

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

February 9, 2011

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 American Legion 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; M. Xavier;
J. Cosgrove; R. Baker; S. Coppola

Council members absent: None

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

Officers absent: None

MINUTES

On a motion made by P. Brookes seconded by S. Coppola minutes from the January 12, 2011, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

No written correspondence tonight.

VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE

There is no verbal correspondence tonight.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Hopely reported the Police Department has mandatory state training for all police officers. Officers are also assigned to various other training seminars etc. other than those required by state law. There have been several burglaries throughout Aldan as well as surrounding communities. Residents are asked to be vigilant and call 911 if they see anything suspicious. We are also looking for part time crossing guards if anyone is interested or knows of a friend or neighbor that might be interested.

Mayor Hopely asked that we remember and pray for Myron Blankley, who is in Jefferson Hospital. Myron was our Police Chief and retired back in 1980. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

TREASURER

Terry Quinn read the Treasurer’s Report:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>State Highway Fund</u>
Balance of cash on hand	\$ 153,864.63	\$.03
Receipts for period	\$ 41,242.17	
Interest		\$.00
Expenditures Prior Month	\$ 147,519.29	\$
Balance	\$ 47,587.31	\$.03

Terry Quinn asked Council’s approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$148,355.83. 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 Councilwomen Owen and unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Seflin reported we continue our tax collections efforts for 2009 Tax Delinquent. Within the last month, Mr. Seflin asked the District Court, who entered 5 judgments in our favor, on December 2, 2010, if the court would issue orders of execution on properties at: 329 Laurel Road; 36 Stratford Avenue; 901 North Street, Collingdale; 264 Priscilla Lane; and 128 Albert Avenue. We also asked the court to allow us to pursue orders of execution on 2 other properties 60 South Clifton Avenue and 413 East Rively Avenue, these are 2 property owners that entered into payment plan agreements with us and both have breached those plans. They have not responded to any communications, so we are asking the court to lift the stay to allow us to execute on them. There is another property that entered into a payment plan and he is complying. On a positive note we did received two resolutions of outstanding judgments and liens for 25 Albert Avenue and 40 Willows Lane totaling \$3,500.00. We also received \$ 2,294.37 for a property on Maryland Avenue, from a law suite in 1996, but we could not achieve service on the fellow because he was out of state but when he went to sell the property our lien was still there. That lien includes interest going back 4 years. The lien was for a nuance on the property where a tree on the property fell into the street and was blocking the street and the police need to have the tree removed in a quick manor.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported on our NPDS Storm Water MS4 Program as reported last month, Terry Gallagher from Kelly/Close attended a meeting of the Eastern Delaware County COG on January 19th there was a training seminar by the temporary coordinator, Liz Feinberg, and the focus was on Good Housekeeping

Operations and maintenance for the highway department, police departments, cleaning vehicles, cleaning inlets, salt placement removal, and thing like that. Also they are trying to work towards an Inter-Municipal Agreement to get all the member Municipalities of COG to join forces to take advantage of this coordinator. She is temporary right now and they are looking to hire her full time. Mr. Close received a copy today in draft form and a copy will be sent to the Borough and to Mr. Seflin, the Borough Solicitor. We need to digest that and understand before we take any action. Mr. Close will look at this and report back to Council.

Mr. Close reported every year we do a Chapter 94 report for Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection; this is our annual sewage planning report that is required to be submitted for Aldan Borough to the Darby Creek Joint Authority and DELCORA. We did submit that earlier this week.

Mr. Close also reported we have been working on the 2011 Road Program and the Lobbs Run Phase II project and will defer any discussion on that until the Committee Reports.

Councilmen Cosgrove commented to Mr. Close the information requested to be put on the web site has been added.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilwoman Owen reported there will be no interruption in trash collection on Presidents' Day Monday, February 21, 2011.

Councilwoman Owen wanted to comment on the trash service during the inclement weather we have had this winter season. This has been a challenge for our hauler getting through the borough due to the road conditions and collections due to the limited access to the curbs. Each storm was assessed on a individual basis considering the time restraint, restrictions and safe passage in the Borough. Service was affected and it allowed time not to interfere with plowing and allowed residents to create access to let the crews then used to reach the trash cans and bags and safely pass by the parked cars. The trucks were in the Borough the very next day and the office received very few calls. The trash was collected on the day after schedule and would call that good responsible service. Councilwomen Owen did talk with the hauler and told them we were glad to have a company like that in the borough and they are responding to what we expect of them and are happy with their service.

Councilwomen Owen reported annual letters will be going out to the Borough Businesses and Organizations reminding them to report their 2010 recycling totals to be included in the County Annual Recycling Report that is due in March. These totals are requirement for us to be eligible to submit the Performance Recycling Grant that yields the Borough a few thousand dollars every year. Councilwomen Owen will be collecting those totals.

Councilwomen Owen has been taking a long look at the recycling program that we have in the Borough since last year. In light of the tipping fees that were imposed 2 years ago and to become more environmental responsible and conscious we have been looking at what it would take to implement a curb side recycling program. We are not mandated by the state due to our population to have a recycling program however we do have a well established drop off program.

Councilwomen Owen has met with the Recycling Coordinator at the County and on two occasions have met with the representative from the recycling facility that most of the Boroughs in the county use. Councilwomen Owen has had lengthy conversations with officials of Boroughs that have a successful program and we also have a recycling committee which includes 2 borough officials and 2 residents. Curbside recycling would be a convenience to our residents but with convenience comes cost. A few months ago Councilwomen Owen submitted a proposal for a grant to help us with the cost for the upstart of the program that would include containers and education for the residents. We were recently notified that the application has received a recommendation for funding of the program in the amount of \$25,000.00. We are very, very happy to report this tonight. This will certainly ease the design of a program with the convenience to reduce the amount of solid waste in the Borough, become more environmentally responsible, and create a savings to the Borough. We are looking forward to getting that started but we have not received the check and it may take some time. President Short commented, Councilwomen Owen did a very good job.

Mike Ceci commented great job; you have been working very hard on this project. Mike asked if the \$25,000 went to the next budget year and what does receiving a recommendation mean. Councilwomen Owen explained that is the first phase of notification. There are contracts and stipulations that the state requires the grant money has to be used for the intention that it was designed and if it is not the money is not issued. We don't know when it is going to be coming, so we are not sure if it will be this year or next. We will be progressing as we get notified as to what the next step is.

Councilmen Baker asked if the \$25,000 is for the purchase of containers. Councilwomen Owen explained it was for start up cost. In the proposal it was identified the start up costs as containers, advertisement, education and re-education. Councilmen Baker asked if our same trash hauler would be allowed to do this for us. Councilwomen Owen responded she would hope so, the hauler is aware this is something we are interested in but there may be some stipulations about how we go forward with this. Mr. Sefflin commented there would have to be a bid process and this would be different than the five year contract we just signed.

Dan Procopio asked if in Councilwomen Owen investigation is there a preliminary schedule for collection if weekly or every other week and estimates of collection costs and what kind of impact it would have on the budget. Councilwomen Owen responded we would like to see the collections done weekly because if containers are getting filled, we dispose a lot of recyclables into our solid waste without realizing that we could be putting that into a recycling bin. If we have one bin issued to each resident and that gets filled up over the course of more than one week, residents could be tempted to put it in their solid waste can because that is picked up on Monday or Thursday. We did get a rough estimate from the hauler we have now and that would be about \$10,000.00 and that would be for 52 collections, once a week for 52 weeks.

Councilwomen Brookes commented that Councilwomen Owen had about 5 days to get this grant paperwork together and Terry did a great job. To get us \$25,000.00 and to do the right thing by recycling is a wonderful thing.

Councilwomen Owen was asked is it true when you start recycling the Borough will get money back. Councilwomen Owen explained that Blue Mountain has a Revenue Sharing Program and depending on what the commodity is paying and not charging, they take a certain amount off the top and the remainder is shared on a percentage basis with the Boroughs they are contracted with. Not only of that being a possibility of revenue for the Borough but it is less money we are paying the Solid Waste Authority at \$23.45 a ton.

In addition this also means more totals we can submit in the annual performance grant we give to the state and more totals means a bigger check to us in the long run.

HIGHWAY

Councilmen Cosgrove reported 2011, like 2010 has been a difficult year for snow and snow removal. The cost are piling up but wanted to comment, Phillips Enterprise, our snow plow contractor, is doing a pretty good job overall. We do have some issues but we are working on them. Overall they are doing a fine job and every snow fall they are getting a little bit better, unfortunately we have had a lot of snow falls for them to get better. We are keeping our fingers crossed for the rest of the year and maybe we will get lucky but wanted to make that comment.

Councilmen Cosgrove reported it is the time of year for application for County Aid. Councilmen Cosgrove made a motion to have Council approve the completing of the application for \$10,000.00 for County Aid for 2011 seconded by Councilmen Baker and unanimously approved.

President Short commented as far as the snow plowing goes, they say practice makes perfect and they sure are getting a lot of practice.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilmen Coppola reported last week at Caucus we received and opened the bids for the Phase II of the Lobbs Run Interceptor Project. We received 3 bids ranging from \$241,000.00 from Am-Liner East, Inc. from Berryville, VA; JMC Contractors, Inc., from Glen Mills bid \$237,795.00 and the low bid was from Tri-State Grouting from Bear, DE for \$ 197,199.00. Kelly and Close has reviewed this bid and found everything to be in order and their recommendation is for Tri-State Grouting from Bear, DE. as the contractor for the Phase II Lobbs Run Interceptor Project. Councilmen Coppola made a motion to accept the bid from Tri-State Grouting for \$197,199.00 for the Phase II Lobbs Run Interceptor Project seconded by Councilwomen Brookes and unanimously approved. Councilmen Coppola commented that Phase II of the Lobbs Run Project is also a grant we received from the County in the amount of \$275,000.00 so this bid come in well under that at \$197,199.00, there is no cost to the Borough for this project and hopefully this is another item that once completed will continue to save the Borough some money by eliminating the infiltration of storm water and so forth into our sewer system. President Short commented we would like to thank the County for those funds, without which this project would never have been started.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUILDINGS

Councilmen Baker reported last Friday, he and Mr. Tartaglia met with the Claims Adjuster on the Rec Building fire damage and we are waiting on the report to come back.

Councilmen Baker also wanted to thank the American Legion for allowing Council to meet in their building tonight while the Rec Building is under repair.

Councilmen Baker reported on the Municipal Building storm damage we had from the hail last summer. We have 4 bids for repairs. Roofing Specialties from Broomall was \$15,000.00; Dynamic Roofing from Glenolden was \$9,985.00; AMC Construction from Collingdale was \$10,200.00; and Tall Brothers from Aldan was \$8,975.00. Councilmen Baker talked to the Insurance Adjuster today as discussed the price offered and the first price was under our lowest bid and they did adjust up to what to Tall Brothers bid. We will be receiving paper work from the adjuster. Councilmen Baker made a motion to accept the bid from Tall Brothers Building Contractors for \$8,975.00 to do the repairs on the Municipal Building, seconded by Councilmen Coppola and unanimously approved.

Dan Procopio asks if we knew how long the Rec Building will be unavailable. Councilmen Baker responded as fast as we can get the adjuster paper work in and get the work started.

FINANCE

Councilwomen Brookes reported there was nothing new for finance tonight.

Dan Procopio asked in the Treasurer's Report the current bank balance did not cover the checks being issued this month so are the reserves being used and what is the balance on the reserve. Terry Quinn responded we are making a transfer from the Reserve Fund to the General Fund of \$200,000.00 to cover the checks issued and carry us through March when the tax funds should start coming in. In addition the current balance in our Reserve Account is \$812,874.35 prior to the transfer.

LAW, ORDINANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilmen Xavier reported for the month of January, 2011 we had 24 Building Permits issued with a construction value of \$143,470.02; and there were 14 Mid-Term/Transfer Inspections.

Councilmen Xavier reported on the Fire Marshal's report for the month of January, 2011. During the month of January Collingdale Fire Companies #1 & #2 responded to 6 calls in the Borough, one being the fatality at the Reinl Building, that being very unfortunate also because it was a resident of Aldan. Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 24 calls in the Borough.

Councilmen Xavier presented a Resolution to appoint Peggy Brookes as Chief Administrative Officer of the Aldan Borough Police Pension Fund. Councilmen Xavier made a motion to adopt Resolution 2011-01 to appoint Peggy Brookes as Chief Administrative Officer of the Aldan Borough Police Pension Fund, seconded by Councilmen Baker and unanimously approved.

President Short asked Mr. Seflin to read Mutual Aid Agreement. Mr. Seflin explained we were asked by Sheriff McGinn's Office to consider a Mutual Aid Agreement; basically Sheriff McGinn wants to be more involved with the Community. His office wants to make sure in offering the services of Sheriff's personal they don't overstep their legal boundaries which are limited by Pennsylvania Law. The Sheriff wants to extend the opportunity and curtesy to surrounding communities within Delaware County of the services of the Department if necessary. The Sheriff has asked us to consider this Mutual Aid Agreement as a method if needed a Municipality can call upon excess personal if they are available within the Sheriff's Office to assist in a particular instance.

This agreement is very specific, even if the Sheriff's Department has personal resources available but if it is for a task the Sheriff deems outside of his purview they can decline and also when Sheriff's personal are involved in assisting a local police force, if they determine at any point it is outside their purview they can stop what they are doing and leave. It is a good idea for not only Aldan but other Municipalities to enter into this to help safe guard our citizens. Councilmen Xavier made a motion to accept the Mutual Aid Agreement from the Delaware County Sheriff's Department and the Borough of Aldan, seconded by Councilmen Cosgrove and unanimously approved.

Mike Ceci asked if there was any cost to the Borough to enter into the Mutual Aid Agreement. Mr. Seflin answered no there is no cost to the Borough. Mike asked what would be an example of what the Sheriff's personal could or could not do. Joe Blackburn from the Sheriff's Department commented they would do any thing at the request of the Borough but there are limitations by State Law. Mr. McBlain also commented he works as an Attorney for the County and has worked with Deputy Sheriff Blackburn, an Aldan resident born and raised, and he works with Sheriff McGinn and the way this came about is Sheriff McGinn office has greatly increased its presents in the Community for different actions. Last summer the city of Chester had a state of emergency declared and the Sheriff Office cooperated with the Chester Police Department in terms of the execution of warrants, which is one of the rolls the Sheriff's Office plays, so they assisted the Chester Police Department in that roll and greatly calmed the situation down at the time. Another example was when Scully Propane had an explosion last summer a call went out to help out with on the scene crowd control and that sort of thing. The Sheriff's office dispatched a squad to assist the local police. Mr. McBlain explained things they wouldn't do is step in and perform police powers. The Sheriffs would not be called upon and could not be called upon to actually control in lieu of police officers or step in, in case there was any kind of gap in coverage. In Colwyn Borough they had a problem with their police department that prevented them from putting police on the street but the Sheriff's Department would not be stepping in, in place of police. Because of the great out reach that Sheriff's McGinn office has done, Deputy Blackburn has been involved, spoke with us and commented it probably is good to have a Mutual Aid Agreement with the Boroughs, like the police have inter-Community Mutual Aid Agreements. We were honored because, Deputy Blackburn living in Aldan, Sheriff McGinn asked if Aldan Borough would be the first to do this. The project being that we have 49 Municipal Aid Agreements within the coming months. It seemed natural to begin with the Borough of Aldan since we typically lead the County in all great things anyway. The idea is the Sheriff's Department would lend it's personal to fill in especially in mass casualty situations or emergency operations. This is what Sheriff McGinn is most effective at with those specially type of things. He has a number of specialized units he has developed, training, K-9 sheriffs and those types of involvements. If there is any question about cost, it does not cost the Borough anything, just like Police Mutual Aid Agreements, everyone remains responsible for their own folks. If the Deputy Sheriffs were to respond here, and God forbid someone gets hurt, that would be covered under the County employment, Aldan Borough does not incur any liability.

Dan Procopio asked if there is an expected start date for the Phase II Lobbs Run Project and how long is the projected for completion. Mr. Close responded the start of construction will be around April and it is 120 day contract duration but we expect less than that. If all goes well we expect 2 month duration. Dan asked if they will be using the Pool Parking lot again for the operation. Mr. Close explained we have not had those discussions yet but that is a possibility. Dan commented the \$275,000.00 grant was administrated through the County but was a Federal Community Development Block Grant fund was it not. Mr. Close responded yes, that is correct.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There is no unfinished business this month.

NEW BUSINESS

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 PM.; and Council will meet on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 but the place to be determined.

PRIVELIGE OF THE FLOOR

None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilmen Xavier seconded by Councilwomen Owen and unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary