

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

March 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 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; 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. Coppola minutes from the February 8, 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 there have been 2 fires in Aldan in the past few weeks. One was a house fire and the other was a garage fire. Mayor Hopely read a letter from John and Millie Connell from 41 Oak Avenue. We were awakened by the Aldan Police on February 22, 2012 telling us to evacuate because there was a fire next door to us. We want to express our deep appreciation to Officer Coppola and Sgt. Fink for the professional and very kind way we got out of the house then into a car away from danger.

It was heart wrenching to see our neighbor’s house become a total loss. Thankfully, they all got out without injury. We cannot say enough about the firefighters doing a magnificent job containing the fire and putting it out as quickly as possible. Thanks to all of you for keeping us safe.

Mayor Hopely also wanted to recognize Collingdale Fire Companies #1 & #2; Darby and Glenolden for the job they did.

There was an article in the Daily Times that wanted to thank the Police and Firemen who responded to the garage fire on Rively Avenue.

Mayor Hopely reminded residents to lock doors and windows as well as leave at least one outside light on at night. Please be aware even if it is a little thing please call the police they will respond. Timing is of the essence do not wait until the next day call if there is an issue.

Officers Coppola and Cavanagh attended a two day Street Survival Seminar. This popular seminar has been credited with saving the lives of countless police officers through excellent tactical training.

Mayor Hopely wanted to personally thank the Police Department and the Fire Companies for the great job they do in Aldan.

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	\$ 282,151.65	\$ 3,227.40	\$ 43,125.85
Interest		\$.02	\$
Receipts for period	\$ 166,116.22		\$ 69,709.65
Checks from Last Month	\$ (119,939.78)	\$ 3,217.23	\$ 669.25
Add Sewer Interfund Transfer	\$ 7,218.23		
Net Checks	\$ (112,721.55)		
 Balance	 \$ 335,546.32	 \$ 10.19	 \$ 112,166.25

Terry is asking Council’s approval to release check this evening for checks from the Sewer Fund totaling \$151,566.25, there was a transfer made from the Sewer Reserve to the Sewer Fund totaling \$40,000.00, there are no checks from the State Highway Fund and the General Fund totaling \$ 201,286.09.

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 Councilmen Oropollo and unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Seflin reported on our Tax Delinquency Program for 2009 we still have a few who are in Bankruptcy and 2 who have fled the jurisdiction and we are waiting for the mortgage company to take them over and then we will get paid because we have liens on those properties. Mr. Seflin does have a check for \$33.03 for 31 E. Wayne Avenue who is in Bankruptcy. For 2010 we did have a delinquency that was ongoing at 901 North Street, Collingdale for Sewer Rental, because that property is hooked up to our sewer system and that is 4 or 5 rental units and a commercial business. Mr. Seflin is happy to report as of yesterday the last payment was received and today we removed the lien and we received approximately \$4,300.00. The remainder of the 2010 delinquencies we had hearings set for March 22, 2012, 9 tax delinquencies and 1 nuisance. Some of the hearings were scheduled in March and some in April, Mr. Seflin asked Judge Perfetti to schedule all for April 26, 2012.

Mr. Seflin commented Councilwomen Lowery will present to Council the Stray Animal Agreement tonight and during that report if there are any questions, Mr. Seflin will be available to answer.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported they prepared the Annual 2012 PennDot Emergency Permit Card application, this allows the Borough to perform emergency repairs for things like sewer breaks and things like that on PennDot roads within the Borough. There are 4 PennDot Roads in the Borough; Providence Road, Clifton Avenue, Oak Avenue and Springfield Road.

Mr. Close reported on the miscellaneous work that we do; the 2012 Road Program, NPDS MS 4 Annual Report, we just finished up our Chapter 94 Sewage Planning Report, the DELCORA Act 537 Plan Sewer Update that is on going, and our typical Metering I & I Program. Mr. Close will be available during any other reports for questions.

Dan Procopio asked about auditing the metering because of the increase on the sewer rate has there been any progress from Darby Creek or DELCORA. Mr. Close responded we are still working on that and put a call in to Darby Creek's Engineer today but they are getting Mr. Close data every month so we can track the flow month to month and this is an ongoing discussion we are having with them and will keep Council up dated.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**PUBLIC HEALTH**

Councilwomen Owen reported the Household Hazardous Waste Collection for 2012 is scheduled. The County holds 4 annually and the first collection is scheduled for Saturday, March 24th from 9 AM to 3 PM at the Emergency Service Training Center, 1600 Calcon Hook Road, Sharon Hill. They will be accepting flammables, caustics, pesticides, toxics, batteries, cell phones, and small electronics. Computers and small TV's and new this year is stereos, DVD systems, microwaves, toasters, blenders, mixers, power tools, hair dryers, vacuums, electric typewriters, and adding machines.

Councilwomen Owen reported the annual Recycling Report was submitted to the County and this report identifies all recyclable materials that are marketable from the Borough and the Businesses. Not all the materials are permitted when applying for the Recycling Grant from the state but it gives us and the County just how much is recyclable. Along with cardboard, paper, glass and aluminum new on the list this year were shingles.

Councilwomen Owen reported on the total from the hauler for January and February. In January there was a little more than 29 tons diverted from the solid waste and in February a little more than 38 tons diverted from solid waste. So all toll we were just shy of 68 tons diverted and providing a savings to the Borough. Councilwomen Owen commented that for 68 tons, the Solid Waste Authority is charging us \$23.45 per ton, so that would have been almost \$1,600.00 more we would have paid for those 2 months. If we stay on par with these totals for the year we will be coming close to \$10,000.00 in savings and that is what the contract was awarded for.

Dan Procopio asked if there was a total of what the trash has declined from last year to this year and also what was the tonnage on the report you submitted. Councilwomen Owen explained we do not total the tonnage we just enter the amounts in each category and I do not have those numbers with me but can get them for you for next month. Dan asked about the trash decline. Councilwomen Owen commented last month reporting on January of 2011 compared to January of 2012 was \$100.00 less to Solid Waste.

HIGHWAY

Councilmen Cosgrove reported the LED modules are finally scheduled for replacement for next week.

Councilmen Cosgrove also reported that due to the lower cost this year for snow we will have an increased 2012 Road Program. The number comes out we paid more for salt this year than plowing because we are required by contract to purchase 60 tons of salt.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilmen Oropollo reported the Wayne Avenue Project was completed last week, where a hump was installed between the ball field and Clifton Avenue and hopefully that will work out. Also a problem at 616 W. Providence Road there was a main drain pipe coming out of the ground about 8 to 10 inches and this was an Aqua issue. Councilmen Oropollo called Aqua they came out cut the pipe and put a new lid on.

Councilmen Oropollo thanked P J Close and Steve Coppola for all the work they did on the Wayne Avenue problem before he came on Council.

Councilmen Oropollo commented he will be meeting with P J the first week of April and try to come up with a plan to deal with the sewer system not for this year but for upcoming years. If anyone see any major flooding please give the Councilmen a call with a street address and we will take a look.

President Short asked the Councilmen if there was a date for the cleanup of the ball fields. Councilmen Oropollo responded March 24th is Clean Up Day for the Aldan Girls Club and Aldan Boys Club.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Brookes reported we have started to receive the County and Borough tax payments and residents will qualify for the early discount if paid by March 31st.

Dan Procopio asked if they had the reserve funds that are available for the Sewer Fund and General Fund. Councilwoman Brookes reported the Sewer Capital Reserve is \$162,068.25 and the General Reserve is \$339,835.26.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Lowery reported for the month of January, 2012 the Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 6 calls in the Borough of Aldan with damages of \$2,500.00. During the month of January, 2012 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 30 calls in the Borough of Aldan. During the month of February, 2012 Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 9 calls in the Borough of Aldan and those damages are unknown because 2 of the calls are still under investigation. During the month of February, 2012 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 36 calls in the Borough of Aldan.

Councilwoman Lowery made a motion to sign and execute the Stray Animal Agreement, seconded by Councilmen Coppola and unanimously approved.

LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Councilmen Coppola reported for the month of February there were 16 Building Permits issued with a construction value of \$51,485.00; there was 1 Plumbing Permit issued with a construction value of \$2,100.00 and there were 20 Transfer & Mid-Term Inspections by the Residential Inspector.

PRESIDENT SHORT COMMENTS

President Short commented on the Stray Animal Ordinance. Residents have asked us to pick up stray cats during the past month. The way the agreement is written and the cost of doing business each time we bring in a stray dog it is going to cost us \$250.00 plus another \$100 plus to transport the animal. By law we are not required to pick up cats. If you see stray cats please do not feed them this just creates a problem. Even with the dogs, try to find an owner because if you pick them up this will cost the Borough a bundle and they are not allowing private residents to drop off animals at the center. We are not sure if they would let the individual pay or not.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 PM.; and Council will meet on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 8:00 PM.

PRIVLIDGE OF THE FLOOR

Dan Procopio reported on the Aldan Boosters Annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, March 31st with a rain date of April 7th on the Baseball Fields behind Legion on Bonsall Avenue at noon. There is also an adult hunt for a night out.

John McBlain wanted to thank our Police Department who always really come through. Mr. McBlain was one of the victims in the small string of burglaries and thankfully that burglar was caught in Folcroft and it is my understanding after he was caught he admitted that in Aldan we had him on the run thanks to Sgt. Fink and that stopped his actions. Mr. McBlain lost a small amount of coins in the car but the police were diligent. We had some bigger losses on the street and the police stayed with the investigation and when the suspect was identified in Folcroft the police went through the process and interviewed the fellow and got a very positive result. Mr. McBlain wanted to thank the police for all their efforts.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilwomen Brookes seconded by Councilwomen Owen and unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary