

**ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

February 13, 2013

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.

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**ROLL CALL**

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

Council members absent: S. Coppola; 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 P. Brookes seconded by T. Owen minutes from the January 9, 2013, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

No written correspondence tonight.

**VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Ed Lawless 43 S. Sycamore Avenue, had some concerns about the condition of 33. South Sycamore Avenue. President Short said we could send the Building Inspector to take a look and see what the conditions are and also try to have some correspondence with the owner.

**MAYOR REPORT**

Mayor Hopely reported the police officers are currently in the process of attending state mandated annual training. Along with 16 hours of classroom work they need to take CPR and First Aid Training. They are also required to pass weapons training.

The Chief of Police along with the Mayor and Borough Council believe strongly in training so officers are assigned to training throughout the year that is over and above the minimum required by the state. Mayor Hopely believes we have the best Police Force in Delaware County if not beyond that and a lot that is training and keeping up with this.

## **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	\$ 148,212.65	\$ 19,507.49	\$ 158,269.09
Interest		\$	\$
Receipts for period	\$ 45,706.76	\$ 1.02	\$ 11,599.23
Expenditures Prior Month	\$ 112,196.80	\$ 6,870.90	\$ 153,352.00
Loan from Reserve	\$ 150,000.00		\$
Ending Balance	\$ 231,722.61	\$ 12,637.61	\$ 16,516.32

Terry is asking Council's approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$143,236.57; from the State Highway Fund checks totaling \$6,861.92 and checks from the Sewer Fund totaling \$2,753.00. Councilwoman 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 Councilman Oropollo and unanimously approved.

### **SOLICITOR**

Mr. Seflin reported on the Tax Delinquency Program. From a 2009 Tax Delinquent last week we received a check for January and today received a check for February for \$33.76 for the property at 31 East Wayne Avenue with a balance due of \$749.07. Mr. Seflin reported on our 2011 Tax Delinquency Program today we received full payment for 229 Hazelwood Road \$862.98 with the total being \$1,362.98 in the next few days will file a satisfaction of the lien. On February 1<sup>st</sup> we received the last payment on a payment plan for 133 South Oak Avenue total paid was \$1,374.36 and did release the lien on the property. Two other properties 11 North Sycamore and 114 Beech Avenue in both situations the tax payers passed away and the executors of each estate have done nothing to pay the taxes or maintain the property so in addition to having a lien on the property we also filed with the Orphans Court a notice of claim against the estate and that has been sent to both executors of the estates. The amount of the lien on the property 11 North Sycamore Avenue is \$1,374.36 and the amount of the lien on the property 114 Beech Avenue is \$ 1,362.96. The property at 124 Springfield Road we had a payment plan in place with the owners on the property unfortunately they made 2 payments but have now defaulted. They were sent a letter and did not rectify that by 4:00 today so we will be proceeding with a law suit.

We will be filing law suits against all the 2011 delinquents by mid March. The reason is the 2 Orphans Court we have to give them 30 days to respond. Mr. Seflin will file all the suits at one time.

Mr. Seflin reported on a Right to Know Request we received for Sewer Rental and Refuse Deposal Fees. Mr. Seflin contacted the company in Trenton that issued the request and was not sure exactly what they wanted but they have not responded so Mr. Seflin faxed them yesterday a copy of the Delinquency List for 2011. It was indicated to them we do not have a delinquency list as of yet for 2012.

Dan Procopio asked will the law suits filled be just the 3 mentioned. Mr. Seflin responded no I reported on that last month. The total due for 2011 minus the \$862.00 paid today is about \$21,900.00; that is the 3 plus another 10.

Dan Procopio also asked what the time table is for the 2012 delinquents. Mr. Seflin responded they only became delinquent on February 1<sup>st</sup>. That is now in Mr. Morse jurisdiction. Mr. Morse responded he will be getting that list together within the next week or so. Mr. Seflin also commented it usually happens about our Council Meeting in May is when it turned over to Mr. Seflin. From February 1<sup>st</sup> till May 15<sup>th</sup> the delinquents deal with Mr. Morse, and he has different rights and responsibilities than the Borough so he can enter into a different type of plan with somebody during that time period. The Borough is restricted by statute, we can give somebody 90 days in a payment plan and that is it.

## **ENGINEER**

Mr. Close reported on our 2012 PADEP Chapter 94 Sewage Planning Annual Report; later this week we will submit the Borough's annual report to DELCORA and DELCORA will submit this report as a Master Chapter 94 report by late March to PADEP. All member Municipalities are required to prepare this report which analyzes current and 5 year sewage flow projections vs. the collection system capacity.

Mr. Close has been reporting on the DELCORA Sewage Facility Act 537 Plan Update. Today attended a progress meeting at DELCORA and they are up to Chapter 6 and Chapter 7 so we are in the process of reviewing drafts so there is at least a couple of more months to go but will keep you posted as things come in.

Mr. Close reported on the CDBG Project, the Maryland Avenue Playground and Parking Lot improvements. Last month Council awarded the Playground Project to Lechmanik, Inc. for \$92,000 and the Paving Project to Dan Malloy Paving for about \$88,900. This was subject to approval by OHCD for the low bidders as well as a funding increase request. OHCD did in fact approve the low bidders and did approve the additional funding request so the project has the green light to go. The contracts have been executed and we are waiting the Notice to Proceed and also to set up the pre-construction meeting, which should be in the next week or so. We anticipate the contract issued and the Notice to Proceed around March 1<sup>st</sup> there is a 90 day duration for the project which brings the project officially to June 1<sup>st</sup> and both contractors are ready to go and we want to get done well before the opening of the Swim Club on Memorial Day weekend. We fully expect that will be done by early May at the latest but will keep you posted.

Dan Procopio commented last month Mr. Close mentioned there would be a storm sewer repair before the rest of the project is done. Has that repair been done, President Short responded yes. Dan asked how is the Aqua work in the area going to impact the project. President Short commented he, Mr. Close, and Mr. Tartaglia attended a pre-construction meeting with Aqua and they gave us a pretty aggressive schedule and said they would be off the pool property by March 1<sup>st</sup> and the project itself should be done before the end of April.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

Councilwoman Owen reported trash collections will continue on the regular schedule next Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, President's Day.

Councilwoman Owen wanted to remind residents of the Landfill Disposal Ban that was reported on in November. This is a result of Covered Devices Recycling Act passage by the General Assemble in 2010. this refers to desk top and lap top computers, monitors, and portable TV's and as of January 1, 2013 no person may dispose of a covered device with their Municipal Solid Waste nor may they take it to a Transfer Station or Landfill. These devices must be properly recycled either through E Waste Programs, by the County during one of the 4 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events, or E Waste Programs held by local businesses or Municipalities and also retailers who sell these devices and do not charge residents for bringing in E Waste. The Delaware County Solid Waste Authority can answer any questions residents may have or check the Department of Environmental Protection Recycling Office. The number is available on the County web site.

A resident commented nobody in the town would know that information. Councilwoman Owen explained this has been available on the County Web Site and has been posted since November when this Act went into effect.

### **HIGHWAY**

Councilman Cosgrove reported, right before leaving the house tonight he checked the forecast and for about the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> time this winter season there was a forecast of precipitation in the form of drizzle followed by as the temperatures drop changing to snow and some potential of accumulation from 1 to 2 inches. We have had to plow that 1 or 2 inches twice but more often than not it's an icing situation. We have had residents question us why we are salting when there is no snow on the ground but when you have precipitation on the ground it freezes and it becomes a safety hazard. So for the low cost of \$330.00 for 5 hours of salting we will continue to do that for safety reasons.

Councilman Cosgrove reported we have the paperwork the application for County Aid which goes toward the 2013 Road Program. Councilman Cosgrove made a motion to authorize the Borough Engineer to complete and submit the application for County Aid. As usual this is a request for \$10,000.00 and as usual we see \$5,418.00, seconded by Councilwoman Brookes and unanimously approved.

Councilman Cosgrove commented on the Aqua work that was mentioned, we will be reviewing streets that Aqua will be working on with the potential of piggybacking on work they are doing where we share cost for resurfacing.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Councilman Oropollo reported to answer Dan's question on the work on a storm sewer repair in the pool parking lot, most of the work has been done and final part to be completed in the Spring before they work on the parking lot at the pool. They will replace the modified stone and cold patch with a hard surface. The total cost to the Borough for this project is \$2,450.00 the other 3 bids were about \$4,600, \$4,700 and \$4,800.00

Councilman Oropollo commented on the Aqua Project and the residents on Birchwood Road, Maryland Avenue, Glenwood Circle, Elm Avenue, Springfield Road and all the streets involved in that area will be notified 24 hours in advance of any work that is going to be done because the water will be shut off. The final restoration of all the streets in that area should be around May, 2013. If residents have any questions please give Councilman Oropollo a call and he will call Aqua.

## **FINANCE**

Councilwoman Brookes reported a Resolution 2013-02 Authorization for designated representatives to open bank accounts with Sharon Savings Bank. We are in the process of changing our bank from Beneficial Bank our current bank to Sharon Savings and Loan. Councilwoman Brookes made a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-02, seconded by Councilwoman Owen and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Brookes reported on the Fire Marshal's Report Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 5 calls during the month of January, 2013 with no damage. During the month of January, 2013 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 34 calls in the Borough of Aldan.

Dan Procopio asked for the current amount balances in the Reserve Funds; Councilwoman Brookes reported in the General Reserve we have \$127,710.72; in the Sewer Capital Reserve we have \$286,795.50; and in the Police Capital Reserve we have \$17,147.09. Dan Procopio asked about the switch over to Sharon Savings Bank, the previous bank was Beneficial Bank and there was a line of credit was attached how will the change of Bank effect that and are you moving all the accounts to Sharon Savings. President Short explained yes we are moving all the accounts to Sharon Savings due to the exorbitant amount of fees the previous bank was going to charge us, it was \$1,000.00 a month. Beneficial Bank has not informed us if it has to do away with the line of credit but if that is the case we will be OK with that. Dan asked is there a plan to have a similar agreement with Sharon Savings once all the funds are moved. President Short responded no, not at this time.

**PUBLIC SAFETY &  
LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Council members are not here tonight. President Short asked if there are any questions or comments for those committees President Short will make an effort to answer them.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business tonight.

**NEW BUSINESS**

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at and Council will meet on Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 7:30 PM for Executive Session and General Meeting starting at 8:00 PM.

Mike Ceci asked if there was any update on the investigation of the previous tax collector and what is the time line for getting the money back from the Bonding Agency. President Short explained there is a meeting out at the County on Friday for that type of information. President Short also reported the investigation is still going on and is quite complicated so it is taking longer than the Detectives anticipated in the beginning. Mike asked do we need to wait till the investigation is over before we can get the money. President Short explained we have to wait for the total amount. It is the same Bonding Company for the William Penn School District and the Borough so the entire amount has to be determined before the claim would be settled. A representative from the Bonding Company will be attending the meeting on Friday. Mike asked what time and where the meeting was being held. President Short responded it is not a public meeting.

Paul Krueger asked if there was any idea when we would see the tax statements. President Short responded the tax statements are in the process of being sent out now and should be all out by the end of the week. Mr. Krueger asked if this type of information could be put the web site under current information.

Tom Morse, the new tax collector, commented he will have hours for tax collection on Monday nights from 7 PM to 9PM

Dan Procopio asked if hours at the Municipal Building was something requested by the Tax Collector because that was not the previous arrangement. President Short commented that is up to the discretion of the Tax Collector. Dan asked will the Municipal Building location be used during the period of the School Taxes which would be July and August. Tom Morse responded, no the School District is handling all the tax collections. Dan asked is the Borough allowing the tax collector to utilize the facility and is there a fee being charged for that service. President Short responded no. Dan also asked, I guess it is up to the tax collector to plan to use it in the future for future years coming.

President Short commented the Borough went through a traumatic experience with the last tax collector, Tom got thrown into the middle of it and we are getting everything up and running. There are some growing pains and we are handling them as they come in and we are sure thing will move much smoother in the future.

**PRIVLIDGE OF THE FLOOR**

Nothing tonight

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**ATTEST**

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MARIE V. KAUT  
Borough Secretary