

**ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

September 12, 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.

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**ROLL CALL**

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

Council members absent: S. Coppola

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 T. Owen minutes from the August 8, 2012, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

No written correspondence tonight.

**VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE**

No verbal correspondence tonight.

President Short turned the meeting over to the Solicitor, Mr. Seflin. The Borough did advertise to open the bids for the Removal of Snow and Ice from Borough Streets for the 2012-2013 Winter Season, with alternative to do the same for the 2012 – 2013 and 2013 and 2013 – 2014 Winter Season, or, do the same for the 2012-2013, 2013 -2014 and other multiple consecutive Winter Seasons. The Borough has received 5 sealed bids; from Knight Bros., Inc., Aston; Traboschia, Clifton Hts.;; Phillips Enterprise, Aldan; A to U Services, Inc., Sharon Hill; and J & P Fencing, Glenolden.

Under the revised bidding procedures bids were submitted by the following;

Knight Brothers, Inc. Aston, PA. - \$158.00 per truck per hour to salt/plow streets; \$158.50 per hour for back hoe to unload salt deliveries and load spreaders; and \$158.50 to clear intersections or stockpile snow.

Traboschia, Clifton Hts., PA \$66.00 per truck per hour to salt/plow streets; \$-0- per hour for back hoe to unload salt deliveries and load spreaders; and \$90.00 to clear intersections or stockpile snow. Term of Contract is A B or C which is 3 years for the same price.

Phillips Enterprise, Aldan, PA \$74.00 per truck, per hour to salt/plow streets; \$50.00 per hour for back hoe to unload salt deliveries and load spreaders; and \$100.00 to clear intersections or stockpile snow. Also attached is a Certificate of Liability Insurance. Term of Contract is A or B which is 2 years for the same price.

A to U Services, Inc. Sharon Hill, PA \$72.50 per truck per hour to salt/plow streets; \$-0- per hour for back hoe to unload salt deliveries and load spreaders; and \$85.00 to clear intersections or stockpile snow. Also attached is a Certificate of Liability Insurance. Term of Contract is A B or C with 5 years for the same price.

J & P Fencing, Glenolden, PA \$73.00 per truck per hour to salt/plow streets; \$95.00 per hour for back hoe to unload salt deliveries and load spreaders; and \$95.00 to clear intersections or stockpile snow. Term of Contract is A B or C which is for 3 years.

Mr. Seflin will give the bids to Councilman Cosgrove who is head of the Highway Department. Councilman Cosgrove will inspect all the bids to be sure all the requirements as met. As per our advertised information the bids shall be considered, and if Borough Council chooses to exercise its discretion to do so, the winning bid shall be awarded a contract at Council's October General Meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 10, 2012.

## **MAYOR REPORT**

Mayor Hopely reported on the Police Department and training is still an ongoing practice for our officers. Safety/Founders Day is Saturday September 22<sup>nd</sup>. We can always use help from various civic groups as well as interested residents when cleaning up at the end of the day. Also Mayor Hopely reported several residents were the victim of house burglaries where a woman would befriend an elderly homeowner and then get into the home and burglarize it. This occurred in several towns including Aldan. Through the efforts of many involved police departments an arrest was made. An ongoing comment from the Mayor residents going on vacation are again reminded to stop at the Municipal Building to fill out a form to have your home checked by police while you are away.

We did receive a letter to the Police Department, thank you for the great service you provided in monitoring our home while we were away. Your thoughtfulness and professionalism will always be remembered. We get letters from residents thanking the police department for checking their homes and we send out about 2 to 3 letters a week for checking homes in the borough. Mayor Hopely commented a job well done to Chief Coppola.

Dan Procopio asked how many break in were in Aldan. Chief Coppola responded there were 3

**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	\$ 434,504.05	\$ 53,845.80	\$ 245,261.88
Interest		\$	\$
Receipts for period	\$ 60,597.46	\$ 3.51	\$ 4,752.28
Expenditures Prior Month	\$	\$ (6,868.12)	\$ (5,444.78)
Add Sewer Interfund Transfers			
Net Checks	\$ (112,181.79)		\$
Loan Returned	\$		
Balance	\$ 382,919.72	\$ 46,981.19	\$ 244,569.38

Terry is asking Council’s approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$ 218,451.23 and from the Sewer Fund a check totaling \$97,950.97 and from the State Highway Fund checks totaling \$6,870.90. 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. Going back to 2008 the property at 269 Priscilla Lane, we have never been able to find the owner and the owner abandoned the property. This property has been exposed to a Tax Sale and Mr. Seflin has been in communication with the Sheriff’s Office regarding our current lien on the property. Hopefully by next month we will have a check to pay the lien. From 2009 the property at 218 Birchwood Road, this property will be exposed to Sheriff’s Sale on September 21, 2012. Mr. Seflin has written to the attorney for the plaintiff, the plaintiff being the bank or mortgage company. We had entered into an agreement with the property owners and they defaulted on the agreement about three quarters of the way through. We never removed our lien because they never completed paying their plan. Also in 2009 the property at 31 East Wayne Avenue and the owners are under the protection of the Bankruptcy Court and we received a check for \$34.12 and we do get checks towards paying the tax bill.

Mr. Seflin reported we did receive a Right-To-Know request from Signature Information Solutions, LLC from Trenton, NJ seeking Monthly Tax Collection Reports from March through July of 2012. Mr. Seflin did write back to the company and advised them these are records that our independently elected tax collector has and not the Borough but did request that Mr. Park try to find these documents and supply them to this requestor and also gave them Mr. Park's information.

Mr. Selfin also reported over the last several months we did work on amendments to the recycling specifications and our recycling contract is expiring soon.

Mr. Seflin report on August 19, 2012 a fellow was driving on Springfield Road and some sort of medical attack went off the road pulled out one of our street signs and went into a retaining wall belong to a resident. The Borough had to spend time, effort and money to clean up and excavate that area. Mr. Seflin did write to the driver as well as his insurance company that the Borough will institute a claim against them to reimburse the Borough for cost and expenses.

## **ENGINEER**

Mr. Close reported on our NPDS MS4 Storm Water Program as reported over the last few months our renewal application will be submitted this week and is due by September 14, 2012 and that will take us from March, 2013 to March, 2018. Part of that program will continue our ongoing efforts to implement that program.

Mr. Close attended a meeting today at DELCORA to discuss their latest Chapters. They are working on Chapters 3 & 4 of the Sewage Facility Plan Update and they are also initiating an alternative analysis. We were requested to provide information relative to our sewer system to them for inclusion into Act 537 Plan Update, this request was made to all member Municipalities, and so we are keeping up with their request for information. One item they are talking about as part of this is a private lateral I & I rehab which is being considered as an area of focus for this Act 537 update. This is a new concept outside of our mains, so it is an area they introduced today and we will follow very closely but it is a concept they have brought to the attention of all the Municipalities as it is something they are considering as an area of focus for this plan.

Mr. Close has reported in the past about the 2012 CDBG Project, that is our Maryland Avenue Playground and Parking Improvement Project. We expect to hear from the Office of Housing and Community Development in October for our notice to proceed to advertise and bid the project. We have a draft of the construction plans and the bidding documents ready to go, so when we get the notice we provide the documents to them and we anticipate that bidding process will go between November, 2012 and January, 2013 and we expect construction to start early winter 2013 or in the spring.

Mr. Close reported at Council's direction we have initiated the process for 2013 CDBG application. A project we are considering is more sewer I & I work in the CDBG area. This is the collections systems tributary to meter #3. We have done 2 CDBG projects, the slip lining of the interceptor itself and we do have a number of collector lines that are subject to infiltration. So the next logical step would be to focus on these areas and this is the recommended subject of this year's application. We would be targeting a hearing that is part of the CDBG process in December and that application is due just after Christmas but we like to submit it before Christmas of each year. There will be more to follow.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

Councilwoman Owen reported in the County and nationally a topic of concern is West Nile Virus. The number of cases reported this year is the most since learning about this disease. Nationally there have been 2,100 cases with 1,100 of them in Texas and 41 deaths nationally as a result of this disease. In the County there have been 4 confirmed cases, no deaths and no confirmed cases in Aldan. This is caused by mosquitoes that breed in stagnate water which can occur in four days. The best way for resident to prevent this is to be vigilant in preventing the conditions for breeding. Some tips are remove buckets or watering cans from your property, cover unused pools, barrels, trash cans when not in use, clean out gutters, bird baths and kiddie pools and limit outdoor activity at dusk and dawn this is when the amount of mosquitoes are at the highest. Wear long sleeves and long pants when outside as a preventative.

Councilwoman Owen reported on upcoming events to remember: the third Household Hazardous Waste Collection is scheduled for Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at Rose Tree Park from 9 to 3 rain or shine. All items mentioned previously are still being collected plus the new item allowed this year. There is also a link from the Aldan Borough web site to the Counties web site that lists all items being accepted.

Councilwoman Owen also reported on Founders Day, September 22<sup>nd</sup> the Giant Pharmacy is going to have a pharmacist and some staff to give Flue Vaccines and pass out literature for the 2012 Flue Season. Vaccines are out and available and they are discounting the cost to \$20 from \$30. If any person has Medicare there will be no fee at this event and the insurance will be billed for the vaccine. If anyone has a commercial insurance they will collect the fee and provide you with the ability to submit a claim to your insurance for reimbursement.

Councilwoman Owen reported Aldan Borough will be again hosting the fifth Prescription Take-Back Event on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 2 in the Municipal Parking Lot. Residents can bring any unused or expired or unwanted pills, capsules, liquids, creams, ointments, inhalers and solutions. There is no need to get out of your car there will be a Police Officer or Councilwoman Owen to take it from you.

Councilwoman Owen also commented County Council declared September as Emergency Preparedness month. After the events of September 11, 2001 the County joined a National Initiative toward encouraging individuals to volunteer to assist during public health events. These volunteers are called the Citizen Core. There are 4 branches; the Community Emergency Response Team; the County Animal Response Team; the Medical Reserve Core; and the Major Incident Response Team. All groups received training specific to the area they volunteered to help in. It is intended to help and assist the Emergency Medical Staff during major emergency events or a disaster response in the county. Notices are in the newspaper now and there are different public events being held and literature is being handed out to engage anybody that would have an interest to join one of the four different groups. There are about 500 volunteers and they are looking for more. Councilwoman Owen joined the Medical Reserve Core which intended to staff the locations in the event of a disaster and mass medications or vaccines need to be administered. They are looking for people of walks of life, skilled or unskilled and this is a worthwhile project and there are contact numbers in the newspaper.

Dan Procopio commented that Councilwoman Owen mentioned about the specifications for recycling is that going to be a Recycling Committee meeting or will there be some sort of public input. Councilwoman Owen responded the specifications were just tweaked to identify the date that we want the recyclables collected and what to do in the event a recycle day falls on a legal holiday. At this point there is going to be a Recycling Committee meeting setup for the purpose of getting out more information to the residents to remind them this is successful program and we would like the residents to participate even more to make it even more successful but not for the purpose of the contract. We will get in touch with haulers to see if they would like to bid. Dan asked if there was an update on the amount of tonnage that has been collected. As announced last month the two previous months we collected 40 tons each and for August we had a collection total of 34.35 tons.

### **HIGHWAY**

Councilman Cosgrove report all the white lines in intersections, the stop bars, and the cross lines have been painted and we were able to get PennDot to paint the Railroad Crossing on Oak Avenue.

Councilman Cosgrove also reported the 2012 Road Resurfacing Program has been completed by Inncon. We have received the invoice but we do hold 10% until we do a walk through and a punch list if needed. Councilman Cosgrove, PJ Close, our Engineer, and Anthony Tartaglia, our Building Inspector will do this walk. If items need to be corrected when they are finished to our satisfaction the remaining 10% will be issued.

Councilman Cosgrove has another resurfacing topic is Merion Terrace which is not the responsibility of the Borough but is loaded with pot holes. Two parties are responsible for that area one being the Providence Village owners and the other being owners of Roddy Products. Councilman Cosgrove did speak to both groups. The Providence Village group is ready to do the work and they are just waiting for the Roddy Product group to commit to the second half of the area and get it all done at one time.

Councilman Cosgrove had an update on a question asked last month by Dan Procopio regarding the total savings for the LED lights charges vs. incandescent. Councilman Cosgrove has been talking about what was in the literature and that was good numbers but we did not have a bill to compare. Councilman Cosgrove wanted to go over a few numbers. The conversion, a kilowatt hour per month is a reduction of 4,866 kilowatt hours and that is a fair amount. Our PECO distribution charge that is getting it from the lines to your house went from \$141 to \$23 and the Energy Generation charge went from \$313 to \$51. That is a saving a year of \$4,546.00 and that should not fluctuate because they are traffic lights and should be constant throughout the year. There was also a reduction in our maintenance cost of \$900 because we went to LED lights, so the total savings for the conversion \$5,446.44 a year.

President Short commented that Councilman Cosgrove has put in a tremendous amount of work to get grants and have this project go on. The Councilmen has worked on it for a few years and these lights are supposed to last for some 20 years so his efforts will go on long after he and I are out of here. Thank you for a job well done.

Dan Procopio asked if Councilman Cosgrove if Providence Village will pave the road area this year. Councilman Cosgrove responded he would think so. He has been talking with them for a couple months and we started this conversation before we had our contractor selected with the hope they could piggyback while our contractor was in town. When Councilman Cosgrove talked with the Inncon representative they said they were not doing the work for Providence Village.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Councilman Oropollo reported the curbing and some sidewalk block work has been completed at the Edmundson Park area. The cost for the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the project was \$3,830 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the project cost was \$2,820 we will keep an eye on the area to make sure no other problems develop down the road.

Councilman Oropollo reported he did speak to General Sewer and they will start the 1<sup>st</sup> quadrant cleanout on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Oropollo also commented to residents about the storm inlets being clogged before a rain storm to call him and he will go out and clean it out so the road will drain and stay clear to avoid the potential of an accident.

## **FINANCE**

Councilwoman Brookes reported receiving from Thomas Anderson, our Municipal Pension Specialist, our 2013 Financial Requirement and Minimal Municipal Obligation. As Chief Administrative Officer of the Pension Plan, Act 205 requires us to submit to Council of the municipality the financial requirement of the pension plan for 2013. The MMO for 2013 is \$125,427.00.

Councilwoman Brookes reported as discussed at Caucus, Council wanted to put funds aside annually for purchasing police cars. We decided to set up a Capital Reserve Fund and establish a new bank account within this fund for Police Capital Purchases. The allocation will be part of the General Fund Budget as directed by Council and a check will be issued from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund. Councilwoman Brookes made a motion to set up a new bank account within the Police Capital Reserve Fund for Police Capital Purchases seconded by Councilwoman Lowery and unanimously approved. President Short commented the Police Capital Reserve Fund will be used to purchase police cars and we hope to buy a car every other year to keep us up and the police out on the road.

Councilwoman Brookes wanted to remind everyone Founders/Safety Day is Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> and we invite all residents to attend. Brightly colored card went out to inform everyone about the event. There will be lots of good food and lots of good exhibits, our Public Health people will be there also and there is a car show in the Aldan Union Church Lot. As of today there are about 15 to 17 vendors set up for the Flea Market.

Dan Procopio asked Councilwoman Brookes for the balances for the General Fund and the Sewer Fund accounts. Councilwoman Brookes reported for the General Reserve we have \$540,266.04 and for the Sewer Fund we have \$242,290.31.

Dan Procopio asked if there was any money transferred tonight into the Police Capital Reserve Fund. President Short and Councilwoman Brookes responded that will be a future date.

Dan Procopio asked there are now 6 or more different accounts; a Sewer, General and Highway Fund that is being used each month to pay out of and a Sewer Reserve, General Reserve and now a Police Capital Reserve Fund are there any other reserve funds or bank accounts that are not accounted for by those 6 funds just mentioned. Terry Quinn commented whenever we get a grant we have to set up an account but that is part of the General Fund.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Councilwoman Lowery read the Fire Marshal's Report for the month of August; Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 2 events during the month one being a car on fire that pulled into the Aldan Union Church's parking lot which caused damages of \$14,500.00 and also another building being an electrical fire with damages of \$2,800.00. Also during the month of August, 2012 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 28 calls in the Borough of Aldan.

Councilwoman Lowery reported in the absence of Councilman Coppola introduced Ordinance # 509 allowing the Borough to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Delaware County to use their UCC Appeals Board. Mr. Seflin explained there was a Commonwealth Court decision earlier this year that because the way the first class township code is written, the borough code is written and the third class city code is written those types of Municipalities can not enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement via a Resolution it must be an Ordinance. The court said that any Intergovernmental Agreement that any of those types of municipalities had enter into, across the Commonwealth, were invalid if not done by an Ordinance. Several years ago we, Aldan Borough, enacted a Resolution appointing the County's Uniform Construction Code Appeals Board as our appeals board. We are now authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement through an Ordinance. President Short explained Councilwoman Lowery made a motion to adopt Ordinance #509 giving permission for the Borough to enter in an agreement with the County to use the County's UCC Appeals Board, seconded by Councilman Cosgrove and unanimously approved.

**LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

Councilman Coppola was not at the meeting tonight.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business tonight.

**NEW BUSINESS**

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 PM and Council will meet on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 8:00 PM.

**PRIVLIDGE OF THE FLOOR**

Dan Procopio wanted to thank Councilman Cosgrove for the line painting of the handicap spot in front of the No Name Store.



John McBlain wanted to announce with the regards to the Aldan Boosters' Civic Association to Council and to anyone who is involved in town as a volunteer for an organization such as a coach for Boys' Club, Girls' Club or a member of the Pool Board. Last year the Boosters' hosted a Volunteer Night Party over at the Legion Building this year we are really going high class the Boosters' purchased a block of tickets for the Colonial Playhouse on Saturday, September 29, 2012 to see "Shakespeare in Hollywood" and prior to that will be a wine and cheese reception at the home of Mike and Lisa Xavier. Mike and Lisa's home backs-up to the Colonial Playhouse. Mr. McBlain invited the members of Council to attend and any residents who lend their time and talents to the Borough we ask you to spread the word. We hope everyone can make it, this should be a pleasant evening, a nice night to socialize and reward all our volunteers for the great things they do. Councilman Cosgrove did mention that tickets are limited because the whole town would not be able to fit in the Playhouse. So if you would like to go let us know as soon as possible.

President Short commented that earlier tonight he attended a County Council Meeting in Upper Darby. County Council from time to time holds a Council Meeting in different towns in the evening making it more convenient for residents to attend these meetings. These meeting are normally held at 10:00 on Tuesday morning when people are working and are not able to attend. There was one issue discussed during the meeting that might be interesting to residents in town. This was brought up by Nick Micozzie. Representative Micozzie and County Councilman Civera went out to Pittsburgh to talk to a group of nuns that owns the property on Springfield Road, Little Flower Manor. Last year there was talk about a contractor along with state money developing that parcel into a shopping center? This would have been horrendous on Springfield Road to the residents of Aldan on any given day due to the amount of traffic going through there. However Representative Micozzie is looking to maintain this as Open Space and is in the process of talking to the nuns that own this piece of property. Representative Micozzie and County Councilman Civera went out to Pittsburgh to speak with the nuns. It sounds like it was a favorable meeting. If this parcel was kept as Open Space this would be a great benefit to Aldan, Darby, Clifton Heights, Collingdale and all the surrounding communities. Mr. McBlain commented we have started the process working with the officials from the various municipalities and try to find a way. There is not a lot of money around for Open Space but to identify funds that might be able to be used to purchase it. Hopefully the owners would work with us. It may be a combination of Open Space and some limited development. We certainly recognize the need of Darby Borough were they would have some sort of tax ratable but if we can preserve the vast majority of that property, especially the Scott Mansion, it would be a tremendous step forward for us. Mr. McBlain said it was not his term, someone else coined it, and the goal would be to make it Rose Tree Park East. President Short said he will keep everyone informed as we get information.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Owen seconded by Councilwoman Brookes and unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

## **ATTEST**

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MARIE V. KAUT  
Borough Secretary