

ATGLEN BOROUGH COUNCIL

BUSINESS MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2022

President Palmer called the meeting of the Atglen Borough Council to order on Monday, November 7, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the Borough Hall. The following members were present:

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

President Palmer announced an Executive Session will be held this evening at the end of the agenda to discuss a personnel matter.

POLICE REPORT – Officer Moore read aloud the October 2022 police report.

PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER REPORT – Bryan Umble reviewed the Water and Sewer report. Hydrant flushing went well. One water leak is being addressed by the resident. Mr. Umble reviewed the water gate valve repair at Liberty Street and Zion Hill Road. Leaf collection was going well until today when the water pump broke. So far, 12 loads have been collected. The next round of water meter replacements is underway.

Mr. Umble brought Council up to date on the search for a truck. What he is seeing on-line, approved auction sites, the trucks are comparable to what we are replacing. Mr. Umble received a quote, government pricing, from the Ford dealer for a new F350 chassis, dump bed, and snow plow. We may be able to get the dump body and plow cheaper through a non-dealer source. This will be a truck for daily use, snow plowing, and leak repairs. Two trucks would be traded-in or sold. Mr. Glick recommended a larger dump truck, F550 because it is more durable, better size truck for snow plowing. There was a discussion on purchasing the F550. Mr. Umble said if we are moving forward on the new 2023 F550 truck the Ford order must be placed by mid-November. A motion was made by Glick/Stewart to purchase a new F550, place the order this month. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT – Emily Reid was unable to attend this evening. Ms. Andrews read her report. The next event is the Holiday lighting contest. Registration will be on-line. The community will vote on-line.

JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON'S REPORT – Emmerson Ware was unable to attend this evening. Mayor Hodorovich read her report. The powder puff games are scheduled for this month. The culinary students are hosting an event.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dave Harmer, Valley Avenue, asked if the road humps on Valley Avenue can be removed. The trucks and cars travelling over the humps are disrupting the enjoyment of his property. Ms. Andrews said this is a State road and has been reported to PennDot a few times this year. Mr. Harmer asked to repair the Swan Road pothole, near the bridge. He was told this is outside the Borough's limits. It is either a West Sadsbury Township or PennDot issue.

APPROVE MINUTES – OCTOBER 3, 2022. Motion to approve made by Palmer/McClay. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

APPROVE BILLS LIST AND TREASURER'S REPORT. Motion to approve made by Palmer/McClay. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

OLD BUSINESS

Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), Nominated for Appointment,

Discussion/Consideration – Ms. Andrews summarized the search process for the volunteer EMC position. She recommended Beckett Walters be nominated for appointment. Mr. Walters was present at the meeting and introduced himself. Motion to nominate for appointment Beckett Walters as the Borough's EMC was made by Glick/Stewart. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

Christiana Police, Hourly Rate – Ms. Andrews said Christiana Borough in their September 8 rate letter inserted a 36 hours per week coverage requirement. Our current agreement is silent on coverage hours. Ms. Andrews did the calculation; and, we fall short by 10%. In Year 2019 we sought police service proposals. Parkesburg Borough and Christiana Borough submitted letters of interest. Parkesburg's rate in the 2019 proposal was \$ 85 per hour, 16 shifts per month. Council asked Ms. Andrews to talk to the Christiana Borough Manager about removing the coverage requirement.

Form a Zoning Code Task Force, Temporary Committee- Ms. Andrews said Kevin Myers, Chester County Urban Planner, is interested in leading us through this project. Ms. Andrews is waiting to hear back from the County on how to formally ask for their services. Ms. Andrews suggests the Committee consist of 1 Councilperson, 1 Planning Commission member, 1 Zoning Hearing Board member, 1 general public member, the Zoning Officer, the Borough Manager and the Chesco Urban Planner. Robbyn Kehoe said she would like to serve. Ms. Andrews amended her recommendation to include a representative from the Atglen Library. Council supports the recommendation.

2023 Budget and EMS Tax, Advertise the Budget and Tax Ordinance, Discussion/Consideration –

Ms. Andrews summarized the budget highlights. The inflationary market is having a devastating impact on the cost of goods and services. She recommends a water rate increase, a

trash rate increase, miscellaneous utility fee changes, rental permit inspection fee changes, and a one mill real estate tax increase. There was a lengthy discussion.

Ms. Andrews spoke to the County Treasurer regarding a detailed invoice and report if the Borough decides to enact an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) real estate tax. The County is unable to provide this information.

Motion to advertise the 2023 Budget and millage rate ordinance, no EMS tax made by McClay/ Palmer. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

Utility Fees Resolution # 659-22 –Motion to approve made by Stewart/Glick. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –No comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Atglen Public Library Financial Request- Diane Palmer, the Library Board President, thanked the Borough for their support. Ms. Palmer said some of the proceeds from this year's DiAtglen Alley Wizard Faire were to be directed to the development and rollout costs of a new library website. The event was cancelled due to inclement weather. Most of the Borough's contribution was not issued. Ms. Palmer asked if the Borough can redirect the Faire contribution to cover the cost of a new website. The ask was for \$ 3000. Motion to approve made by Glick/Hahn. All members were in agreement.

DiAtglen Alley Wizard Faire, Year 2023 – Diane Palmer said planning for next year's Wizard Faire has begun. The date is June 3, 2023. Ms. Palmer asked for the following: a) Fund the Cost of Stage Programs, Children Events, and Other Needs Not to Exceed \$ 1,750; b) Pay for the Cost of Security Personnel; c) Close Roads in the 100 Block of Main Street and the 100 Block of East Main; d) Provide Borough Staff Assistance the Day of the Event – Motion to approve made by Hahn/Stewart. All members were in agreement.

Park and Recreation Commission Member Appointment, Resolution #661-22 – Darian Nicastro resigned in October. The Borough advertised the vacancy. Renee Toto submitted a letter of interest. Ms. Toto was present at the meeting and introduced herself. Motion to approve the Resolution appointing Renee Toto, term expiration date of December 31, 2025, made by Glick/Hahn. All members were in agreement.

Applewood Homes LLC Letter of Credit, Certificate of Completion- Reduction # 14 in the Amount of \$ 218,092.45 and Authorize the Council President to Execute Said Document - Motion to approve made by Hahn/Glick. All members were in agreement.

Emergency Public Water Gate Valve Repair at Zion Hill Road and Liberty Street and Associated Costs, Resolution # 658-22 – Motion to approve made by Glick /Stewart. All members were in agreement.

2023 Meeting Schedule – Ms. Andrews said there are three holiday conflicts as follows: New Year’s Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day. Council agreed to move the January and September meetings to the following week. Leave as planned the meeting on July 3.

Act 57 of 2022, Property Tax Penalty Waivers, Resolution # 660-22 – Ms. Andrews summarized the recent State legislation and need for Council action. Motion to approve made by Hahn/Glick. All members were in agreement.

Rental Permit and Inspection Fees, Resolution # 662-22- Motion to approve made by Glick/Hahn. All members were in agreement.

Emergency Alert System - Swift911, our current provider, was sold to a new company. The new pricing model represents a significant increase. The staff looked at the County’s ReadyChesco/Everbridge product. We can use this software to communicate emergency messages, community events, and the like at no cost. Council did a test of ReadyChesco last week. The feedback was positive. The Borough staff will move forward in promoting ReadyChesco and the registration process.

Website Upgrade – Ms. Andrews received a quote from our IT vendor. Council asked to obtain additional quotes.

MANAGER’S COMMENTS - Ms. Andrews read aloud her monthly report and responded to questions. She summarized the Applewood activity since the last Council meeting and items that must be addressed in order to accept building permit applications.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS – Mayor Hodorovich attended Tyler Remphrey’s Eagle Scout ceremony. The Mayor had a commitment for 17 red bud trees. Three changed their mind after the trees were purchased. The Mayor donated the trees to Wolff’s Hollow and a local church. The Mayor offered to pay for the 3 trees. Council said no, the Borough will pay for them.

The Mayor is continuing to welcome new residents by visiting their homes. The Mayor asked to have a committee formed to plan the Homecoming parade in Atglen Borough. Council agreed. The Mayor spoke about the Park and Recreation Commission Holiday lighting contest. He offered the following: if a Council member’s home is one of the winners as selected by the community voting he will gift the Councilperson a \$ 150 certificate to Victory Brewing Company.

The Mayor summarized the Veteran’s Day ceremony on November 11.

Traffic cones were placed on Valley Avenue to slow down traffic at school bus time. Some of the cones have gotten damaged, some have gone missing. The Mayor called a halt to this action. He is asking for two stop signs on Valley Avenue.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Glick asked Mr. Stewart for an update on Christiana Community Ambulance Association (CCAA). CCAA got a used ambulance from a source in Michigan. They hope to put three ambulances in service. CCAA will re-start in mid-November with a hybrid of paid and volunteer personnel. The volunteer membership is growing.

Mr. Palmer reported on the Western Chester County Council of Government continuing education program. This Winter they will be offering Local Government 102.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patches DiGregorio said she does not like the DiAtglen Alley Wizard Faire theme and instead suggested an autumn festival.

Mike Imms, Newport Circle, spoke on the recent progress of the Enola Low Grade trail.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Palmer called for the Executive Session at 9:50 pm. At 10 pm Council reconvened.

RECONVENED, PUBLIC MEETING AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to reimburse the Borough Manager 100% of her costs for the Medicare premium, Supplemental Medicare premium, and eye care and glasses not covered by Medicare conditional upon the Manager terminating her enrollment in the Borough's group health plan and conditional upon the Manager maintaining her full-time employment with the Borough. The Manager will continue to participate in the Borough paid group dental plan. Motion made by Glick/Stewart. All members were in agreement, 5 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT – Hahn/Stewart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 pm. All members were in agreement.

Respectfully submitted,



Caren D. Andrews
Borough Manager/Secretary