

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

September 8, 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 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;
S. Coppola; J. Cosgrove; R. Baker

Council members absent: None

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

Officers absent: None

MINUTES

On a motion made by P. Brookes seconded by S. Coppola minutes from the August 11, 2010, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

No written correspondence tonight.

VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE

There is no verbal correspondence tonight.

President Short turned the meeting over to Mayor Hopely. Mayor Hopely reported some sad news that Jack Edmundson passed on Sunday evening after a short illness. Jack has been a fixture in Aldan forever, was Mayor for 17 years, and served the Community with the Boy Scouts and will be missed. At this time please take a moment to think of Jack. Services will be held on Saturday at Aldan Union Church at 9:30 with a service at 11:00.

Mayor Hopely asked Bill Ressler to come forward. Bill Ressler commented he really does appreciate Council's efforts in helping to make Aldan truly a Community of Homes and most of all, our own home town. Mr. Ressler had a reproduction of Aldan in the 1930's. It shows the old Aldan School along with the other school building, the Aldan Union Church, the trolley, and people are gathering for a PTA night in Aldan. Mr. Ressler presented this to Council in appreciation for your efforts and for the work you are doing. Mr. Ressler said he knows what is like to serve on a Board and how much time it takes and just wanted to let you know it is appreciated.

Mayor Hopely asked Harry Short, Jr. to come forward. James Hopely, Mayor of Aldan and Kenneth Coppola, Chief of Police hereby recognize and commend Harry Short, Jr. for his assistance to the Aldan Police Department and the Citizens of the Borough of Aldan. On February 5, 2010, Mr. Short observed a male exit a neighbor's house. Mr. Short did not recognize this male and began to follow him while contacting the Aldan Police. Through Mr. Short's alertness and diligence this male was taken into custody, charged and convicted of burglarizing the neighbor's house. These actions by Mr. Short exemplify the qualities of Good Citizenship and are to be commended. The Mayor and Chief of Police join with Aldan Borough Council in presenting this Good Citizenship Award to Harry Short, Jr. this eighth day of September, 2010.

Mayor Hopely wanted to remind residents Safety/Founders Day will be on Saturday, September 18th at 11 A M and ending at 3 P M. Many thanks to the police officers and Historical Commission for their time putting this yearly event together. Mayor Hopely hopes to see everyone there.

The Police Department and Council expresses their condolences to the family of former Mayor Jack Edmundson on his passing.

Mayor Hopely also reported in addition to state mandated training various training seminars continue for police officers.

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	\$ 815,484.05	\$ 23,528.92
Receipts for period	\$ 106,249.60	\$
Interest		3.42
Expenditures Prior Month	\$ 128,627.06	\$ 7,455.28
Balance	\$ 793,106.59	\$ 16,077.06

Terry Quinn asked Council's approval this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$142,904.83 and checks from the State Highway Fund for \$7,455.28. Councilmen Xavier made the motion to approve 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 was not at the meeting tonight.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported they have completed the first preliminary plan review for the SEPTA Primos Station reconstruction. We forwarded that review to the Planning Commission late last month.

Mr. Close reported on the Lobbs Run Phase I Project and we are at the half way point. There is 750 feet installed of the 1500 feet on the project. This is the lower half of the project behind the Swim Club. It has been slow going because it is very difficult terrain. The existing pipe has really been a challenge slip lining the new pipe through it but we are making some progress. We are coordinating with the contractor for his work plan to finish the upper half which is another 750 feet.

Mr. Close also wanted to report on our Lobbs Run Phase II Project and that is our next CDBG grant for 2010. Those construction plans and bid documents are in process and that estimated start of construction will be late 2010 or early 2011.

Mike Ceci asked if we had a 60 day extension for Phase I. Mr. Close responded, yes. Mike asked if we will finish up within that 60 days period. Mr. Close said we are going to do everything we can it is very difficult terrain in that area that is the plan and we will do the best we can. The County is working closely with us and we want to get done as quickly as possible to get out of the neighborhood and pull the by pass pump out of there but we will see how it goes. Mike asked what was the extension for, did we have to pay the money by a certain period. Mr. Close explained no, this was not a grant extension but simply to allow the contractor more time to finish the construction, given the difficulty he is encountering.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Anthony Tartaglia reported for the Planning Commission received comments from the Delaware County Planning and our Engineers about the new construction of a SEPTA Station in the Giant parking lot but this is SEPTA's property. There were a number of comments a lot of which revolved around the need for more information from SEPTA on their plans. We can not give a recommendation at this point because we do not have adequate information and this information will then need to go back to our engineers for review.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilwoman Owen announced the Household Hazardous Waste collection event. This is scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 2010 at the Rose Tree Park location. The collection time is from 9 to 3. They will be collecting flammables, pesticides, caustics, toxics, household batteries, lead acid batteries, and cell phones.

The collection site will also collect computers, printers, scanners, fax machines and portable TV of 27" or less. There will be another collection on October 9th with the same items being collected at the event on Fury Road off of Chichester Avenue in Boothwyn.

Councilwomen Owen reported on a Press Release received over a week ago. The press release is from the Department of Justice Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration. They have joined forces with Community Public Health and Law Enforcement Agencies to hold a Nationwide Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative that will help prevent the increase pill abuse and theft. The DEA is going to be collecting potential dangerous, expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs for destruction at sites Nationwide on Saturday, September 25th. This service is free and anonymous and no question will be asked at the site. The initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Many Americans are not aware that medications that linger in homes or medicine cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion misuse and abuse. The rate of prescription drug abuse in the United States is increasing at alarming rates as are the number of accidental poisons and overdoses. Studies are showing that the majority of abuse of prescription drugs is obtained from family and friends including the home medicine cabinets. In addition many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medications often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away. Both are potential safety and health hazards. Do to the quick phone calls Chief Coppola made, Councilwomen Owen, is pleased to announce Aldan is going to be one of the sites. This event is scheduled for Saturday, September 25th around the nation and will be held from 10 am to 2 pm. the items being collected are tablets and capsules only. Intra-venous injectables and used needles will not be accepted at this event nor will any illicit substances. With the press release and identifying the boroughs that are participating there are no surrounding boroughs so we hope everyone in the general location will take full advantage of this program and dispose of their drugs.

Dan Procopio asked if there was a flyer or web site to go to concerning this program and do you have to leave the labels on the prescriptions. Councilwomen Owen responded there will be no questions asked and we will have a flyer to hand out on Founders Day. This will also be on the Aldan Borough web site and also a web site address we can give you.

HIGHWAY

Councilmen Cosgrove reported last month we spoke about the Albert Avenue Resurfacing Project and the advertisement for bids. We have received four bids with the low bidder being Inncon Construction from Folcroft with a low bid of \$16,100.00. We are familiar with Inncon and we have worked with them before and were happy with what they did on our 2009 project. Our Borough Engineer has reviewed their bid and found it acceptable. Councilmen Cosgrove made a motion to accept the bid from Incon Construction from Folcroft for the amount of \$16,100.00 for the paving project, seconded by Councilmen Baker and unanimously approved.

Councilmen Cosgrove reported on a notification from Aqua. Aqua is going to begin the rehabilitation project in Aldan to clean and cement mortar lines on 6" cast iron water mains on Ridley Avenue from Maple to Magnolia; West Magnolia from Sycamore to Oak; Beech Avenue from Providence to Rively; and South Sycamore from Providence to Magnolia. They will be laying temporary water lines along the curb of the street and they will be connecting hoses from the main to outside spigots. Councilmen Cosgrove is reading from a letter Aqua provided to us which is a draft. When they are finished writing this letter they will advise every house on the streets involved as to the timing scheduled.

This will happen September through November as to what they will be doing, when they will be doing it and a number to call with concerns or questions. This is another Rehabilitation Program that is necessary for the old lines that we have in town and they are fixing and refurbishing. President Short asked if they gave any time frame the water would be down each day they are working. Councilmen Cosgrove did not know for sure at this time. President Short asked the Engineer how they would service each individual house off of a temporary line. Mr. Tartaglia commented the areas in the draft letter were incorrect. The areas they are working on are Priscilla, Merion Pennsylvania and Shisler is Phase I of this project. In all of those areas now they have identified the curb stop. They came in and renewed them so they can shut the water off at the curb stop. They shut it off and come back through the community and put new hose bibs on the houses. They come in a run a 4" line down along side the curb and they take taps off that 4" line and back feed the new hose bib that has a Y connection on it; one part of it feeds the house through the hose bib back directly to the water service and the other part is your hose. You will get a bill, when you look at your water bill there are two parts to it, something for service and something for useage. You will have to pay for the flat rate water service, because you will be getting water all the time, but you will not get a usage charge until they can go back through the meter. The entire process is 6 to 8 weeks long and there will not be any interruption of service other than the short time period they take you off of the curb trap and hook you up to the hose that is in the street. President Short asked would the residents come off the regular service and be put on in the evening. Mr. Tartaglia explained Aqua comes in puts the hose down and after they chlorinate the hoses they hook their ¾ inch hose up to the 4" line in the street and hook it up to the hose bib Y turn that on and then turn off your curb trap. There will be no disruption other than a few minutes while they test the lines to make sure they are chlorinated. Mr. Tartaglia suggested you may want to run your water for 10 minutes just to clear the taste but once they make their connections the water and the lines are already chlorinated.

Dan Procopio asked Councilmen Cosgrove about when they did the camera on the sanitary sewer street line under Albert Avenue and there was an obstruction would you discuss holding off the paving project until that could determined. We have not had a chance to review the tape yet. Dan asked if we were going ahead with the repaving even if the street has to be torn up. Councilmen Cosgrove responded no we would hold up. Dan asked even though you awarded the bid tonight. No we would not proceed with the project. President Short commented it is also the time frame of the colder weather approaching. If the repairs in the street would not allow the resurfacing to go on, we approved the contract now because we would not get another opportunity come October to do it. Dan asked if the street has to be torn up and we would not be able to do the work this year is the bid still good into the next year or will it have to be re-bid again. Mr. Close, the Borough Engineer responded there is a certain time frame where they would have the option to have the contract expire or he could agree to stay with that price. This often happens with paving projects because if you run out of paving season and he agreed to stick with his price he could do the work in the spring. We have about 3 to 3 ½ weeks to assess the tape and if there is something that needs to be fixed we will try and get in there before that. The schedule is mid October for the work at this point. We do have a window of time to try to assess it and address whatever that concern is and that would work nicely for when he would come in to pave. Dan asked is there any penalty to the Borough if we do not allow the contractor to go forward with the contract because of problems. Mr. Close responded no, there is no penalty.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilmen Coppola had nothing new to report tonight.

PUBLIC SAFETY/ HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Councilwomen Brookes had nothing to report for Public Safety tonight but mentioned again this is our 12 Anniversary of Founders/Safety Day. This event will be held on Saturday, September 18th rain or shine from 11 to 3 in Historical Park. We will have all the usual events; the Lukens Band, sponsored by the 4th of July; Mike Xavier's Band will also be playing; we are getting more and more request for Flea Market spaces. We really hope the residents will come out and we have a really good day and everyone enjoys and has a nice time.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUILDINGS

Councilmen Baker reported on the hail storm that went through Aldan in June did damage to the Rec Building. We need a new roof, fascia, two new garage doors, soffit and gutters and we are still negotiating because there may be more repairs not included on this estimate. The estimate is over \$10,521.00 this project will be put out for bid. Councilmen Baker will report on this next month.

Dan Procopio asked if this is covered by our insurance. Councilmen Baker responded this is covered by insurance.

FINANCE

Councilmen Xavier reported on the Financial Requirement and Minimum Municipal Obligation for 2011. This is the money the Borough puts into the Police Pension Fund. Last year the amount was \$123,000.00 and this year was \$121,419.00 and as required by law is entered into the minutes.

Councilmen Xavier presented Resolution 2010-03 The Four Borough Comprehensive Plan of 2005. This Resolution is about a multi-municipal Comprehensive Plan for the Boroughs of Aldan, Collingdale, Colwyn, and Sharon Hill, including text, charts, and maps have been prepared by the Delaware County Planning Department, working with a task force of elected and appointed officials from the participating Boroughs, and intended to guide the development and revitalization of these Boroughs. Councilmen Xavier made motion to adopt Resolution 2010-3 seconded by Councilwomen Brookes and unanimously approved.

Dan Procopio commented it was his understanding the Borough did pass a Resolution earlier but did not meet the requirements needed. President Short explained after investigating what was passed in 2005 and found that it was lacking in what the County Planning Commission requested so we decided to take their form and adopt it tonight.

Dan Procopio also asked if we have made any progress in getting a loan for the swim club. Councilmen Xavier explained we are actually in negotiations now with the Bank we are working with and have a meeting scheduled for next week. So we should have something very soon.

LAW, ORDINANCE & BUILDING

President Short reported for the month of August we had 133 Building Permits issued with a construction value of \$1,024,731.05; there were 2 Plumbing Permits issued with a construction value of \$8,800.00 and there were 25 Mid-Term/Transfer Inspections.

President Short reported we have an opening on the Zoning Hearing Board for an alternate. President Short asked for recommendations at this time. Councilmen Cosgrove nominated Harry Short, Jr. for the position of alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board. There were no other nominations. This was then seconded by Councilmen Xavier and unanimously approved. The Mayor then swore in Harry Short, Jr. to position of alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board.

Dan Procopio asked about the Zoning Hearing and the subjects up for discussion. President Short commented the ad was in the newspaper. There will be 1 Zoning Board Meeting with 2 Zoning Hearings on Wednesday, September 22nd. One hearing is on going for a ramp for a group home on Providence Road and the other is a front yard fence. Dan asked in the future will there be notification on the web site. Councilmen Cosgrove responded he will take care of this issue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There is no unfinished business this month.

NEW BUSINESS

President Short reported Caucus will be Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. at the Municipal Building at 7:30 P.M.; and Council will meet on Wednesday, October 13, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. in an executive session and regular session at 8:00 P.M. at the William Reintl Recreation Center.

PRIVELIGE OF THE FLOOR

Dan Procopio commented about the difficulty pulling the pipe for the Lobbs Run Project is there a possible completion date on the project. Mr. Close commented not at this point but they have been granted a 60 day extension till the end of October. It has been very difficult, as mentioned, he will do his very best to get done at that time but we will monitor that progress as we do day to day. If we look like we are approaching that date and it is going to be a problem we will have that discussion with the contractor and coordinate that with the County. Dan also asked Councilmen Coppola reported at the Caucus meeting about a change order because of the difficulty and there was going to be a request for additional money out of the grant and has that request been made or agreed upon. Mr. Close reported there was a change order approved by the County because it is their funding. There were some very difficult sections in the lower half that required some additional work from the contractor. That information was provided to the County and they approved that additional funding from the grant. Dan asked if there was additional cost to the Borough for the extra work. Mr. Close responded, no.

Diane Boyle 600 West Magnolia Avenue asked again if there could be a traffic study done on West Magnolia Avenue. There are too many cars going too fast and there are too many kids in the neighborhood. President Short asked the Chief to put a car in that area and see what they come up with.

Diane Boyle also asked about the sidewalk blocks marked and did we take into consideration the economy. President Short asked Mrs. Boyle if they received the letter about the sidewalks. Mrs. Boyle responded, yes. President Short then explained if there is a difficulty in you getting the work done in the time frame stated in the letter, you can notify the Borough for whatever reason that you need more time we will be glad to work with you.

Christina Roemer 31 Ridley Avenue, commented this is a great town, a great neighborhood, we have two kids and my yard is not flawless but do work as hard as I can to keep my property up. We all want the community to be great. There are some sidewalks with issues that needed to be done. Ms. Roemer said she has two sidewalk blocks at her house and the cost is \$400.00 on two slabs of perfectly good concrete, this is insane. This seems like really poor decision making. There are things that need to be done but to be clear show me in the code a tripping hazard is defined as this, what is the criteria of a tripping hazard and why are they not consistently applies throughout the community. There are discrepancies between slabs of concrete not marked. Sure it was a big job to go out and walk the Borough but it seems like poor judgment. President Short asked the Building Inspector to reply. Mr. Tartaglia responded ½” between any two sections of sidewalk and a crack that exceeds 1/8” in width needs to be replaced. Mr. Tartaglia will come out and inspect your specific sidewalk. Mr. Tartaglia explained the inspectors did a tough job, they did the best they could they have been doing this for about 8 years and think their judgment is extremely good and think they are extremely consistent. Mr. Tartaglia said if they made a mistake he will correct it but he will go out and inspect the property sidewalk. President Short explained this is just like any other maintenance issue you have to do on your home. This stands out because it impacts the community because people walk down the sidewalk and we are just trying to make it safe for everyone. Ms. Roemer commented is this something that is done when someone moves out of their home. Mr. Tartaglia said, yes it is inspected when someone moves out it should be inspected and also rental properties are inspected every year. Ms. Roemer said, we moved in 3 years ago and there is no way these blocks shifted in 3 years.

Paul Krueger asked if the sidewalks in the entire Borough were done. President Short responded we did half this year. We will do the other half in the spring of next year.

Mike Ceci asked where is it written and how is it decided the specifications for the sidewalks. Mr. Tartaglia explained these regulations are mandated by the American Disabilities Act. Everyone one of them is their minimum and maximum requirements for the State walking area. We are taking the ADA requirements and providing a safe walking environment for all from the physically fit to those who may have some kind of handicap. These specifications are from the ADA.

Mary Anne Cerrone 32 Ridley Avenue did not get a letter but her neighbor did and the block was on both properties and they did settle this between both neighbors. The issue is that block was like that the day we moved in and when was the last time the sidewalks were inspected. Councilmen Baker said the last time the sidewalks were inspected was 2008. Mrs. Cerrone said they moved in their home in 2004. If you want to claim hardship what is the process. President Short explained send us a note what the hardship is along with your name and address. Mrs. Cerrone asked if the sidewalk could be repaired instead of replaced. Mr. Tartaglia explained the only right way to repair the sidewalk would cost more than to replace it.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilmen Coppola seconded by Councilwomen Brookes and unanimously, approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary