

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

June 11, 2014

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.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: H. Short; P. Brookes Rankin; M. Xavier;
S. Oropollo; S. Coppola

Council members absent: M. J. Corrigan; J. White

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

Officers absent: None

MINUTES

On a motion made by Councilwoman Rankin seconded by Councilman Oropollo the minutes from the May 14, 2014, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

No written correspondence tonight.

VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE

Harold Borders 503 W. Providence Road; last week Mr. Borders talked to President Short and Councilman Coppola about the permit process for a roofing permit for his house. After a few phone calls and emails we were able to sort the situation out admirably and the permit was ultimately issued. Mr. Borders wanted to publicly thank you for your help and also Jennifer for her help.

Rosanne Styers 108 Birchwood Road; having a problem with neighbor at 110 Birchwood Road and thought Council could do something about it. The house is just a decrease. He was cited but he will cut the front but not the back. The weed were over 3 feet tall, on his front porch a swing was half falling down and finally fell all the way down. His recycling cans are on the front porch and we try to sit on our front porch there is a smell coming either from the cans or the house but we can't sit out front.

There is stuff all over the porch and the property looks like no one lives there. When he puts his trash out it is in a paper bag not even the required trash can. The property is horrible. President Short explained our Code Officer is part time but will be in on Friday and we will come over Friday.

Kathi Damico 112 Birchwood Road; his also here about 110 Birchwood Road; a year ago April the Fire Department came out because they smelled gas. When the fire department went in they said they should be cited and the house was uninhabitable. Mrs. Damico said she has been to the Police Station and called every Code Enforcer there is and feels nothing is getting done. Mrs. Damico called Councilmen White and he told her to come to the Council Meeting because I don't know where else to go. There got to be something that can be done. The circulars that are delivered there are 20 to 30 on the porch hanging off and laying all over, where do we go from here. President Short said he will go with the Code Officer and will get back with both Mrs. Styers and Mrs. Damico.

Mrs. Cullen 126 S. Clifton Avenue; was at the May meeting about her neighbor problems. You came out and checked it out and would see about getting citations to the different properties about the issues and was wondering what has come of it. Since then not only are the neighbors parking on the grass, not only are the neighbors junk piles still there, and the 2 people with the pools have opened them up with the fence still down on one, the dump truck and wood pile is still there. Nothing has changed on any of these properties. The neighbor with the plumbing issue when the sewage was dumped on my driveway, they cleaned up half of their driveway and removed some of the junk but replaced it with a boat trailer. As of now one of the other properties has a tent up that looks like a temporary make shift garage of camouflage vinyl but right next to the big junk pile. President Short explained we did send these people letters with a time frame to clean up the property and will check to see if citations were issued for non-compliance with the letters. President Short will check with Mr. Tartaglia to see where we are with these issues. Mrs. Cullen asked about the sump pump problem at Clifton Avenue and Magnolia Avenue if that is getting fixed. President Short reported there has been a citation issued for the owner of that property. Councilmen Coppola responded when people are issued citations people have time to respond to them or not respond and then we pursue them further. We are sorry to tell you that but there is a process we have to follow. Mrs. Cullen also complained about the property at 127 South Clifton Avenue about the grass be very high. President Short responded they had a maintenance company cutting the property but if they are not the borough has a procedure in place we will cut the grass and lien the property. Mrs. Cullen said there is a ground hog dead on Magnolia Avenue who is responsible for cleaning up dead animals.

Ann Marie Dowd 119 S. Clifton Avenue; is here about 2 issues first 127 S. Clifton Ave. it is in a deplorable state, the weeds and grass is so high and also tripped on the cracked sidewalk but did not get hurt. Second, I have been trying to get FiOs in my home but unable to get it and also RCN is not available. Comcast TV service is terrible. President Short asked what does Verizon say when you call. Mrs. Dowd responded they say it's not available and have asked the Borough to install it. President Short explained no, the Borough signed an agreement 3 years ago with Verizon to install their FiOs in our town. They promised by October of that year the work would be started. They lied about that but now portions of Aldan are wired for FiOs. Mrs. Dowd said she is a former employee of Verizon and will call to higher up people to see what is going on but how about RCN. President Short explained the RCN refused to sign our cable franchise agreement but that is not the case with Verizon and Comcast they both were more than willing to sign the agreement.

Another issue is the neighbor at 117 S. Clifton Avenue in the past they had a lawn maintenance service but the property is falling down. Mrs. Dowd has been in contact with the daughter, who lives in Lancaster. There was a problem with the lights going on and off but the owner's daughter called PECO to disconnect the wires outside the house. There is holes in the stucco and have seen rodents going in and coming out of the house. Councilmen Coppola responded these properties would be turned over to Code Enforcement and the Building Inspector.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Hopely reported about Police training some mandatory and some voluntary. Bike Patrol was out in the beginning of May and you will see them continuing to be out weather permitting.

Mayor Hopely also reported summer brings vacations so make sure if you are going to be out of town notify the Police Department and they will check your property 3 times a day. When you to away or out lock your windows and doors and take precautions to eliminate problems.

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	\$ 833,162.80	\$ 3,116.84	\$ 580,518.76
Interest	\$	\$	\$
Receipts for period	\$ 49,189.94	\$ 80,480.74	\$ 19,199.68
Expenditures	\$ 167,849.54	\$ 2,103.84	\$ 9,683.50
Returned Reserve Loan	\$	\$	\$ 275,000.00
Ending Balance	\$ 714,503.20	\$ 81,493.74	\$ 315,034.94

Terry is asking Council's approval to release check this evening; for checks from the General Fund totaling \$146,001.80 checks from the State Highway Fund totaling \$6,568.37; and checks from the Sewer Fund totaling \$2,018.12. Councilwoman Rankin 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.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Seflin reported on the 2012 Tax Delinquent Program; last year we started out with 45 delinquent properties we are down to 10 properties with 8 owners. Last week we filed 10 law suits against these property owners but we have not received the date the hearings will be held.

Mr. Seflin will advise Council next month of the exact date. The total amount we are seeking in the 10 suits is \$ 17,495.90. For 2013, last month we received our final delinquency list from Mr. Morse, our Tax Collector, and based on that we are now able to proceed with liens on those properties. All have received delinquency notices as of March 26th from Mr. Morse, some people have paid a lot have not. We are now at 30 liens; there are 27 property owners, 10 of the delinquents are non-residents owners, and 13 are habitual with 2 being Collingdale properties. The total amount of the liens is \$43,520.71. They will be filed and sent out and we give these folks around 30 days sometimes a little more and will see what happens. It has been Mr. Seflin's experience that once these folks receive liens generally there is a lengthily negotiation process because the liens have to get to the right people.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported relative to our 2014 CDBG project some good news; on May 30th the Borough received the award notification from Delaware County Council for a \$100,000.00 grant for this project. This is for our Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) work for our Sanitary Sewers at our Meter #3 collections system. The line will be for Glenwood Circle, Elm Ave. and Maryland Ave. President Short and Mr. Close have a kick off meeting with the County to discuss the project implementation and schedule on Tuesday, June 24th at 10:00 am. Mr. Close will be preparing the plans and the contract documents this summer into the fall they will get approved by the County, we should then be looking at bidding late 2014 or early 2015.

Mr. Close reported relative to the Oak Lane Resurfacing and Casting Adjustments that we talked about over the last few months, that project letter of agreement was submitted for our 10 manholes to be adjusted as part of that project. The project was previously scheduled for this month and Mr. Close had contacted PennDot to see what the schedule was like but the project was pushed back with no date given but Mr. Close will keep us posted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilwoman Corrigan is not at the meeting tonight.

HIGHWAY

Councilman White is not at the meeting tonight but the Councilman has been working with the Borough Engineer, Mr. Close, coming up with a Road Resurfacing Program for 2014. It is one of the smaller programs we have done because of the money paid out for snow removal and salt from the past winter. This is still a continuation of our effort to keep our streets in working order. President Short commented the streets in town that did have potholes were state highways and the Borough owned streets were in good shape after the brutal winter. Because of the work of the Engineer and Councilman White and his predecessor, Mr. Cosgrove, that the streets are in the condition they are in.

Councilman Xavier reported for Councilman White at Caucus we opened and reviewed the bid proposals submitted for the 2014 Road Resurfacing Program. There were 3 bidders Inncon from Folcroft, Charlestown Paving from Devault, PA, and A F. Damon from Upland. Out of the 3 bids A.F. Damon was the lowest \$54,011.50. After review and everything was up to the specs Councilman Xavier made a motion to award the 2014 Road Resurfacing Program to A.F. Damon, Inc. for \$54,011.50 seconded by Councilwoman Rankin and unanimously approved. Mr. Close will get the contract ready and we usually look to around August but keep Council updated next month.

Mr. Borders reported there is a pothole as you come out of the Giant Super Market Shopping Center onto Providence Road. President Short explained that is a private road but think it was fixed yesterday.

Mrs. Cullen asked in front of her house on Clifton Avenue when they worked on the sewers on Clifton Avenue there is a section in front of her driveway that is going down. President Short explained Clifton Avenue is a State Highway and that would be PennDot and they have a pothole hotline you can call. The number is 1-800-FIX ROAD or PennDot's web site.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Oropollo reported there were no major incidents this month. Councilman Oropollo and PJ have been working on the lateral designs that had to be submitted to DELCORA. This is something mandated by the State and will keep residents advised to what is going on. President Short explained DELCORA is forcing everyone in the County to come up with a program to repair laterals upon the time of the sale of a home. Mr. Close explained it would be up to the homeowner at the time of sale if there was an illegal sump pump connected you would have to disconnect that to comply before you could get your U & O. There is a lot of rain water getting into leaky vent cap and things like that and asking the Boroughs and residents to look at laterals because it is overloading the sewers but is a sensitive issue with money being scarce for everyone that is why they came up with time of sale so everyone doesn't have to fix their laterals all at once. You may not need to fix your lateral but if there is a problem it needs to be addressed and that is what this Ordinance will do. We will have about a year to work on that and make sure it is appropriate for the community. This is something that is mandated by the Sewer Treatment Plant that accepts our waste and we will work on something palatable for our residents to progressively take of leaks as we find them.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Rankin reported we received a check from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for \$84,080.74 for Liquid Fuels Fund Program for 2014. The check was deposited into the State Highway Bank account for the Borough and is about \$5,000.00 more this year than last year.

Councilwoman Rankin reported our annual 4th of July Celebration will take place on Friday, July 4th with the rain date of Saturday, July 5th. Volunteers will be going door to door to deliver the annual ad book that not only contains ads but also contains information on the parade registration and detail the day's schedule. There will also be neighbors around to collect donation to help fund all of our festivities and we invite all residents to join in our celebration it is always a good time.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilman Xavier read the Fire Marshal's Report for the month of May, 2014 Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 4 calls during the month all resulting in no damage. During the month of May, 2014, Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 41 calls in the Borough of Aldan.

Councilman Xavier reported we have the opportunity to apply for a grant Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program Grant. We have instructed our Engineer to do a concept drawing and cost estimate so we can submit an application to see if we qualify for this grant. This grant would be to fund a Pavillion and Snack Bar in our Recreation Area at the end of Shisler Avenue. This would also include the snack bar, and restroom facilities.

We will be exploring this further but wanted to let the residents aware of what is going on. We have instructed our engineer to get the application together so we can make a motion to submit the application in the future.

LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Councilman Coppola reported for the month of May, 2014; the Building Inspector issued 22 Building Permits with a construction value of \$61,029.00; the Residential Inspector completed 44 Transfer and Mid-term inspections; and during the month of May, 2014 there were 3 Plumbing Permits issued with a construction value of \$ 16,925.00

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building and Council will meet on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at 7:30 PM for Executive Session; and General Meeting starting at 8:00 PM. at the William Reintl Recreation Building.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilman Xavier and seconded by Councilman Coppola unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary