Chief Coppola explained there are a few streets in town that are cut through street and we do try to keep an eye on those areas. President Short explained as far as speed bumps they would have to be PennDot approved because they are traffic control devices.

Mr. Baldt also wanted to know how we can get out of the William Penn School District. This is a failing School District and it is hurting our property values. President Short commented that he did speak with Mr. Baldt during the month and you were going to start the petitions. President Short explained if that is what you want to do; you get your citizens together, start your petition and petition the state. Mr. Seflin also explained you have to get a number of people together and then file a petition with the Court of Common Pleas and then convince a judge that you have reasons for wanting to move the district and then find a district that would accept the Borough of Aldan and they would have to come into court and say that. This is probably at least a 4 to 5 or 6 year process at best and probably several hundred thousand dollars. Councilman Cosgrove commented this was tried once before by the Concerned Citizens of Aldan and was unsuccessful and that was in the mid 90s. Mr. Seflin tried to explain you need to do a lot more than just a petition that people sign it is a complaint with court and you would need a team of lawyers.

ADJOURNMENT

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