

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

November 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 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; R. Baker; M. Xavier

Council members absent: None

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

Officers absent: None

MINUTES

On a motion made by P. Brookes seconded by S. Coppola minutes from the October 12, 2011, 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 had nothing new to report tonight.

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	\$ 608,814.74	\$ 32,995.35	\$ 146,311.71
Interest		\$ 5.12	\$
Receipts for period	\$ 41,565.35		\$ 3,746.13
Expenditures Prior Month	\$ 133,973.05	\$ 7,444.51	\$ 93,664.19
Balance	\$ 516,407.04	\$ 25,555.96	\$ 56,393.65

Terry is asking Council's approval to release funds from the State Highway Fund totaling \$ 7,446.14. Terry is also asking Council's approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$247,413.98 and from the Sewer Fund \$5,558.51. 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 did receive a check from the Bankruptcy Trustee for \$33.03 for the property at 31 East Wayne Avenue and they still owe us \$1,307.76 hopefully within the next 4 years that will get paid off.

Mr. Seflin received the Recycling Contract executed by Suburban Waste Services Inc., now we need President Short and Mrs. Kaut to execute this with the Borough seal we will have a contract in final form. We also need to get a copy over to Suburban Waste Services and a copy for Mr. Seflin.

Mr. Seflin reported we are still in negotiations with Erie Insurance Company regarding a motor vehicle accident that happened on April 27, 2011, where they went out of control and took out a pole and traffic sign. We anticipate that will be resolved in the near future. Mr. Seflin will report on this again next month.

Mr. Seflin reported on the Tax Delinquencies; for 2010 he would anticipate by next month we will have filed suit against the 11 remaining delinquents for 2010 but we also want to file suit against some properties in town that have liens on them because of nuisances. The Borough had to go in and take action to correct nuisances on the property. There are a few properties we are in negotiations with to resolve the liens. If we have not made progress we will file suit all at the same time.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported on FEMA, the Flood Plain Ordinance, we did receive notice from Delaware County Planning Department they will be hosting a meeting at Springfield Township Building to discuss with Municipalities FEMA Floodplain Ordinance proposed updates. This is co-hosted by FEMA and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. This is a second in a series of meetings the last one was on June 1st. This is a new concept of promoting this Community Rating System Program which provides Municipalities an opportunity to earn points for implementing various ordinances up grades that protect floodplain areas in return for a reduction in flood insurance rates for local residents. It is still early in the process but will keep Council posted as things go on.

Mr. Close reported on sewers, metering, and I & I program. We have a meeting scheduled with DELCORA later this month to discuss the metering program, some of our observations, some of our concerns and suggestions and will report on this later. As part of our I & I work we are going to be doing some night time investigation in our Meter 2 area. We check at night time to see what we see and check some anomalies we are picking up at #2 and we want to see what is going on at night time.

Mr. Close reported that DELCORA issued new rules and regulation in affluent limitations. They do this from time to time and issued this to all member municipalities within DELCORA's tributary areas. They do this to align their regulations with the Philadelphia standards and also updates with EPA and PADEP. We will be requested to adopt a resolution to adopt these new ordinances. This is similar to a process we did in 1991 and 1995. Mr. Seflin, our Solicitor, will take this and put it through the process and early in 2012 this will come to Council for consideration.

Mr. Close reported on our CDBG program we received the application package and the application is due January 11, 2012. As part of this process a Public Hearing is required. Mr. Close will make a presentation followed by Q & A. at the CDBG hearing. There is a tight time frame, we get the application early in November; the application is due in January and we have to squeeze in a hearing. This hearing is usually held at our December Council Meeting. Mr. Close asked for a motion that we advertise for the public hearing for the 2012 CDBG application. Councilmen Coppola made a motion to hold a special Public Hearing meeting on December 14, 2011 at 7:30 PM in the William Reinl Recreation Building for the CDBG application requirement, seconded by Councilmen Xavier and unanimously approved.

Dan Procopio asked where Meter area 2 is and how many meters are in Aldan. Mr. Close responded we have 2 meters; one is by the Lobbs Run Interceptor and the other is on the Rively Avenue area just before it goes into Collingdale. Dan asked if that is where we had previous problems. Mr. Close responded yes.

Mike Ceci asked what could be the cause of the possible anomalies at the meter 2 area. Mr. Close explained this is 2 fold; as part of our ongoing I & I effort to find and remove excess water this is something we do on an ongoing basis and we look at different parts of the Borough each year and it is that time to look at that part of the system. Also in looking at some of the meter records we have noticed that our flows have gone up over the last 2 years in that area but Collingdale's flows have gone down.

So we are looking for obvious things and see if there is some reason for that or if something is happening that should not be happening we want to find it and report it to DELCORA right away to make sure we are not being bills for something we shouldn't be. That is an example of what we would be looking for.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Tartaglia had nothing to report for the Planning Commission.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mrs. Brookes will report for the Historical Commission during her regular report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilwoman Owen reported trash will not be collected on Thursday, November 24, 2011 because it is Thanksgiving Day but will be collected on Friday, November 25, 2011.

Councilwomen Owen reported on October 29th the 3rd Prescription Take Back Event was held. This is a Nationwide Event and held on the same day across the Country to collect unused and expired medications from home to prevent misuse and abuse. In Delaware County 13 boroughs participated. In Aldan we used all 4 of the containers that were provided for us for the collection of pill, liquids, creams and inhaled medications. The amount we were able to collect totaled more than 123 pounds which surpassed the totals of many of the other boroughs that participated. Despite the weather all in all this was definitely a worthwhile event.

Councilwomen Owen reported curbside recycling plans are proceeding at rapid speed. The bins have been ordered and we were notified today that production should be completed tomorrow. From order to production was a little more than one week. The education materials are at the printers and the Committee is going to be meeting to decide the best method for delivery of the bins to the Borough and from the Borough to the residents.

Dan Procopio asked if there was a date set for the meeting yet. Councilwomen Owen responded not yet. Dan asked if we could post the date on the web site. The response was we can do that.

HIGHWAY

Councilmen Cosgrove reported we opened 4 sealed bids last week at Caucus. A to U Services of Sharon Hill, Phillips Enterprise of Aldan, Traboschia of Clifton Hts., and J & P Fencing of Glenolden all bid on the Snow Removal.

Two of the company's bids were high and could be eliminated quickly based on their price and that left 2 companies to review. There was a difference between them: one had a single bid for all trucks and the other had a two tier level pricing (one price for a smaller truck and one price for a larger truck). To get a number to be comparable to the single pricing Councilmen Cosgrove went back to our previous bills. We have used this contractor before and we had 5 years worth of data. It turns out on average he charged the higher rate 74% of the time. In calculating his number I took 74% of his higher truck number and 26% of his lower truck number and took the composite number and that number was higher than the single bid price of \$72.00. So Traboschia Company was the low bidder and Traboschia met all the other specification requirements as set in our specification package. Councilmen Cosgrove made a motion to award the single year 2011-2012 Winter Service Contract to Traboschia Company of Clifton Heights, seconded by Councilmen Xavier and unanimously approved.

Anthony Tartaglia commented normally when you have a discrepancy in a contract you either re-let the contract or ask for a clarification by the bidder. Mr. Tartaglia was wondering about the legality or the ethics in interpreting for someone what their bid was. Councilmen Cosgrove responded we did the exact same process the last time we did this. Mr. Tartaglia said you already voted on this I am just questioning whether or not it is ethical for you to take somebody's past bills, interpret what they are going to charge without giving both parties opportunity to re-bid. Mr. Seflin commented under the bid specifications the bidders have some latitude because some days you may not need the bigger truck and some days you need the big truck. Traboschia's was a very level bid and the bid we received from A to U Services was in different tiers. That is up to the bidders to do that, it is not determinative on Council to accept that bid if we determine through experience that is one of the criteria under Pennsylvania Law that the Boroughs absolutely can use to determine whether a bid is low bid you can use experience to analyze the bid. Mr. Tartaglia asked wouldn't you have to apply that equally to all bidders and if you have no experience on one how do you do that. Mr. Seflin said that is why he is getting a 1 year contract and based on experience Traboschia is going to charge us less than A to U. Mr. Tartaglia said you don't have experience with Traboschia, you have no way of making that statement. Mr. Seflin said Traboschia was level there was not two tiers like we had with A to U. A to U when they had the opportunity 74% of the time they chose to use the higher value. Mr. Tartaglia asked was there a phone call made to both bidders. Mr. Seflin explained that is illegal you don't negotiate post bidding.

Dan Procopio asked if Traboschia had experience plowing any other Boroughs. Mr. Seflin explained yes he submitted a package with other Municipalities that he has done. Dan asked if we called any of the other Boroughs about the service they provided. Councilmen Cosgrove's response was no.

Dan Procopio asked what the status of the LED lights. Councilmen Cosgrove responded if you remember from last month we requested a change of scope to allow us to include the yellow lights at no additional money because the bid came in lower than the amount we received. We have not heard an answer yet and we were told last week it take as long as six weeks to get an answer. Councilmen Cosgrove called Republic ITS in Massachusetts explained the situation and asked if 6 weeks was a problem for them. They would rather do the red, green, and yellow all at the same time rather than have to come back, so it would not be a problem. We are on hold till Harrisburg responds.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilmen Coppola had nothing new to report tonight.

Dan Procopio commented the marking in the parking lot at No Name for the handicap parking is not correct, were we going to take care of this. President Short and Councilmen Coppola have not been contacted or know of any issues with the markings at the No Name Store.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUILDINGS

Councilmen Baker had nothing new to report this month.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Brooks is presenting Council tonight with the 2012 Preliminary Budget for acceptance. A copy of the Preliminary Budget will be available tomorrow at the Municipal Building for public inspection. Currently we are facing a deficit but we are diligently working on this budget and will continue to examine line by line to make sure we budget the Borough's income in the best possible way. There are several variables we do not have available at this time but we anticipate receiving the information in time to have the final budget ready to present at the December Council Meeting. Councilwomen Brookes made a motion to accept the 2012 Preliminary Budget as presented, seconded by Councilmen Coppola and unanimously approved.

Councilwomen Brookes reported the Historical Commission is getting ready to decorate the Trolley Stop for Christmas. The Historical Commission will be present at the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 3rd. We invite everyone to come this is really a nice program and is getting bigger and bigger each year. The Boosters run a great show and the Historical Commission is glad to be a part of it.

Dan Procopio asked about the Preliminary Budget isn't it customary to list numbers in the motion as to what revenue and expenses are expected to be. Councilwomen Brookes explained our biggest problem is there are a couple of major variables we have not gotten, one being the DELCORA amount and another being the assessment for the real estate. Dan asked you must have some kind of guesstimation. President Short responded yes we do and that will be available at the Municipal Building tomorrow.

LAW, ORDINANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilmen Xavier reported for the Fire Marshal for October, 2011 there were 4 calls responded to by Collingdale Fire companies #1 and #2 all resulted in no injuries. During the month of October, 2011 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 36 calls in the Borough of Aldan.

Fire Prevention week was in October. Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and 2 visited Aldan Elementary School and a presentation was made to the students on fire safety and an inspection was made of school property.

A note from the Fire Marshal: as we approach the winter months, I am asking all residents to have their heaters serviced and cleaned, this season always brings an increase in alarms due to faulty/dirty heaters and fire places, and I am also asking all residents to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Councilmen Xavier reported for the month of October 39 Building permits were issued with a construction value of \$164,530.00; there were 31 Transfer and Mid-term inspections by the Residential Inspector; and 2 Plumbing permits issued with a construction value of \$9,539.00.

Dan Procopio asked if there was a Zoning Hearing Scheduled for an action on Shisler Avenue. Anthony Tartaglia explained there was a Zoning Hearing but it was convened and continued because there was a conflict with the Zoning Solicitor and the applicant. The next date will be December 5th. Another attorney from Jim Byrne's office had the applicant as a client. Jim Byrne felt uncomfortable sitting in the meeting. They opened the meeting and immediately move to reconvened on December 5th in the Reinl Building at 7:30. Mr. Sefflin asked if the applicant was getting a new attorney. Mr. Tartaglia responded no, our Zoning Board Solicitor will have another attorney sit not from his office. Dan asked if the hearings could be posted on the web site for people to know those meetings were taking place. Mr. Tartaglia responded the meeting was advertised in the newspaper twice on two consecutive weeks prior to the hearing. We did post the property and did advertise in the newspaper. The property will be posted with the new date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 PM.; and Council will meet on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 8:00 PM. On Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 7:30 in the Reinl Recreation Building we will also have a Public Hearing required for our CDBG grant application.

PRIVLIDGE OF THE FLOOR

George Dunton reported the Aldan Boosters Civic Association will be hosting the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 3rd at 6:30 at Aldan Historical Park, Providence Road and Woodlawn Avenue (rain, snow or shine) and all are invited. Something new this year is a video Christmas Cards to all the troops. We partnered with Penn Wood and some of the seniors are helping record a video to the troops and put it on the internet. President Short asked is that for individual people to send if they had a relative or someone overseas. Mr. Dunton explained, anyone if they just want to come up and make a wish to the troops they are welcome to come. We will be advertising but the video will start before the actual tree lighting about 6:00 PM and will be held inside the school. There will be individual messages just like you see on TV.

Dan Procopio asked if he could get the account balances for the General Reserve and the Sewer Reserve. Councilwomen Brookes responded the Reserve amount is the same as last month plus interest

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilwomen Brookes seconded by Councilmen Cosgrove and unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary