

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

September 14, 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; M. Xavier;
J. Cosgrove; R. Baker; S. Coppola

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 August 10, 2011, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

No written correspondence tonight.

VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE

No verbal correspondence tonight.

MAYOR REPORT

President Short turned the meeting over Mayor Hopely. Mayor Hopely gave some background information on Brian Fish. Brian's parents John and Carol Fish are here tonight. Brian is a lifelong Aldan resident. Brian graduated in 2000 from the Christian Academy in Brookhaven and he graduated in 2003 from the Delaware County Police Academy. Brian worked in Aldan from 2003 to 2007 when he left to accept a full-time job in Elkton, Maryland. He returned to Delaware County and work for Collingdale Police Department until August of this year and in August returned to Aldan Police Department.

We are extremely fortunate to have an officer with Brian's experience in law enforcement want to come back to Aldan to work for our Police Department. Mayor Hopely swore in Brian Fish as a part-time Aldan Police Officer.

Mayor Hopely swore in John White as the Code Enforcement Officer in Aldan Borough.

Mayor Hopely wanted to remind everyone please remember that school is back in session please remember that our children are walking in the area of our school they will also be walking to bus stops to go to other area schools. The Police Department strictly enforces the 15 mph school zone each and every day.

Mayor Hopely also want to remind everyone that Safety Day is Saturday, September 17 and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

TREASURER

Terry Quinn mentioned that a few months ago we established a capital sewer reserve fund this month we established a working sewer fund. This represents year to date sewer taxes income less DELCORA and other sanitary sewer expenses. The amount transfer this fund in total was \$273,648.67. Moving forward all sanitary sewer expenses will be taken from this fund.

Terry Quinn read the Treasurer’s Report:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>State Highway Fund</u>
Balance of cash on hand	\$ 710,456.50	\$ 47,658.12
Receipts for period	\$ 208,761.47	
Interest		\$ 8.13
Expenditures Prior Month	\$ 117,374.59	\$ 7,232.81
YTD Transfer to Sewer Fund	\$ 185,658.67	
Balance	\$ 616,184.71	\$ 40,433.44

Terry is asking council’s approval to release funds from the State Highway Fund totaling \$ 7,444.51. Terry is also asking Council’s approval to release check this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$429,323.20 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 2009 Sewer and Trash delinquencies; we had nine total delinquencies as of last month of which two are in bankruptcy. Since last month that number has been reduced to 7 with one delinquency being totally paid off the other is a commercial property under a payment plan. Just today the Borough received a payment of \$1,421.50 towards the total debt from 2009 of \$4,264.49.

We went down from 9 to 7 and on one of the bankruptcies we did receive a check for \$33.03 that is a Chapter 13 bankruptcy. For 2010 as of last month we had 20 delinquencies including one in bankruptcy. At the current time we have 12 delinquencies still outstanding there is one property that is under a payment plan. We have made significant progress since last month between the last Council Meeting and today we have received checks amounting to \$11,290.55. Mr. Seflin will keep Council up to date on these delinquencies.

Mr. Seflin has been working with Councilmen Cosgrove to prepare the specifications and advertise the LED modules being installed in all of our traffic signals. We anticipate the sealed bids be opened at Caucus on October 5th.

Dan Procopio asked if the LED contract has been advertised. Mr. Seflin responded it will be advertised twice. It has been advertised once and the second advertisement will be next week or the following week. Councilman Cosgrove reported we have had seven requests for specifications already.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported we have been working on a number of ongoing projects unfortunately due to the significant rain through August and September we have responded to some storm and sewer related complaints and issues. The projects we have been working on our the 2012 CDBG application, MPDS MS 4 program, our 2011 Road Program, DELCORA, Delaware County Planning Department Act 537 plan update, and coordinating on some metering issues with DELCORA. Nothing specific to report on but will be available during other committee reports.

President Short recognized Paul Becker from 36 N. Clifton Ave. who last month had some concerns about the water on W. Wayne Ave. Councilmen Coppola along with Kelly/Close Engineers has come up with a possible solution. PJ did go out when we had a couple rain events and did note that a significant amount of flow that is feeding the puddle problem at the end of W. Wayne Ave. that is coming off of Clifton Avenue. Even though the two inlets are not tied to any storm sewer they do drain, even though it is slow. One recommendation is to potentially construct a 15 foot wide paving hump at the mouth of the road and that would keep the water on Clifton Avenue as opposed to turning down W. Wayne Ave. This would not stop all the water but maybe the majority of it. Mr. Becker asked how soon that would take place. We have just started to look at this and Councilman Coppola will look at the numbers in the budget. We are getting to the end of the year and we need to see what kind of money we have left to do that, if it's not done at the end of this year it would be budgeted for the following year as soon as the weather would permit. It would go out to bid in the spring or if it was a low enough price we could take telephone bids. Councilman Coppola will keep you informed after the checks the budget figures.

Dan Procopio asked if there was an estimated budget as to the cost of that project up Wayne Avenue and Clifton Avenue. Also will the inlets further down Clifton Avenue be able to handle the water that is being diverted down Clifton Avenue. Mr. Close commented there are not too many inlets going down Clifton Avenue until you get the intersection there are a lot of inlets at the intersection and Mr. Close is confident that they are sized appropriately to handle the excess water. It seems like a lot of water on Wayne Avenue because it's a small area and the water going along the gutter should be no problem for the inlets at Clifton, Springfield and Woodlawn intersection. President Short estimated it could be around the \$5000 mark.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilwoman Owen reported the Third National Prescription Take Back Event will be held on October 29 throughout the Country. Chief Coppola has already registered Aldan as a participating host site. Councilwoman Owen and Officer Jackson will be at the Municipal Building collecting expired and unused prescriptions and over-the-counter drugs that day from 10 AM to 2 PM. Councilwoman Owen will have more information at next months meeting. The County is hosting the third and fourth Household Hazardous Waste Collection. The first event will be held on September 15 at Rose Tree Park, this event is held rain or shine from 9:00 AM to 3 PM. The fourth and final one for the year will be held on October 15 at the Upper Chichester Municipal Building. They will collect pesticides, toxics, caustics, flammables, lead acid batteries and cell phones. At the last two events they will be collecting computer equipment including scanners, printers, fax machines, and portable TVs less than 27 inches.

Councilwoman Owen reported on the curbside recycling. Because it is acceptable to ask haulers if they would like to submit informal bids that is what we decided. Councilwoman Owen prepared a memo to Mayor Hopely and the other Council members letting them know the outcome. We reached out to the five local haulers in the area Accurate, J P Mascaro, Republic, formerly known as McCusker and Ogborne, Waste Management and Suburban Waste Services. Two of the haulers decline bidding; Waste Management and JP Mascaro the reason they decline bidding was because they believe they would only be able to bid in a formal contract because their prices would exceeded the \$10,000 total contract. Accurate Recycling, Republic and Suburban Waste Services were willing to place an informal bid pending receipt and review of our specifications which were faxed to them that day. We have heard back from Suburban Waste Services and Accurate Recycling. Accurate Recycling bid was ineligible to be accepted and we did not receive a bid from Republic. Suburban Waste Services reviewed the specifications and submitted a bid for \$9,900 for a one contract year beginning January 1, 2012. Lou Bizzari, from Suburban Waste Services, understands that we would like to implement this program to become environmentally conscious along with the other boroughs in the county who already have curbside recycling. Also to help us divert our recyclables from the solid waste stream and put them into the recycling stream and we would be able to yield the savings that we are currently paying to the Solid Waste Authority. We will also be able to capitalize on some of the totals by submitting to the state our Performance Recycling Grant and yield a better return. Mr. Bizzari thinks this is a very good town to work in and we have provided him with work for seven years with more to come and he wants to give back to this community. With that being said, Councilwoman Owen made a motion to accept the bid from Suburban Waste Services for curbside recycling for the calendar year January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 for total contract price of \$9,900 seconded by Councilman Xavier. President Short commented before we go to a vote want to open up discussion. Mr. Seflin commented that contracts under the Borough Code is a three-step process, large contracts, anything over \$10,000 has to be a formal bid with specifications and be advertised with sealed bids submitted, a very formal process; there are also smaller contracts, anything \$4,000 or less, the borough can just enter into it; between \$4000 and \$10,000 you need to solicit at least three bids, by phone or fax or e-mail. In this case the borough solicited five bids from local area haulers; this is the informal bidding process. This process was prudent to the taxpayers we did not have a lot of time and money, advertising bids and seeking formal bids as well as putting that \$10,000 cap. If we did not receive any bids under \$10,000 we would have to either scrap the recycling program altogether or formerly bid it and see where the prices came and Borough Council could make a decision.

We do have a bid from a responsible bidder. Mike Ceci asked if this is a once a week pickup and is the plan to start in January. Councilwoman Owen responded this is a once a week pickup and it will start in January and the specifications call for a Friday pickup. John McBlain asked is the borough going to give recycling bins to the residents. Councilwoman Owen explained we apply for a grant through the state and we were awarded a \$24,990 grant. The grant monies were for the start up cost for the program which includes advertising, education, providing every residence with a bin and re-education after we see how the first months of the program are working. Every residence will have a dedicated bin to use for their recyclable. Mr. McBlain commented even the start up will not cost the taxpayers any money. Mr. McBlain asked if you put the paper, bottles and cans all in the same bin. Councilwoman Owen explained you would put your aluminum, plastic, paper and glass all in the same container. You may bundle your papers to put on the side to make more room. When the bins are given out residents will receive paperwork what is acceptable for recycling. There will also be newsletter mailings to all the residents and a magnet to remind people what can and cannot go in the bins. Mr. McBlain asked between the weight of the trash taken out of our regular trash days and the recycling grants that we get that we would end up saving an amount that would be in excess of what we would pay. Councilwoman Owen, explained it could very well be, if this is a successful program, in the beginning we could expect to remove about 10% from the solid waste stream. Last year we paid \$55,000 to the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority so that would be a \$5,500 savings. We currently have a recycling budget of \$3,000 and we received a grant last year for \$4,700.00. Those monies added up will be more than the \$9,900 we will pay the hauler. President Short commented if the money goes down for the recyclables we don't get hurt. The way, Councilwoman Owen has it set up we would be protected and the hauler is taking all the risks. We have a motion on the floor and it has been seconded to award the recycling contract to Suburban Waste Services for the calendar year of 2012 for the amount of \$9,900, all in favor, the motion carries. A resident ask if they currently recycle in the Elementary School. Councilwoman Owen did not know the answer to that question but that is something on the-to-do list, to speak to them, we are not sure what the School District does or Aldan School does individually. Resident commented, kids go home and talk to their parents and you may see more of the parents getting into recycling because the kids are encouraging them. Mr. Sefflin commented, it is in the bid specifications that if there is recycling in William Penn School Districts properties located within the Borough Aldan and also Municipal Buildings it is the duty of the contractor to pickup the recycling. Mike Ceci asked what the contract period for our waste pickup is. Councilwoman Owen responded it was for five years and extends to December 31, 2015. Mike Ceci asked we will not be at any risk with this current recycling contract for the next year; the hauler will be responsible for any kind of risk. Also if the price of the recycling commodity goes up the hauler would get the benefit from that. If we see that is what is happening after a year, would we re-negotiate? President Short commented this is a one-year contract and we can review from year to year. Councilman Owen commented we do not know how the market will be but the thought would let the hauler absorbed that, that is the way most other programs in the county operate, so the hauler gets the checks but they also get the bills depending on the commodity. Dan Procopio asked can any of the grant money can go towards the contract that was just voted on and once this program starts will the dumpster behind the elementary school be removed. Councilwoman Owen responded grant money cannot be used towards the contract but the specifications include a 30 yard dumpster to be placed in a designated area so that residents can have the option of a drop off site to be used for any single stream products. Will the county recycling bins behind Giant Food Store also be there to use. Councilman Owen explained they will stay there and Aldan will still yield the benefit the weight by tonnage that they calculate for us as they currently do and that is applied to the recycling grant total.

Dan commented the scouts will still be able to collect the aluminum cans, as a fundraiser event, and the totals still count for our recycling totals. President Short commented the discussion on recycling has been going on for several years with Councilwoman Owen heading up the review and each year we reviewed recycling it would cost the Borough money. At this time President Short would like to thank the Office of State Representative Nick Micozzie with helping with the grant and Aldan to start this program with the containers and education materials that will be sent out to the residents about recycling. President Short wanted to thank Councilwoman Owen for her years of sticking with this project and also Councilwoman Brooks who was also very involved in the project. Thanks again.

HIGHWAY

Councilman Cosgrove reported there has been seven sets of specs picked up the LED project, there are at least two more sets to be picked up with still two weeks to go for advertising. With that many sets picked up that would be a large number of people bidding on this project and that could only help with pricing.

Councilmen Cosgrove reported on the 2011 Road Program will finally start next week after delays for various reasons including most recently the weather. John McBlain asked about the LED lights. When we switch out all the red, yellow, and green traffic lights to the energy-efficient LED lights do we have projections of how much energy that will save and how many dollars that will save. Councilmen Cosgrove explained, it is 70% of the energy generation transmission and is 0% of the distribution. If we were buying the LED lights, and not using a grant, the payback would have been within three years. Anything from three years on would have been making money. Since we have a grant we will be making money from day one but it's 70% of the generation transmission portion, which is still significant dollars. Mr. McBlain asked what the projected savings is annually. Councilmen Cosgrove explained he does not have that today but can get those numbers. Mr. McBlain asked what the total contract amount we are anticipating. Councilmen Cosgrove reported the numbers we used for the grant were generated on the purchase of red and green bulbs from Signal Service Corporation, who is our maintenance contractor, that was the cost to purchase and install them and that was \$22,000, so our grant request and check was for \$22,000. The question is after we get the bids if there is significant difference in the lowest price and the \$22,000 can we go back to Harrisburg and amend the scope of work. We did not include the yellow lights, because yellow lights were only used 2% of the time and it was cost prohibitive to do that. When we first spoke to Signal Service back in 2009 we left yellow lights off the grid, with the grant if that money is available based on the bid versus \$22,000 we may go back and ask for the yellow lights and some other things we left out based on our return investment. Mr. McBlain remarked based on a \$22,000 project and the payback in three years that is roughly a \$7000 or \$8000 a year savings plus using less energy. President Short asked what the longevity of the project is. Councilmen Cosgrove explained the LED lights are good for five years so will be also saving maintenance. President Short commented that this would be a good thing for the Borough. Councilman Cosgrove also commented as part of the bid specifications the supplier is required to support the warrantee, which is five years, so whoever is awarded this contract is responsible for the next five years to replace anything. President Short commented it's just another step forward for the Borough of Aldan going green.

Dan Procopio asked what the status of the Aqua Repaving Project, there are lots of markings and cuts, when are they going to start, is this project going to be done prior to our program. Councilmen Cosgrove explained there is no overlap, those that were going to overlap we did not put into the program based on Aqua advising us what was going to be done and what schedule we had to do those that were common we just left them off with the result that we would have less to do next year. Anthony Tartaglia, Councilmen Cosgrove met with Aqua last week and Mr. Tartaglia also met with them today to walk the project and make a list and note what needs to be covered by Aqua to finalize the program. Aqua has done all the work and its repaving time. What's going to be repaid based on our revised ordinance there agreement or disagreement and then negotiations. Mr. Tartaglia received a call this afternoon and Aqua has agreed to everything we want and they should be out within the next 10 days to do the restoration.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilmen Coppola reported at Caucus last week that we had weathered the storms well between the hurricanes and the heavy rain events but since that time we've had a couple problems in town, some road collapses; one at Glenwood Avenue and Aldan Avenue and another one at Woodlawn Avenue and W. Wayne Ave. we are working with Kelly and Close to have those areas repaired, one was repaired today, so that work is ongoing. We also had a problem where our Lobbs Run Interceptor connects with the DELCORA's line close to Hoffman Park down in the woods. It was a pretty severe break and overflow was determined to be a DELCORA's problem and not ours. This was from a blockage in Lansdowne that backed up to that point where our interceptor connects with DELCORA's and it was overflowing out the manhole so it appeared to be a problem for Aldan and at the time but as the flows went down and the obstruction was removed in Lansdowne it was determined that it was a DELCORA problem. Mr. Close commented, after storms we like to look at especially the Lobbs Run project that was just done and our guy was just walking the line to look at it and smelled sewage and went down there and saw what was going on, this was Thursday afternoon, so we called Darby Creek Joint Authority and said we think you have a break and they were very responsive and got down there that afternoon and set up bypass pumps. We wanted to make sure there wasn't some kind of claim that it was Aldan's problem and fortunately it was on their interceptor and not ours.

Dan Procopio asked what cause the collapse of the two street locations. Councilman Coppola explained the one of Woodlawn Avenue it may be related to the manhole, that's a small collapse inside the manhole. The manhole needs to be rehab as well as the line coming into it, and that is a sanitary sewer line. It is also the sanitary line or Glenwood Avenue which was a crack in the street main that eroded and collapsed the roadway above but that was repaired today, other than the restoration to the roadway. Dan said he saw an excavation Woodlawn Avenue yesterday. Councilmen Coppola responded it was not an excavation it's a temporary plate with cones around it. Dan commented the engineer mentioned something about the metering problem with DELCORA. Mr. Close commented it's that time of year where we are constantly monitoring and looking at the metering results, with the end of the year coming and budgeting coming, and billings we are constantly looking at the quarterly bills and things like that, this is an ongoing process for us. Dan asked could there be debris in the line from Providence Road to Aldan Avenue and was that ever checked. Councilmen Coppola explained we had severe flooding in town there was problems at Magnolia Avenue and Rively Avenue. Our system became so inundated and the systems below us are naturally gravity fed and once they become inundated there is nothing we can do because there is nowhere for that flow to go. We experience severe rain and backups and there was nothing we could do. We could spend a couple million dollars to replace our system but unless the borough's below us do the same thing it's not going to help.

We will do what we can to maintain our own. Dan commented that Providence Road seems to flood more now than it has in the past. Councilman Coppola said, Providence Road has been cleaned and televised but we will look at it again if we think it needs to be checked.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUILDINGS

Councilmen Baker reported that are buildings survived with no damaged but we did have a large branch fall behind the Rec building and that was cleaned up today.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Brooks reported Saturday, September 17th is Founders/Safety Day from 10 to 3 at the Aldan Memorial Park on Providence Rd. There will be a flea market, crafters, and local artist will all be there and as of today there are 21 vendors. We are working with the Police and the Historical Commission for this event. We encourage the residents to come out for a really nice day. There will be lots of food, our Council members and the Boosters do a great job cooking, there will be music by the Lukens Band, sponsored by the Fourth of July, and MoJo 13, we also have our annual cake contest but this year it will be a cupcake contest to be held at one o'clock and we encourage people bring their favorite recipe of homemade cupcakes.

Councilwoman Brooks reported we received two checks from the Auditor General's Office one was for \$2,118.75 which is the 2011 reimbursement to comply with the special ad hoc municipal police and firefighters postretirement adjustment payments and the second check in the amount of \$2100 was for the 2011 reimbursement for the special ad hoc postretirement adjustment paid to qualified retirees of the municipality during the 2010 calendar year. State law requires that the municipality deposit these reimbursements to the municipality's general fund. We have been notified of our Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police Pension Plan for 2012 and our obligation is \$130,530.00, this is a reduction from last year which was hundred and \$143,377.00 which is about \$13,000 less than last year. We do receive State Aid to help with the Borough's obligation but we have not received this amount yet, last year was about 20 or \$25,000.

Dan Procopio asked why the segregation of the funds after all these years for the sewer was there a new law passed or is it just for accounting purposes. Councilwoman Brooks responded it's just for accounting and auditing purposes. Mr. Seflin explained because we tax specifically a sewer rental fee and under the auditor general regulations sewer fees must be spent on transfer fees to DELCORA or on sewer maintenance. President Short commented the amounts were always separated but in one account. We felt it would be better if we just made two accounts and totally separated the two of them so there wouldn't be any confusion. Through the years as Council and Finance people change there could be some doubts about what is actually what so we thought this was the better way to do it. Dan asked if we are going to separate the trash fees also. Mr. Seflin explained it will not be separate, trash is a contract, and sewer is spent on different items of sewer. We have a private hauler that we contract with another's up to the Borough whether it's the general fund or a separate fund. With the sewer some of it is just passed through or spending money on specific items for sewer. Dan asked are the monies reported by the treasurer the current accounts, the monies in the bank to be spent during the fiscal year 2011. The Treasurer responded that is correct.

Dan asked is the reserve fund that is set aside as a fund balance in addition to that money for each of the funds which is the general fund and the sewer fund. Councilwoman Brooks explained the amount in the General Reserve is \$541,146.71 in the amount and the Sewer Capital Reserve is \$298,735.55. Dan asked if this is in addition to the accounts listed by the treasurer earlier. Councilwoman Brooks said that is correct.

LAW, ORDINANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilmen Xavier reported for the month of August, 2011 we had 51 Building Permits issued with a construction value of \$175,190.74 and there were 59 Mid-Term/Transfer Inspections and 4 Plumbing Permits issued with a construction value of \$12,285.00.

Councilmen Xavier reported on the Fire Marshal's Report for August. Collingdale Fire Companies #1 and #2 responded to 7 calls in the Borough of Aldan. All Fire Company calls resulted in no damage. Also during the month of August, 2011 Collingdale Ambulance/Paramedics responded to 31 calls to the Borough of Aldan.

Councilmen Xavier Dan asked the Code Enforcement Officer John White who was sworn in this evening, is he an additional Code Enforcement Officer or is he a replacement. President Short commented we have been without a permanent Code Enforcement Officer for a while, so John is a replacement.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 PM.; and Council will meet on Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at the Reinl Recreation Building at 8:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilmen Xavier seconded by Councilmen Baker and unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary