

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP

2501 BATH ROAD
BRISTOL, PA 19007

JANUARY 17, 2013

COUNCIL MEETING

President Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm.

Roll Call:	Mr. Bowen	Present
	Mr. Glasson	Present
	Ms. Longhitano	Absent
	Mr. Pluta	Present
	Mr. Tucker	Present
	Vice President Brennan	Present
	President Lewis	Present

Council President Lewis stated that monthly reports are available for review in the Township Manager's Office and public comment on Land Development and official action items will be taken, as well as general comments will be taken during opportunity for residents to address the council. Additionally, labor matters were discussed prior to the meeting in the Executive Session.

VOUCHER LIST & MINUTES

- A. Call for a motion to approve the outstanding Voucher List and Requisitions for January 17, 2013.

Mr. G. Obert of Farmbrook inquired as to what the item on page #5 of the Voucher List named "General Code" was referring to.

Motion by Mr. Glasson and seconded by Vice President Brennan to approve the outstanding voucher List and requisitions for January 17, 2013.

Motion carried by a vote of 5- 1 with Mr. Pluta voting no.

B. Call for a motion to approve minutes from the council meeting on December 20, 2012.

Motion by Mr. Bowen and seconded by Mr. Glasson to approve the minutes from the council meeting on December 20, 2012.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP

President Lewis addressed all township employees, taxpayers and residents on the success of the past 2012 year and the continuing effort needed for the projected 2013 year in his first State of Township address. President Lewis summarized the priorities that needed attention and were deemed notable successes across the board in 2012. He also addressed the challenges that lie ahead for 2013 and how Bristol Township plans on continuing to build upon the same foundations laid out in 2012, but on a grander scale. A full copy of President Lewis' State of the Township address is attached to these minutes.

REPORT FROM THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Township Manager William McCauley wanted to report that at the end of December 2012 Bristol Township renewed insurance policies with an achieved cost savings of \$ 225,605 while maintaining and in some cases improving coverage in policies. Mr. McCauley stated that combined with improved coverage and cost savings Gerry Vaughan, the Township's Insurance Broker, did an excellent job.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

Mr. Randal Flager presented an appeal of the Dunmore Corporation agreement; stating that the School board and council agree this is a fair resolution and a motion needs to be made in order to enter into the settlement which will save residents tax dollars.

Motion by Mr. Pluta and seconded by Mr. Glasson to Approve and Authorize the Appeal of Dunmore Corporation from the Bucks County Board of Assessments Appeals, TMP # 05023-33.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Meeting Dates for 2013: Consideration to take Appropriate Action.

Motion by President Lewis and seconded by Vice President Brennan to Approve the Bristol Township Council Meeting Dates for 2013.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0, with Ms. Longhitano being absent.

B. Application for Preliminary and Final Land Development Approval of Estee Lauder, 300 Crossing Drive, TMP #5-18-67, to construct a 53,865 square foot addition in the P-1 Planned Industrial District : Consideration to take Appropriate Action.

Mr. Robert Schowalter presented the plans for the building addition for the council and residents to view. Mr. Schowalter spoke upon the construction to start in the spring and summer and the additional 40 new employees this project would create.

Councilman Tucker and Councilman Bowen inquired as to if the 40 new employees being hired could be considered first from within Bristol Township.

Mr. Pluta stated he didn't believe the waiver in lieu of street trees and sidewalks was necessary as this is just an addition being built upon an existing structure and given that there are no sidewalks in all of the industrial park.

Mr. Larry Young of Gilmore Engineering stated this application is acceptable without the street trees and sidewalks.

Motion By Mr. Pluta and seconded by President Lewis to approve the Application for Preliminary and Final Land Development of Estee Lauder, 300 Crossing Drive, TMP #5-18-67, with the granting of the waiver for fees in lieu of street trees and sidewalks.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

- C. Proposals for Annual Audit of Financial Statements: Consideration to take Appropriate Action.

Township Manager William McCauley stated the Township received proposals from four of the top CPA firms in the region. It was the recommendation of the administration that the proposal of Maillie, Falconiero & Co, LLP be accepted at the cost of \$32,000.00 per year; this is a savings of \$13,000 a year as well as a total savings of \$39,000.00 over the course of the contract based what the Township paid in 2012.

Motion by Mr. Bowen and seconded by Mr. Glasson to award a three year contract to the firm of Maillie, Falconiero & Co, LLP to perform the annual Audit of Financial Statements for the years of 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

- D. Application for Financing to the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority: Consideration to take Appropriate Action.

Township Manager William McCauley suggested Township borrow monies on behalf of the 3rd District Fire Company to finance a new ladder truck and Levittown Fairless Hills Rescue Squad in order to finance a new vehicle and refinance the two already acquired to take advantage of the lower interest rates readily available now. Mr. McCauley stated that the principal and interest monies that would be due from the Fire Company and Rescue Squad would be taken from their annual millage monies due them to make the repayment. The Township Solicitor would need to prepare an agreement between the Township and Fire Company and Rescue Squad to provide for the repayment of their portions of the note.

Motion by President Lewis and seconded by Mr. Glasson to Approve and authorize the Application for Financing to the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilman Pluta inquired as to the state of affairs at the Sewer plant with the new company overseeing operations.

Township Manager William McCauley addressed Mr. Pluta's concern stating that the M & B Environmental has drastically improved wastewater treatment services and further suggested ways to improve the operation. Further, M & B was very helpful while addressing the items on the "Punch List" from the improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Additionally, they have suggested new ideas to move forward such as a dechlorination system, which would eliminate the final violation at the plant and gain full compliance by the end of 2013. Mr. McCauley stated he would ask M& B Environmental to bring in an updated report for council.

Mr. Pluta inquired as to what areas I & I issues have been identified and whether they have been fixed, and if there have been any SSO (Sewer System Overflows). Mr. McCauley stated that some residential SSO's happen from time to time.

Mr. Pluta also asked for the Report to the DEP regarding SSO's be provided to council by the Township Manager.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mr. Chuck Clayton of Outlook Lane expressed the fact that there are no racial problems in the area, and that the accusations brought upon Mr. Lewis were an invasion of privacy and completely adolescent.

Ms. Patty Nickels of Prospect Ave stated that this is the best council Bristol Township has had in a long time and she would like for council to keep up the good job and to just think about the residents before making any decisions.

Mr. John Sanchez of Neshaminy Rd in Whitewood stated after watching the previous council meeting, he felt compelled to come and speak out about the message and the poor example the behavior at the last meeting showed the residents of Bristol Township. He further stated that Bishop Howard should let agencies involved investigate the allegations first rather than bringing to a public Council meeting. Mr. Sanchez also commented on the poor display of conduct by a school board member that evening and how poorly this reflected on both the school board and its member.

Mr. G. Obert inquired as to where the unused UDAG monies were allocated to and were the monies in the amount of \$3,049 on page 30 of the bill run labeled "General Engineering NPDE Violations/ DMR" were to cover investigations of fines at the Sewer Company prior to the new company overseeing operations or afterwards.

Mr. Robert Sink of J&R Pawn Shop, spoke on his concern about the new ordinance requiring a 15 day hold before items pawned can be sold and how his business is hurting from the policies put in place from this and previous councils.

Mr. Al Angelini of Iva Lane in Fairless Hills presented some information on a previous unofficial study in the Queen Ave Drive vicinity and his concern over the traffic issues there and on Drexel Road as well. Mr. Angelini also spoke about Ordinance 192 regarding weight restrictions and how local streets and signs need to be updated within it.

Ms. Carol Ventura of Buchanan Ave explained an incident at her residence regarding a sewer back-up. She was referred to call a plumber first in order to professionally evaluate the issue. Once issue was verified as a township responsibility, the township sent out a cleaning crew and advised Ms. Ventura to make a claim with her Homeowners insurance carrier and that the deductible would be paid by the township.

Mr. Pluta inquired as to when the policy changed and that the policy should be revisited or tweaked in order to be more acceptable to the resident.

Mr. Jim Baker of Clover Lane voiced his concern over the employment rates of the township officials and stated the sewer plant needs to be fixed in order to expand Bristol Township.

Mr. Joe Turner of Gentle Road spoke on the racial incidents that just so happen to surface around election cycles. He also stated that the incident of the sewer overflow in the basement of Lower Bucks Hospital has been reported with the appropriate agencies and those agencies are looking at this violation.

Bishop Melvin Howard of Fleetwing Drive spoke on the allegations of racism he brought forth on behalf of Mr. Gray.

Mr. Earl Bruck, West Avenue in Goldenridge, spoke as an officer of the Democratic Party declaring that allegations had been made that the Democratic Party was involved in making the unfounded allegations against Mr. Lewis are totally false. Mr. Bruck further stated that he has known Bob Lewis personally for over 20 years and has never known him to be racist.

Wes Rexler of West Bristol made a statement regarding the Human Relations Commission and the Sewer Department operations.

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Mr. Neil Morris, an Attorney representing Mr. Robert Lewis, spoke about the allegations and charges brought upon him by Mr. Eddie Gray. Mr. Morris stated that when such insidious charges are made you have to look at the person making them and his character and then you have to take into consideration the character of the accused. Mr. Morris explained that Eddie Gray was a troubled, delusional Vietnam veteran that has suffered from mental problems for many years. He then read numerous statements from neighbors of the Grays' and Lewis', and not one neighbor could corroborate any of Mr. Gray's charges. Mr. Morris concluded by reading a statement from Judge Clyde Waite, the first African-American Township Solicitor in Bristol Township and first African-American Common Pleas Court Judge in Bucks County. Judge Waite stated that he has known Bob Lewis for over 35 years and considers him a friend. He concluded that without Mr. Lewis' courage and support that he would never have survived as Township Solicitor or become a Common Pleas Court Judge.

Motion By Vice President Brennan and seconded by Mr. Bowen to adjourn.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02pm.

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2013

1. Approved the outstanding Voucher List and Requisitions for January 17, 2013.
2. Approved the Minutes from the council meeting on December 20, 2012.
3. Approved and Authorized the Appeal of Dunmore Corporation from the Bucks County Board of Assessments Appeals, TMP # 05023-33.
4. Approved the Bristol Township Council Meeting Dates for 2013.
5. Approved the Application for Preliminary and Final Land Development of Estee Lauder, 300 Crossing Drive, TMP #5-18-67, with the granting of waiver for fees in lieu of street trees and sidewalks.
6. Approved the firm of Maillie, Falconiero & Co, LLP to Audit Financial Statements for the years of 2012, 2013 and 2014.
7. Approved and Initiated Application for Financing to the Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority.
8. Adjourned meeting at 10:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy L. Hardy, Township Secretary