

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

November 10, 2010

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 Center on the above date with Vice-President Xavier presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Vice-President Xavier.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: P. Brookes; T. Owen; M. Xavier;
S. Coppola; J. Cosgrove; R. Baker

Council members absent: H. Short

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

Officers absent: None

Vice-President Xavier turned the meeting over to Mayor Hopely who then asked Councilwomen Brookes to introduce Cyle Cavanagh. Councilwomen Brookes said we feel extremely fortunate to be able to add a part time police officer to our force who has such good character and qualifications. Cyle graduated from Interboro High School in June of 2007. He was active at Interboro High with being a member of student council, class congress, president of the art service club and a lead fund raiser for cancer research. He was captain of the relay team as well. In June of 2008 Cyle attended and graduated from the Delaware County Police Academy. He began full time work with the Delaware County Park Police. Cyle comes highly recommended by the command staff at the Park Police. Cyles mother, Colleen and father, Charles are with him tonight. Councilwomen Brookes made a motion to appoint Cyle Cavanagh as a part time police officer in the Borough of Aldan, seconded by Councilmen Baker and unanimously approved.

Mayor Hopely did swear in Cyle Cavanagh.

Vice-President Xavier asked Councilmen Coppola to introduce a few other people in the audience tonight. Councilmen Xavier introduced R J Garrish and Alex Lowry from Boy Scout Troop #2 who are trying to earn a communications badge for their troop. They are here to witness our meeting and take notes and we wish them luck with their endeavor.

MINUTES

On a motion made by P. Brookes seconded by R. Baker minutes from the October 13, 2010, 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 officers continue in service training. Officer Coppola attended a seminar dealing with Protection from Abuse orders as it relates to domestic violence situations. Officers who attend these seminars bring the information back to all members of the police department. The police department has received matching grant funds from the federal government in the amount of \$4,500.00 for bullet proof vests. We are also close to receiving funds from the state through Senator Erickson which will provide for a new police car. We should be able to report on that further next month. We have also received a \$10,000.00 grant from the state for new computer equipment.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

TREASURER

Mrs. Quinn reported in the beginning of the year a report filed with the state concerning the Public Utilities Realty Taxes (PERTA) and this month we received our 2010 allocation for 2009 taxes with the amount being \$1,380.79 which was about \$60.00 more than last year

Terry Quinn read the Treasurer's Report:

| | <u>General Fund</u> | <u>State Highway Fund</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Balance of cash on hand | \$ 760,506.29 | \$ 8,623.73 |
| Receipts for period | \$ 81,364.76 | |
| Interest | | \$.77 |
| Expenditures Prior Month | \$ 209,703.20 | \$ 7,455.28 |
| Balance | \$ 632,167.85 | \$ 1,169.22 |

Terry Quinn asked Council's approval this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$694,843.55, Mrs. Quinn explained of this amount \$169,528.54 are for our monthly bills the balance of that \$525,315.01 are a transfer of funds to our Beneficial Bank account. Recently we started a relationship with Beneficial Bank and these checks are being used to transfer funds from our current Commerce Bank account to Beneficial. Councilwomen Owen 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 Brookes and unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Sefflin reported our 2009 Tax Delinquent Program we have 13 outstanding delinquents 12 of which will be subject to a hearing as a result of law suites we filed. Those hearing are currently scheduled for Thursday, December 2, 2010 in front of Judge Perfetti on Garrett Road in Upper Darby. One of the 13 has been reported on previously, these folks have filed for bankruptcy. Prior to a hearing in Bankruptcy Court in order to allow us to pursue them outside the relief from the automatic stay and agreement was reached whereby our liens against that property would be permitted within their plan. Hopefully within the next 60 months we will be getting all of our liens paid. Our 2008 Delinquency Program we now have 1 delinquency left. We received a payment last month of \$1,800.00 for the property at 108 W. Maryland Avenue. We did receive 3 payments last month to conclude payment plans for 2009, these were folks who entered into a 90 day payment plan.

Mr. Sefflin commented on the contract that was awarded for trash removal. We did prepare a contract and it was forwarded to Suburban Waste Management and they have 10 days to return the signed contract which will be Thursday or Friday at the latest.

Dan Procopio asked if they do not return the contract what are the consequences. Mr. Sefflin explained that Council could void the contract and re-bid. Councilwomen Owen commented that she did hear from Suburban Waste Services and they will have the signed contract in your hands tomorrow.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported on the Lobbs Run Phase I Interceptor Slip Lining Project this work has been completed. The contractor is in the process of finishing up our punch list and is scheduled to be completed by next Friday, November 19th. On the Lobbs Run Phase II, the lower portion of our interceptor, is also a Slip Lining Project we submitted plans and bid documents to the County on September 30th and we expect to get a notice to proceed in early to mid December and we will be able to put that out for bid in December and we would open bids in January or February and a start of construction in March or April of 2011. Mr. Close will keep Council posted.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Dan Procopio reported they are reviewing several plans that Council has asked them to look at.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Peggy Brookes reported we will be meeting next Wednesday and we are in the process of getting bids for the outlining lighting of the Trolley Stop with LED lights. We hope to have this work done before the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 4th thanks to contributions from the Boosters, fund raising money we made at Founders Day and money from our budget. We will be there at the Tree Lighting with cider and cookies for everyone to enjoy. Santa will also make an appearance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilwoman Owen reported there will be no trash collection on Thursday, November 25th in observance of Thanksgiving; trash collection will be on Friday, November 26th.

HIGHWAY

Councilmen Cosgrove reported he spoke with Aqua representatives yesterday as to the status of their effort as to what is going on in town. Aqua has been in town a long time and doing a lot of work. Almost every section has something going on either digging up the street to replace the mains or repair of the mains. The project is winding down; they are on schedule and expect to be finished in the next two weeks. It was a lot of effort and that effort was worth it because they will be saving problems in the future because of preventative maintenance. It is easier to fix things in advance rather than in an emergency situation.

Councilmen Cosgrove wanted to remind everyone that tomorrow is Veterans Day so please take a moment to remember our Veterans of the United States because without them we would not be sitting here tonight doing what we are doing.

Dan Procopio asked how Aqua was going to be doing the paving. It looks like the areas they dug it out and put down a base coat and wait till it is all finished before they do a top coat. Councilmen Cosgrove did not speak specifically about that but that would make sense to do it that way.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilmen Coppola had nothing new to report tonight.

PUBLIC SAFETY/ HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Councilwomen Brookes reported on the Fire Marshal's report for August. Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 5 calls during the month and the Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 30 calls in the Borough. During the month of September Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 6 calls and the Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 43 calls in the Borough. Collingdale Fire Company #1, its Ambulance/Paramedics, and Collingdale Fire Company #2 and its Rescue truck participated in Aldan Safety Day. The Fire Marshal also wanted us to know the female victim from the fire that occurred May 14, 2010 had died on September 30, 2010. The case has been referred to the Medical Examiners Office and I am waiting for a cause of death before releasing any further details. For the month of October Collingdale Companies #1 and #2 responded to 4 calls in the Borough and Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 44 calls in the Borough. Fire Prevention week was October 3 thru October 9, 2010 Collingdale Fire Companies #1 & #2 visited Aldan Elementary School and a presentation was made to the students on fire safety and an inspection was made of school property. The Fire Marshal also asked as we approach the winter months is 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. He is also asking all residents to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Councilwomen Brookes reported the current Police contract is expiring this year and we have been in negotiations for the past couple months. We are happy to report the Fraternal Order of Police and Borough Council have reached an agreement beginning January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2015. This is a 5 year contract and as far as wages beginning January, 2011 the annual base wage for each police officer will increase an additional 3 ½ % and the following 4 years beginning January 1, 2012 each year the annual base wage for each police officer will increase an additional 3%. In the area of Medical Benefits we are switching from Independence Blue Cross Personal Choice to Keystone Health Plan East Direct Point of Service Plan. The Officers and their dependents will not be required to incur out of pocket expenses for a medical service other than the co-pays that are required. Councilwomen Brookes made a motion to accept the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 27 and the Council for the Borough of Aldan as presented, seconded by Councilmen Coppola and unanimously approved.

Dan Propocio asked if there is an estimated annual cost increase to the Borough for this contract over the 5 year period. Vice-President Xavier explained we take the agreement and there is a calculation used called the consolidated agreement and this documentation is in there. When this is completed this will be available at the Borough.

Dan asked if this only applies to the full time officers. Councilmen Xavier responded yes that is correct, full time FOP members and this includes the Chief.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUILDINGS

Councilmen Baker reported the Rec Building repairs have been completed. We got a new roof, new gutters, new drain, new siding and new garage doors. There was also a re-inspection of the Municipal Building and there is damage to the roof. The inspector was due out this week but had a family emergency so he will be out Monday of next week. This is the inspector from the insurance company.

FINANCE

Councilmen Xavier reported the preliminary budget will be prepared and advertised within the next 10 days. We usually have this for the November meeting but we were waiting for the new health care figures to come out, the Collective Bargaining Agreement, the Sanitation contract, the rates for DELCORA, but we are on schedule with the information we have right now to adopt the Final Budget once we get the preliminary budget done first, we will be ready by the General Meeting in December.

LAW, ORDINANCE & BUILDING

Vice-President Xavier reported for President Short for the month of October we had 86 Building Permits issued with a construction value of \$421,028.65; and there were 29 Mid-Term/Transfer Inspections.

Dan Procopio asked if we terminated our business with Commerce Bank and moved all the funds to Beneficial Bank. Councilmen Xavier responded yes that is correct. Dan asked if the Highway Fund was only \$763.19 for this month as opposed to a larger sum in previous months. The Treasurer explained the balance; the other \$6,000.00 had to come out of the General Fund because all the Liquid Fuel Funds are used up. Dan commented there was some discussion earlier this year about an auditor finding, where you would transfer money and you are not doing that any more because of that auditor finding. The Treasurer responded they brought it to our attention this year. Also normally at the end of the year we do not transfer any funds into the Highway Fund, we deplete. We are transferring funds at the beginning of the year until the Liquid Fuel Funds come in and then we would transfer the money we took back and then use the Liquid Fuel Funds for the balance of the year and whatever we did not have at the end of the year we would take out of the General Fund. Dan asked what the total balances are in the two fund we have. Mrs. Quinn answered the combined total \$800,961.73. Dan asked about the Preliminary Budget as he understands it by Borough Code that had to be 30 days prior to the passage of the Final Budget. Mr. Seflin responded only 10 days. Dan asked if there will be a special meeting for the Preliminary Budget to be passed prior to the meeting of Council to meet the requirement. Mr. Seflin and Councilmen Xavier said 10 days after we advertise. Mr. Seflin also commented we have a whole month so we will advertise the budget in the next few days and within 10 days of the action the Preliminary Budget will be available. Mr. Seflin said his suspicion is it will be available more than 20 days. Mr. Seflin commented that by Thanksgiving or even the week before Mike will have the Preliminary Budget done which is more than 10 days before the next Council Meeting. Councilmen Xavier explained now that we have the Police Contract behind us we will focus all our efforts on getting the Budget handled. Mr. Seflin explained there have been a couple of times in the past when we have not had what DELCORA's costs are going to be. This year as Councilmen Xavier explained before we had the Police Budget and we had to wait and just received today the figures on the Health Care coverage for the Police. We had to wait till all these things came in so Councilmen Xavier and his committee could prepare a preliminary budget. Charlie Duffy commented that the DELCORA budget should be ready by this time next week. Councilmen Xavier also explained that we are not starting on the budget the Treasurer, Mrs. Quinn has been plugging numbers into our formula on Excel and we do have preliminary numbers from some of the committees so now we need to get down to the nitty-gritty and formulate it and see where we are.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There is no unfinished business this month.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice-President Xavier reported Caucus will be Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 P.M.; and Council will meet on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. in an executive session and regular session at 8:00 P.M. at the William Reindl Recreation Center.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Dan Procopio wanted to remind everyone the Booster's Tree Lighting Ceremony with the kind assistance of the Historical Commission is scheduled for Saturday, December 4th at 6:30 PM, everyone should be getting a flyer and please come out and join us it is a great time. This will be our 4th ceremony.

Councilmen Coppola commented he failed to recognize another guest tonight a young lady who has been taking notes for a school project and we thank you for coming to our meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilmen Baker 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