

ATGLEN BOROUGH COUNCIL

BUSINESS MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

President Palmer called the meeting of the Atglen Borough Council to order on Monday, December 4, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Borough Hall. The following members were present:

Charles H. Palmer Jr.	Joshua Glick	Melissa McClay
Brian Hahn	George Stewart	Mayor Darren Hodorovich

Ms. Andrews asked if the agenda can be adjusted after public comment to move up the Westwood Fire Company Ambulance action item. The Westwood Chief is in the audience and has to leave by 7:30.

PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER REPORT – Bryan Umble said he attended two education workshops. The battery in the leaf collection dump truck exploded. Said truck is being repaired. The holiday downtown lights are installed.

JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON REPORT – Emmerson Ware spoke on the upcoming events at the Octorara Area High School. The events are the National Honor Society induction, basketball games, indoor track, the Junior High Winter dance, and Honors breakfast. West Fallowfield Christian School has scheduled open houses, is doing fundraising events, and basketball is underway.

PUBLIC COMMENTS- John Walters, Norwood Street, said he is opposed to Zach Hall, the newly elected Council member, sitting on Council.

POLICE REPORT – Officer Moore read the November police report.

President Palmer adjusted the agenda and moved up the Westwood Fire Company agenda item.

Westwood Fire Company Ambulance-Wagontown Division, Advanced Life Support Services Agreement and Annual Compensation, Resolution 681-23 – Ms. Andrews said the Solicitor reviewed the contract and revised where necessary. Westwood adjusted the contribution payment schedule per the Manager’s request. Motion to approve made by Hahn/McClay. The motion carried 5 to 0.

APPROVE MINUTES, NOVEMBER 6, 2023 - Motion to approve made by Glick/Stewart. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

APPROVE BILLS LIST AND OCTOBER TREASURER'S REPORT - Motion to approve made by Palmer/Glick. The motion carried 5 to 0.

OLD BUSINESS

Borough Hall Park Update – Ms. Andrews said construction continues and will if we have a mild Winter. The County is in the process of extending the CRP grant contract to December 2024.

Police Services, Associated Costs, and Authorize the Solicitor to Prepare the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement - Mayor Hodorovich and Ms. Andrews met with the Parkesburg Police leadership and Parkesburg Mayor in November. Mayor Hodorovich reviewed the items discussed at said meeting. There was a discussion on the payment and billing schedule. Council asked for more clarity on the billing and asked to see an activity report. Ms. Andrews will provide the information. A motion was made by Hahn/Glick to authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement for police services with Parkesburg Borough. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Adopt 2024 Budget – Mr. Palmer read the following statement:

The Pennsylvania Borough Code requires that Borough Council adopt an annual budget by motion of Council. The budget is an annual estimate of revenues and expenditures for the ensuing year, and, under current circumstances, provides for expenditures to persons or organizations with whom individual Council Members or their family members are associated, as follows:

The proposed budget provides for a contribution to the Atglen Public Library. Diane Palmer, spouse of Borough Council President Charles Palmer, is the President of the Library. Borough Council Member Melissa McClay is also a Board Member and serves as Treasurer to the Atglen Public Library.

The proposed budget provides for a contribution to the Christiana Community Ambulance Association. Borough Council Member George Stewart sits on the Board of the CCAA.

Cristi Hahn, spouse of Borough Council Member Brian Hahn, is a full-time employee of Atglen Borough, and, as such, the proposed budget provides for compensation to Mrs. Hahn.

If Charles Palmer, Melissa McClay, George Stewart and Brian Hahn all abstain from voting on the budget, the legally required vote of approval of the budget would be unattainable. Therefore, the foregoing disclosures made herein are submitted to the Borough Manager for recording in the minutes and a motion for adoption of the budget may be made and voted upon by the full Borough Council in accordance with the Pennsylvania Ethics Act.

Motion to approve the 2024 Budget made by Glick/McClay. The real estate tax millage rate and utility rates are remaining as is – no change from the current year. The vote was as follows: Palmer, Glick, McClay, and Stewart – yes; Hahn abstained due to a family conflict. The motion carried 4 to 0 with 1 abstention.

Adopt the Year 2024 Tax Levy Resolution # 680-23, 6.50 mills – Motion to approve made by Hahn/Stewart. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Veteran/Military Banners, Round 2, Update – Ms. Andrews said PP&L altered their fee structure for evaluating the 25 poles. We are back to \$75 per pole. The invoice was approved to be paid tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Emily Reid, Glen Run Road, spoke on the Parkesburg Police coverage, a noticeable decrease in Christiana Police coverage, and the need for a 4way stop at the intersection of Lower Valley Road and Ridge Avenue/Main Street.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve the Payment of Invoice #3 to ThinkGreen LLC in the Amount of \$ 93,685.58 for the Atglen Borough Hall Park – Ms. Andrews said the County payment has been received. Motion to approve made by Stewart /Hahn. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Park and Recreation Commission Appointments – Ms. Andrews said Dwight Weaver and Tara Wheeler’s terms expire at the end of the month. In addition, there are two vacant positions. Mayor Hodorovich expressed an interest in joining the Commission and assisting in a leadership role. The Mayor said Sandy Hodorovich, Joan Vick, and Maureen Fox are interested in serving too. Emily Reid said Tara Wheeler and Dwight Weaver approached her and asked why the Park and Recreation Commission has stopped meeting. Ms. Andrews will contact Ms. Wheeler and Mr. Weaver, bring them up to date, and ask if they want the opportunity to have their terms renewed.

Committee Reappointments – Ms. Andrews said on the Planning Commission Trish Ranck and Brian Hahn’s terms end at year end. On the Zoning Hearing Board John Mickel finishes his term on February 1, 2024. Council instructed Ms. Andrews to ask these individuals if they want to renew their terms.

Approve the 2023 Paving Project, Long’s Asphalt Inc, Change Order 1 for a decrease of \$5,150 and Change Order 2 for an additional \$21,171.07- Motion to approve made by Hahn/Stewart. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Authorize the Payments to Long's Asphalt Inc for the 2023 Road Project as follows: A. Payment Application #1 for \$196,928.57, Paid by the General Fund and Highway Aid/Liquid Fuels Fund Subject to PennDot's Municipal Services Approval. B. Invoice #4027 for \$5,150, Paid by the General Fund - Motion to approve made by Glick/Hahn. The motion carried 5 to 0.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Ms. Andrews said the County Voter Services erred in not placing the Tax Collector Position, Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025, on the November ballot. The position is vacant. Helen Esbenshade, the Borough Solicitor, recommended Council leave this position vacant and let the voters elect in November 2025.

Ms. Andrews read the following announcements: Santa arrives in Atglen on the Christiana Fire Truck on December 8; Winter Wonderland Holiday Lighting and Decoration Contest is underway; and the next Council meeting is Tuesday, January 2. The Applewood model home received a Use and Occupancy certificate. Ms. Andrews responded to questions.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Hodorovich spoke about the Veteran's Day event, tree lighting at the Penningtonville Presbyterian Church, the holiday lighting contest, the Boy Scout's Food Drive benefiting the Octorara Food Cupboard, and the Boy Scout Christmas tree pick-up. He discussed the recent accident on Route 41 near the Dutchway intersection that resulted in a death. Mayor Hodorovich thanked George Stewart for his service as a Council member and former Mayor.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Brian Hahn thanked George Stewart for his service on Council and as former Mayor. Everyone chimed in and thanked Mr. Stewart.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No comments.

ADJOURNMENT – Hahn/Stewart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Caren D. Andrews
Borough Manager/Secretary