

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

May 13, 2009

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; M. Xavier;
T. Owen; R. Baker; J. Cosgrove

Council members absent: S. Coppola

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 T. Owen the minutes from the April 8, 2009, Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

No written correspondence tonight.

VERBAL CORRESPONDENCE

There was no verbal correspondence tonight.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

MAYOR

Mayor Hopely read a letter from a resident that was addressed to Chief Coppola and stated as individuals we do not take the time to appreciate or offer thanks to the many people we interact with on a daily basis including our friends, neighbors and our public service people. May I offer my most gracious and thankful plaudits to the Officer of the Aldan Police Department who arrived at my home in the early AM with concern of the dense smoke emanating from my chimney. To the on duty Officer I extend my gratitude for his extremely controlled professional and courteous manner in informing me of the outside situation. Please extend my appreciation for citing just one of the many untold duties that he and all of your officers perform routinely. You and your force of officers undoubtedly provide the basis that I think consistently makes Aldan Borough a safe place to live. Thank you again Eugene Castagliuolo. The officer was Ken Coppola, Jr. It is nice to get letters like this because too often we only hear complaints from people. Our police do more than just ticket cars so this was very nice and worth reading.

Mayor Hopely also wanted to recognize Terry Owen who is celebrating 30 years in Nursing and also wishing her a Happy Birthday.

TREASURER

Mrs. Quinn first wanted to report the Liquid Fuels Fund for 2009 were received this month, which totaled \$ 78,263.12.

Terry Quinn read the Treasurer’s Report:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>State Highway Fund</u>
Balance of cash on hand	\$ 508,438.50	\$ 16,122.61
Receipts for period	571,590.19	78,264.69
Expenditures Prior Month	120,125.05	7,241.92
Balance	\$ 959,903.64	\$ 87,145.38

Terry Quinn asked Council’s approval this evening for checks from the General Fund totaling \$144,471.64 and from the State Highway Fund \$37,241.92. Just a note that \$30,000.00 of this is to repay the General Fund for the loan issued at the beginning of the year to pay bill from the State Highway Fund. M. 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 R. Baker and unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Sefflin reported we are awaiting the final 2008 Tax Delinquency List from Mr. Park, our Tax Collector, which we should have by the end of next week and hopefully we will commence our 2008 Program by next month.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION

John McBlain reported there was a Planning Commission Meeting but he was unable to attend this month. The commission did study a Sub-Division Plan for the property at 2 Ridley Avenue owned by Michael Murphy. The Chairman Anthony Tartaglia did give Council a letter with recommendations for Council to take action this month along with Mr. Sefflin's review. President Short commented, Council did get Mr. Sefflin's comments but the Sub-Division has been withdrawn by the owner Michael Murphy. Mr. McBlain said Mr. Tartaglia, the Zoning Officer, indicated they would need significant Zoning relief from the Zoning Hearing Board; therefore, the recommendation would have been to deny it pending Zoning. The option presented to Mr. Murphy was to withdraw or ask for a 90 day continuance in order to seek Zoning relief.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Peggy Brookes will report during her committee report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Mrs. Owen reported on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 we will have Bulk Pick-Up for the West side of town, which includes Oak Avenue to West of Clifton Avenue. On Monday, May 25, 2009 there will be no collection on Memorial Day but will be collected on Tuesday, May 26, 2009

Mrs. Owen reported for the Board of Health, a raccoon was spotted in the Borough by a resident in his own yard and trapped. A specimen was tested by the state and found not to be infected with rabies. We were glad for that outcome for the resident. On West Nile Virus due to the volume of rain the state expects a bad mosquito season. Mrs. Owen would like to encourage our residents that standing water is a breeding ground for the carriers of West Nile Virus. Please be diligent in removing any standing water on your property. On a good note the State Department of Environmental Protection has notified us that they have approved our Performance Recycling Grant in the amount of \$5,410.00 for the collection of 516 tons of residential and commercial materials recycled by our residents and businesses for 2007.

HIGHWAY

Mr. Cosgrove reported on the status up date of the Web site. It is up and running but one of the segments is being worked on but all the other pages are up and running fine. We are encouraging residents and community groups to use this, the more we use it the better it is. We have a section for upcoming events, and a calendar we can put in dates for all the community groups. Give Mr. Cosgrove your group's dates for meetings or events and he will put them on the calendar. We also have a photo section if you have any pictures available to share.

Mr. Cosgrove would also like to thank the Boosters for allowing the Borough to use the flip side of their Plant Sale flyer to advertise the name of our web site.

Mr. Cosgrove reported on the Road Resurfacing Program for this year. The studies of the streets and intersections have been completed with the Borough Engineer and his associates. The recommendation for the 2009 Road Program is to continue the paving done last year on South Woodlawn Avenue, from Providence Road down to Rively Avenue. In addition we have identified five (5) intersections that will be part of the project. Mr. Cosgrove made a motion to allow the Borough Engineer to advertise the bid for the 2009 Road Resurfacing Program, seconded by M. Xavier and unanimously approved. Mr. Cosgrove also stated if anyone is interested in the 5 intersections they will be available in the Municipal Building.

President Short asked Mr. Cosgrove to give the Web address--- www.aldan-boro.org

Mike Ceci commented, "It's a gorgeous web site and is really very high functioning and I think you deserve a lot of credit, it's gorgeous and it really kind of brings Aldan to a great place. It has transparency, keeping all the citizens up to date on what's happening.

Mark Wilson from 623 West Magnolia Avenue asked are you going to register with domain. Mr. Cosgrove answered yes but it takes 3 to 4 weeks.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Coppola was not at tonight's meeting, he was held up at work. President Short or Mr. Close will answer any questions if there are any.

PUBLIC SAFETY/ HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mrs. Brookes had nothing to report for Public Safety tonight.

Mrs. Brookes reported the Historical Commission will meet next Wednesday. Topics will include landscaping Memorial Park and final approval of our latest collectible the Colonial Playhouse.

Mrs. Brookes also reported the 4th of July book is going to press and door to door collections will be taking place in June. The 4th of July Association will be meeting May 26, 2009 at 8:00 PM in the Reinl Recreation Building, not on May 19 because of Election Day. All are welcome and encouraged to come. Any long term residents are encouraged to tell new residents about our traditions with the Aldan 4th of July celebration.

ADMINISTRATIVE and BUILDINGS

Mr. Baker reported there was some wind damage done to the Reinl Building with some siding blown off and 2 downspouts replaced. These items were taken care of.

Mr. Baker reported bids were opened last week at the Caucus Meeting for the LED sign. Mr. Baker made a motion to accept the low bid from S & S Electrical Services from Warrington, PA for \$18,301.30, seconded by P. Brookes and unanimously approved. Mr. Close will notify them and get the process started.

Mike Ceci asked if we could give a few more details on what the LED sign will be like. President Short responded we will have a sketch made up by the company for our approval before for installation of the sign. The specifications were made to fit within the parameters of our Zoning Ordinance. President Short commented we are also at the same time we are looking at our sign code because when the code was written LED sign were not even around so we are addressing these issues now. President Short was talking with our Zoning Officer to come up with specifications and also talked to Mr. Cosgrove and we will come up with standards that will keep what we were trying to do in the original sign ordinance and carry into the new products. Mike Ceci asked will the contents of the sign be something like upcoming events. President Short responded yes notification of changes in trash days; upcoming events in town like Founder/Safety Day; 4th of July things of that nature. This is an attempt to keep the residents more aware of what is going on in town and make things run smoother. M. Xavier commented the sign will be in scale with the location and the Municipal Building. The LED sign will be somewhere in the front of the Municipal Building, running perpendicular to Providence Road, so it can be seen from both ways. The exact location is still to be determined because of some obstructions there with the tree and such. We will have to see where the best place will be.

FINANCE

Mr. Xavier did not have anything to report for the Finance Committee tonight.

Mr. Xavier wanted to report the Residents Parking Permits have come in and we should start canvassing the area to give the residents in the first block of Magnolia to Beech, Ridley and Maple hang tags to try and give the residents a better quality of life in that area for parking.

Donna Henry 618 West Magnolia Avenue asked about the times for the parking. Mr. Xavier explained this will not be for overnight parking it will be for residents parking only. If there is a vehicle parked there day after day through the night on the street they will be punished. President Short asked Mr. Xavier to explain what is happening in the area of West Magnolia Avenue. Mr. Xavier explained there is an issue in the first block of West Magnolia Avenue off of Oak Avenue where the apartment complex on the far side of Oak Avenue has limited the amount of cars able to park at the complex. Glenolden has a parking permit; no overnight parking/resident parking only and they charge the residents \$15.00 a year per vehicle to park on the streets in Glenolden. Aldan's parking permit will be free. The issue is since the people can not park at the apartment complex because they have 2, 3, or 4 cars and they can not park in Glenolden they are now parking in Aldan on Magnolia, Ridley, Maple Avenues and this is now creating a quality of life issue with parking for our residents. Some of these cars sit for 2 or 3 weeks at a time. The residents in those areas have addressed Council about this problem so Council is addressing the issue.

We are going to put them out with a five year renewal, rather than every year. There will be no cost to the residents and the time will be from midnight to 6:00 am. The permit will be in the form of mirror hangers and we will start the distribution of those after the Council Meeting in June.

LAW, ORDINANCE & BUILDING

President Short reported during the month of April, 2009 there were also 42 transfer and mid-term inspections performed by our Residential Inspector; there were a total of 22 Building Permits issued with a construction value of \$96,847.00; there was 5 plumbing permit with a construction value of \$19,240.00.

President Short also wanted to announce that our Playground Equipment is finally going to be replaced. We have come to terms with our Insurance Company and received our money and we also received additional funds from the State through help from State Representative Micozzie. This should be installed within 4 to 6 weeks. We did put it out for bid and by early summer our kids should have a bigger and better playground set put back. This will include new swings and a larger configuration on the equipment.

Mike Ceci asked about the comments made at Caucus about the Aldan Swim Club and were there any further developments. President Short explained we are still waiting to get information back to figure out whether it is even worth while going on with it or not. Until we decide at that time we will just let it take its course and see where it goes. As soon as it becomes worth the while on both parties and then start moving forward with it.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There is no unfinished business this month.

NEW BUSINESS

President Short announced that Caucus will be Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building; and Council will meet on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in an executive session and regular session at 8:00 p.m. at the William Reinl Recreation Center.

PRIVELIGE OF THE FLOOR

Mark Wilson report on May 30, 2009 the Boy Scouts are having a Car Show at Providence Park and would like to invite everyone to come out. We are hoping for great weather and this is a great way to show our Borough off as well as our Scouting Troop. Mr. Cosgrove asked for a copy to put on the web site. Mr. Wilson also wanted to thank the Borough. It has been a privilege to do our monthly recycling which benefits the Scouts and the Borough. Scouting is alive in the Borough of Aldan. Mark explained it is interesting why we do collect the cans.

This is a mutual benefit, the Scouts receive a benefit and the Borough does as well and this makes people want to help even more.

There are people in this Borough that are faithful every month to drop off cans. It's one of the things that make Aldan a great place to live.

Mark was asked what is the benefit and his response "We take the aluminum can down to recycling and we get a little bit of money and then turn in the receipts at the end of the year and the Borough gets some money back from the state as well. This has been going on for at least 12 to 14 years." Mrs. Owen said we like your recycling totals. Mark will leave some flyer for anyone interested.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by T. Owen seconded by M. Xavier and approved unanimously, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

ATTEST

MARIE V. KAUT
Borough Secretary