

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

May 11, 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 William Reihn 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; M. Xavier;
J. Cosgrove; S. Coppola

Council members absent: R. Baker

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

Officers absent: None

MINUTES

On a motion made by P. Brookes seconded by S. Coppola minutes from the April 13, 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 we have a Certificate Of Achievement from MADD. This certificate is awarded to the Aldan Police Department in recognition of exemplary DUI enforcement by MADD Southeast Pennsylvania.

Mayor Hopely also reported we have two new part time police officers and are progressing well

Officer Cavanagh is able to work in a car alone and Officer Martino is moving in that direction. In addition to that 5 months spent in the police academy our officers are put through a field training program. In other works they are trained by an officer specially trained to train new officers. These training officers go through the Penn State University “Field Training Officer” program. They are very well qualified to instruct and teach. Through the diligence of our police department and Chief Coppola we do and have been getting the best kids coming out of the Police Academy.

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	\$ 801,127.11	\$ 77,297.56
Receipts for period	\$ 311,624.78	
Interest		\$ 12.11
Expenditures Prior Month	\$ 274,023.52	\$
Loan Returned to General Reserve	\$ 200,000.00	
Balance	\$ 638,728.37	\$ 77,309.67

Terry Quinn commented that as part of our Receipts this month we did receive a \$10,000.00 Computer Grant. Terry is asking Council’s approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$161,369.48. The actual amount of checks that were written is a bit higher than that but there were some check written to just transfer funds between our Commerce account and our Beneficial Account, so this was not an outlay of cash. Terry is also asking Council’s approval to release funds from the State Highway Fund totaling \$14,587.01. 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. Sefflin reported on the Tax Delinquency Program for 2009. Of the eleven delinquents 1 is in bankruptcy and 8 we are awaiting a levy on their personal property by the Constable. Today Mr. Sefflin sent to District Court 2 more requests for levies for folks who had payment plans in place and they both breached the plans. Last month both got letter saying they breached the plan and needed a response by May 2nd and they did not respond, so we are asking the Court to levy against their personal property. For 2008 we still have 1 delinquency outstanding which is in bankruptcy. For 2010 we are waiting assignment of a final delinquency list from Bob Park, our Tax Collector.

Mr. Sefflin wanted to mention, the Borough was requested by Aqua a copy of Ordinance 507 that Council pass last month that amended the street opening ordinance.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported on our 2010 CBDG Project, Lobbs Run Phase II Cured in Place Lining Project is substantially completed. This went very well and we are working up the final punch list and we should be closing out the job in a few weeks.

Mr. Close has been reporting on our MPDS MS4 Storm Water Program, we are finalizing our annual report and will submit this by the end of May and is due on June 9th.

There is no word yet from Eastern Delaware County COG on the Intergovernmental Agreement and a letter of interest they are supposed to send to the 11 Boroughs, and we will respond accordingly. President Short responded we did receive the Intergovernmental Agreement and this was forwarded to the Solicitor for his review.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**PUBLIC HEALTH**

Councilwoman Owen reported Bulk Trash Collection for 2011. This is Aldan's 30th consecutive year for providing this service to the residents. The East side collection was held on May 4th and the West side of town is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18th. The West side of town is Oak Avenue to west of Clifton Avenue.

Councilwoman Owen reported the 2011 Pool Permit Application Letters will be going out to the residents with pools on their properties on Friday, May 13th. Inspections are scheduled by our Health Officer from June 27th through July 11th weather permitting. Residents do not need to be home when the Health Officer does the inspection.

The Apprise Organization which is the State Health Assistance Program is offering basic classes in Medicare. Medicare is a very complex program and the changes they make each year and this makes it even a more difficult. This year they have decided to have monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at the School House Senior Center from 7 PM to 8 PM they will have information sessions followed by a question and answer period for anyone who wants to learn more. This is great for Baby Boomers or people who are managing health insurance for elderly family members or relatives.

Councilwoman Owen reported on the National Drug Take Back Event that was held on Saturday, April 30th at the Municipal Building. Councilwoman Owen is very pleased to report that this Borough was able to collect 25 pounds of expired and unused medication. That is 2 ½ times the amount we collected in September. This amount, from all the sites around the Country, it could be possible that 300,000 tons of medication could be taken away and properly disposed of by the DEA. We are waiting to hear back on the total but hope it amounts close to that amount and we will also find out if this program will continue. When we had the program in September the Holcomb Behavioral Health Program donated Lock Medication Boxes to all the Boroughs in Delaware County that were participating. The idea was any person that came to dispose of medication could leave their e-mail address and we would have a drawing at the end of the day and contact the winner. Unfortunately we were unable to get in touch with that person by e-mail but we held onto the Box and will have the drawing tonight.

Councilwomen Owen could not attend the May 30th event asked Councilmen Xavier to help and he did a stellar job, so Councilmen Xavier had the box with the entries and asked Marie Pilla to draw the winner. Marie pulled out Chris Ruex's name and Councilwomen Owen will contact the winner. Councilmen Xavier commented the day was very interesting. People wanted to give a story with what they were giving you but we did not know until the last 20 minutes we could accept liquids. They were really surprised at the type of drugs people were turning in. Don't think that are residents are drug users or abusers but most of their stories have to do with a relative who had some life threatening or end of life condition to keep them comfortable till the end of their days. This is a good venue to get the drugs off the street so that your own medicine cabinet is not the local location to get drugs inappropriately. Herb Hays asked Councilwomen Owen what he could do with expired syringes and after a phone call the director of the Pharmacy at Giant will be glad to take care of them.

Mike Ceci asked if there is any stasis on the Recycling Program. Councilwomen Owen responded we still have not received the check but we are told it is in the process and we have established an account for the deposit as required. A core of members of Council are getting ready to meet to carve out a program that would be suitable for the Borough within our population and our financial stasis and environmental sound and be able to divert the recyclables away from solid waste and into the recycling stream. We are not hearing anything negative but there are steps such as a contract, and that has been taken care of, we had to open an account for the deposit of the funds and this was also done but there is no estimation of time.

HIGHWAY

Councilmen Cosgrove gave an update on the 2011 Road Resurfacing Program. Today, Mr. Tartaglia, our Building Inspector, Terry Gallagher, from the Engineers office and Councilmen Cosgrove met with 3 representatives from Aqua. We did send Aqua a copy of the Ordinance change requiring they do half a street rather than leave a trench. Aqua has had the copy of the Ordinance for over a week but they did not say anything about the changes to our ordinance. The impression this has happened many times before in other Boroughs and with Penn Dot and other Municipalities have this requirement. We got an update on what is going on with the line replacement on Elm Avenue, and cleaning and re-lining on Albert Avenue, Walnut and other streets and they are coming along. Aqua will probably be in Aldan till the end of the summer. We wanted to go over with Aqua street priority that we did about a month ago. We exceeded on paper the money we have to spend but wanted to see what they were doing and was there any on both lists. We did find a few intersections about 3 that were on our list and also on their list. They will now incur the cost of doing those intersections and off our list now. There were no street sections on both lists, so there is no savings there. Councilmen Cosgrove and Terry Gallagher met again to reduce the priority list down to the available monies we have based on the State Grant and the Liquid Fuels from Delaware County. We did not take the money last year so we get 2 amounts this year. We are in the neighborhood of about \$110,000.00 so we made our street list to equal this amount of money and the other streets we moved to 2012. Councilmen Cosgrove made a motion to advertise and accept bids for the 2011 Road Resurfacing Program. President Short was concerned because we did not receive the check yet, but we know everything is in the works, with the bank account being opened and we have the OK and this will not be happening until a June, July time frame and if need be we would put a hold on it until we received the check. We fully expect to have the check by that time but if not we would hold up. We have a motion to advertise the 2011 Road Resurfacing Program, seconded by Councilmen Xavier and unanimously approved. Mike Ceci asked does this obligate us if the money did not come through if we advertise and put this out for bid. President Short responded no we are not obligated.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilmen Coppola has been out quite a few times this month with Kelly/Close and people from PJ office mainly as a result of the heavy storms we had on April 16th with a lot of flooding in town creating a lot of problems. Because of that Kelly/Close has done a lot of televising and cleaning of both our sanitary lines and storm water systems and make sure the Borough systems are working properly. We have not found anything serious but mainly resulted in very heavy rain and our system became inundated and caused a lot of water in basements and street flooding. It appears that our systems are working in some cases it did require some cleaning.

Mike Ceci asked do we have any idea other than rain what could have caused the water and sewage in basements. Is this something we need to maintain? Councilmen Coppola responded the Borough maintains both our storm water and sanitary system in the streets. What happened on those dates when you have a heavy rain our storm water system becomes inundated and once that backs up and starts collecting water on the street in turn it flows into peoples sanitary vents and results into the water backing up into the sanitary lines and backing up into the basements. It is a mix of storm water and sanitary that ends up backing up. There are a lot of vents between the curb and the sidewalk and if very low and once the water collects in the street it backs up into the sanitary lines and that's where there were a lot of the problems. For the most part our system collected and disposed of the water the way it was supposed to until they became inundated because the rain was so heavy. This was not isolated to Aldan; the other town became backed up from here to the river and once all the systems start to back up there is no where for our storm water to go and it floods the streets this was a problem all over the County. Mike asked if any of the grates were blocked up. Councilmen Coppola responded we have an employee who goes out a couple times a month to cleans all the storm grates so for the most part they stay open but when you have a very heavy rain a lot of debris collects from peoples yards and it ends up collecting during the storm and there is nothing we can do about that. We have had someone come out even during the storm. This was not the case this time the systems just could not handle the amount water.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUILDINGS

Councilmen Baker was not at the meeting but the new carpet has been installed.

FINANCE

Councilwomen Brookes had nothing to report tonight.

LAW, ORDINANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilmen Xavier reported for the month of April, 2011 we had 62 Building Permits issued with a construction value of \$338,332.50 and there were 18 Mid-Term/Transfer Inspections; there were 2 Plumbing Permits issued with a construction value of \$12,902.89.

Councilmen Xavier reported on the Fire Marshal's report for the month of April, 2011. During the month of April Collingdale Fire Companies #1 & #2 responded to 4 calls in the Borough, all resulted in no damage. Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 33 calls in the Borough.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Short commented last month we read a Resolution about the delinquent sewer bills for the Municipalities of Lansdowne, Darby Borough and Colwyn. Shortly after our meeting last month that Lansdowne has paid in full; Darby has entered into an agreement with Darby Creek to pay off their bill; and so has Colwyn. At this time we want to commend Darby Creek in their efforts to collect these back sewer rents especially Charlie Duffy and the rest of the members of Darby Creek Authority for moving on this.

Charlie Duffy mentioned that approximately 35% of 1.7 million has been paid. Lansdowne has paid in full; Darby Borough paid about \$102,000.00 and they are on the right track to get paid in full; and Colwyn is doubling up on their payments so they should be zero balance outstanding by the end of the year.

NEW BUSINESS

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, June 1, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 PM.; and Council will meet on Wednesday, June 8, 2011 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 8:00 PM.

PRIVELIGE OF THE FLOOR

Charlie Duffy announced on behalf of the Aldan Boosters we are dedicating an ornamental shade tree in memory of Brian Smith, who lost his life in a one vehicle accident in January. We met with the family and they wanted to pick the location and we will plant a flowering plum tree outside of the center field fence on the Carr Field. Mr. Duffy spoke with Mr. Reardon, the Rec Board Chairmen, who is going to contact the Utility Company, PA One Call before they dig. The family was planning a little dedication ceremony on Sunday, May 22nd at 4:30.

Harold Borders (Buddy) 503 W. Providence Road, asked what the procedure would be to request the installation of a Stop Sign on Providence Road. President Short and Chief Coppola both responded that is a Penn Dot issue. Chief Coppola also commented he didn't think they would install a Stop Sign on Providence Road and but it would have to be a four way stop because there are Stop Signs on the side streets and we are not allowed to put 4 way Stop Signs up. Mr. Borders remarked the intersection of Providence Road and Beech Avenue where the park is there was a serious accident there about 3 weeks ago where 3 telephone poles were taken out. Chief Coppola responded the accident was the result of was a women talking or texting on her cell phone and we don't know if a Stop Sign would have avoided that accident because she was distracted while driving.

Mr. Borders commented there are neighbors who have almost gotten hit pulling in and out of their driveways. There is also a lot of pedestrian traffic in that area with people going to Giant and the Mail box etc. Chief Coppola said we will look into that but this is the first complaint we have gotten about the area. President Short comment in the past when we tried to get Stop Signs on Clifton Avenue one thing Penn Dot asked for was the amount of accidents and the severity of the accidents that happened in the area. If there is not enough they won't do anything. Mr. Seflin added that Penn Dot has warrants (criteria) such as 1. Traffic flow, how many cars go by there on a daily basis, on a week day, on a week end; another is 2. Accidents, is there conflicts, 3. Geometry of the intersection. If the other warrants are not met Penn Dot will not authorize a Stop Sign. Built into Penn Dot's criteria is the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and the MUTCD and one thing this talks about is not to impede traffic flow go the more traffic controls you put in sometimes you create more problems than you are solving. Penn Dot is very, very reluctant to put in a new traffic control. Penn Dot receives thousands requests daily from Municipalities or Citizens to put in a Stop Sign and 99% of the time Penn Dot would say that putting in that Stop sign or Traffic Control will create more problems than it would solve.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilwomen Owen seconded by Councilwomen Brookes and unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary