

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP

2501 BATH ROAD BRISTOL, PA 19007 (215) 785-0500 FAX (215) 785-2131

COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Tarlini at 7:04 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: personnel and litigation were discussed.

President Tarlini called for a Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Council Members, Tarlini, Pluta, Mobley, Monahan and Davis were present.

Public comments will be taken on Land Development and Official action items. General comments will be taken during Opportunity for Residents to Address Council.

President Tarlini read a statement regarding the Council meetings. In the past the meetings have been structured and respectful, open and relaxed and at times referred to as a bit unorganized. As Council President one of my duties is to preside over the meetings. Each president has a different way of doing this; some are relaxed while others are more stringent, depending on the atmosphere and the behaviors during the meetings. It is not my intention to prevent anyone from speaking publically. It is my understanding from speaking with the Solicitor that Robert's Rules is to be used as a guide to run meetings and it need not be applied literally. It is my goal to let everyone have an opportunity to speak publically and maintain order. Since the beginning of the year our meeting agendas have changed slightly and these changes have been discussed with our Solicitor and comply with sunshine laws. I have researched how many surrounding townships run their meetings and we allow more public comment than most. As a courtesy to the residents I have requested our manager and department heads to attend our meetings and stay for public comment for any possible questions. Most other townships do not do that. Residents may contact Council, our Manager or department heads through our website or by calling the township directly.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHER LIST AND REQUISITIONS:

Vice President Pluta called for the motion to approve the voucher list and requisitions for January 2009 with the exception of Lima for verification and Pennoni line item 184911, \$14,675.65 for further clarification (the Manager and Mr. Kucher have a meeting with them next week). Councilman Monahan stated I think after that meeting we will have more clarification of which direction we are going. Second by Councilwoman Davis.

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Roll Call Vote: Councilman Mobley yes
Councilman Monahan yes
Councilwoman Davis yes
Vice President Pluta yes
President Tarlini yes

Motion Approved: 5-0

Councilman Monahan called for the motion to approve the voucher list and requisitions for the sewer department for January 2009 with the exception of Keystone Engineering and Lima for verification. Second by Vice President Pluta. Councilman Mobley stated there are a lot of things that should have been put to bid. The recorders could have been done all at one time in the pumping stations. I spoke with Mr. Bartlett today, he reassured me that will be done in the future.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Mobley no
Councilman Monahan yes
Councilwoman Davis yes
Vice President Pluta yes
President Tarlini yes

Motion Approved: 4-1

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP POLICE PROMOTIONS:

Chief McAndrew presented the promotions, swearing in was by Judge Klein. The promotions were Chief Robert Jason Callahan to detective. He was presented with the gold and silver badge.

REPORT FROM MANAGING DIRECTOR:

Mr. Bartlett reported last Friday, February 13 at 8:45 A.M. a special meeting was held. There was one item on the agenda. The guidelines were followed for advertisement. A small revision was passed regarding the resolution for the H2O PA Grant. A dollar amount placed, fifty-fifty grant work and loan for work at the plant. The guideline is one-third loan to two-thirds grant. That change was needed. One point eight million dollars will be saved if we receive the grant and the loan is taken. The grant application was submitted on time.

Permission is requested for the advertisement for the I95 pumping station replacement project. This was one of the items in the budget. Councilman Pluta called for the motion to grant permission for the I95 pumping station replacement project. Second by Councilman Monahan. Poll: Councilmember Mobley voted no. Councilmembers Pluta, Davis, Monahan, and Tarlini voted yes. Motion approved 4-1.

Mr. Bartlett requested authorization to draft waiver and language issues to make rate schedule revision easier. It is a smoother transmission. The rate schedule would be done by resolution instead of by

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ordinance. It is a quicker process. Vice President Pluta called for the motion to draft waiver language to make rate schedule revisions easier. Second by Councilman Monahan. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

Mr. Bartlett responded to resident complaints: billboards; the property owners were sent violations.

Residents approach our employees with complaints. They should also call the various departments. Complaints will be addressed properly if it is done through the departments.

COUNCIL ITEMS:

- A. Councilman Mobley called for the motion to approve the request for a permit for the Memorial Day Parade as requested by the Croydon Civic Association and the Schumacher VFW Post #1597. Second by Councilman Monahan.

Roll Call Vote:	Councilman Mobley	yes
	Councilman Monahan	yes
	Councilwoman Davis	yes
	Vice President Pluta	yes
	President Tarlini	yes

Motion Approved 5-0

- B. The towing ordinance; towing rates were check by the Township. The Rates vary. The last rate changes to our ordinance were in 2001. A majority of the townships don't set rates. Some set maximum rates. I'm looking for direction from the redraft of the ordinance on the following items, (1) leave rates where they are (they are outdated). (2) Revise with input from the towing companies. We could revise to do rate changes by resolution. (3) Remove rate structure and let companies set the rates. If so we should have an appeal board (Middletown does). (4) The amount of money could be paid to the Township by companies for each tow. That would limit it to one towing company. I would recommend that. Councilman Monahan stated when they keep the vehicle in the yard it gets expensive. That should be looked into. Councilman Mobley said I liked the idea of up to twelve hours to pick up your vehicle without storage charge. Mr. Bartlett stated we will start the language for review of sample rates.

- C. Discussion of Road Paving Projects. Mr. Lawson stated we are looking into outsourcing for 2009. Bensalem contracts all their paving, Middletown outsources the majority, Falls subcontracts all the paving. Upper Southampton does a majority of small projects. Lower Southampton does their own paving their budget is only \$200,000 to \$300,000. Road and patch work, potholes, blow-ups, blender patching all don't get done. Debris, cleaning of vacant of properties, stormwater drainage, mason work, ninety inlets need repair, grass cutting if we outsource our paving we will have better service to the residents. Building maintenance gets backed up. Traffic safety to pave in house will be hard, staffing is down. Vice President Pluta asked will it bear on the handicapped cutouts? Mr. Lawson responded we haven't seen the final draft of that yet. Mr. Bartlett stated if an outside contractor does the work, our guys can prepare ahead of the paving project. President Tarlini stated the entire liquid fuel money is to be used to pave the roads. Mr. Lawson stated yes, it will be. Councilwoman Davis stated that would eliminate all overtime for employees. Mr. Lawson stated some, it depends on what happens during the day. It would save us a lot of overtime. Councilwoman Davis stated Council could limit overtime, excluding emergencies. Councilman Mobley asked how many men do you have ,now. Mr. Lawson responded twenty and two summer people. Councilman Mobley stated we need to meet with you and fine tune this. Councilman Monahan asked Mr. Lawson do you think this is better? Mr. Lawson responded the residents would get better service. Councilwoman Davis stated if we go to bid we don't have to accept this. The time frame is urgent. We spent an extra \$100 a day because of going to bid to late, previously. Councilwoman Davis called for the motion to advertise to seek outside contractors for the road project (using clear specs). Second by Vice President Pluta. Mr. Obert said what are we going to do with all the equipment if we use an outside contractor? Mr. Slipp said we paid a lot of money for equipment our men could get a lot of roads done. Mr. Lawson stated we are down to seven men. Everything in the township is neglected we are trying to catch up. It keeps piling up. Councilman Mobley asked do we get a warranty? Mr. Sacco stated there would be a two year performance bond. Councilman Pluta stated \$100,000 of overtime was paid out through the year. We did all the roads. Now, we have no guarantee. If something fails we pay again. We would get the figures. Poll: Councilmember Mobley voted no. Councilmembers Monahan, Davis, Pluta and Tarlini voted yes. Motion approved 4-1.

REPORT FROM PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Lawson reported email was received regarding the economic stimulus package for roads. We may qualify for some money for infrastructure and roads. Two quotes are in the packets for trucks (costars bidder), one for an F250 (\$30,489) and one for an F350 (\$30,979). The F350 is recommended. This will be used for the recreation department. President Tarlini called for the motion to approve the purchase of F350 truck (through Costars bidder) in the amount of \$30,979. Second by Councilman Pluta.

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Councilman Mobley stated we need to hold off and meet to see if we are outsourcing or not so we can see that we wouldn't purchase equipment we don't need. Mr. Lawson stated this has nothing to do with paving, it is for the Recreation Department. Poll: Councilmembers Mobley and Davis voted no. Councilmembers Monahan, Pluta and Tarlini voted yes. Motion approved 3-2.

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE:

Chief McAndrew stated when Lamont Freeland was shot while driving in a vehicle with Tyrone Lewis on April 28, 2006. Tyron received his diploma here rather than at the school. Some of the media criticized the Township for that. Today Kendell Cottrell and four other codefendants were arrested for this crime and associated crimes. This was a horrendous act and now due to the hard work of the police department and the district attorney's office this horrendous crime has now been solved. I am extremely proud of the people who worked hard to solve this crime.

We partnered with Community Development for one point seven million dollars in grant money to build a substation. In lieu of we applied for a mobile substation. If successful the only charge would be \$900 to \$1,000 for insurance and gas. I am asking for the purchase of the vehicle. President Tarlini stated you won't know until you find out if you received the grant. Chief McAndrew stated the life of the vehicle is twenty to twenty five years. Councilwoman Davis called for the motion to approve the purchase of a vehicle for the mobile substation. Second by Councilman Monahan. Poll: Councilmember Mobley voted no. Councilmembers Monahan, Davis, Pluta and Tarlini voted yes. Motion approved 4-1.

Chief McAndrew asked Mr. Lawson to get a price for a cover for the gas pump and redoing the impound lot. It will be paid out of forfeiture fund through the DECA. We shared in some confiscated property. Councilman Monahan called for the motion to approve the purchase of a cover for the gas pump and redoing the impound lot from confiscated money. Second by Vice President Pluta. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF BUILDING, PLANNING AND ZONING:

Mr. Kucher reported there was a memo regarding the zoning ordinance for Weed Chevrolet. Under the present ordinance a sit down no fast food is required. I spoke to Mr. Sacco to include some restaurants into our sit down restaurant. I could prepare this with Mr. Sacco and advertise for the next meeting. We would take out "consumed in the building and no take out". Councilwoman Davis stated couldn't they go for a variance. It didn't stop Subway. If you change it now anyone can come anytime. I am hesitant to change this for one site. Mr. Sacco stated some aren't fast food or sit down by definition. Mr. Kucher stated the developer on Route 413 said in this economy marketing is hard. We do not define outside dining. There should be provisions for this. We would draft the ordinance with Mr. Sacco. Vice President Pluta stated investigate this and put the information in our packet.

Mr. Kucher stated Millers Trailer Park; an article in the Bucks County Courier Times said presently there are no applications. Presently there are expired R3 and R4 for zoning; that non-conformity was lost.

Keystone Park was sent notices regarding the tractor trailer entrances (spoken about at the last meeting).

I outlined vending fees from other Township compared to ours. Invoices are out and we are collecting. This would need an ordinance revision if changed. Councilwoman Davis stated people pay \$1,250 more just because of two slots. I'd like to see them not pay extra until we come up with something. Mr. Bartlett stated Council can suspend an ordinance. We could look at the cost. Councilwoman Davis stated we would be in line with the other townships. President Tarlini called for the motion to write up an ordinance to suggest for 2010. The fees would be set by resolution and the Township could budget accordingly. Second by Councilwoman Davis. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF WATER & SEWER:

Mr. Britton reported working recently on the annual report. The plant staff was thanked for turning things around at the sewer plant and the staff at the office for their work with the customers.

Mr. Britton reported working closely with sewer liaison and Mr. Bartlett on operation changes, maintenance, activities, engineering projects and \$250,000 in Croydon Inflow and Infiltration repairs of the area.

The last ten months a lot of changes occurred.

Letters were received regarding the rates. We are making changes. It helps extend the life of the facility and reliability of the service.

Many question were asked about the DEP moratorium, mostly when will it be lifted. We are in a waiting period. I requested and provided data to lift the moratorium. We are meeting and discussing that. There is no date now. Once I know I will tell you.

I would like to thank the customers for support. Economic Development in the Township will have fewer obstacles after the moratorium is lifted. We all have to work within the budget. I am working with DEP and expect to have a pending time frame for improvements.

I would like to thank the grant writer, township staff and engineer who moved quickly to put together a grant application (February 13- DCED and February 17 Pennvest).

I'm working on the 2008 annual report. Last year the fiscal year was changed. I will provide an annual report and presentation next month.

Councilman Mobley stated there is a purchasing policy. Recorders were purchased from the same company for \$12,600. It should have been put to bid. Our mechanics could do this work. Capital projects should be bid out. Everything should have bids and quotes. Councilman Pluta stated there was a meeting with Dick Smith and we knew it was per unit for the flow meters. President Tarlini stated the Manager said he will discuss issues with the Sewer Director.

REPORT FROM SOLICITOR:

Mr. Sacco stated the skate board lease will have minor changes. The lease was received on Thursday.

OTHER:

President Tarlini requested residents to volunteer for advisory boards or committees.

Councilman Pluta asked Mr. Britton to look at the manhole in the Edgely area. Mr. Britton responded yes, I will check the manhole.

Councilman Monahan stated last meeting there was a remark by a resident about a bill received by Lower Bucks County Joint Municipal Authority with a rate increase. They should look at their water consumption.

Councilman Mobley asked Mr. Lawson the status of the sidewalks? Mr. Lawson responded they are the responsibility of the county parks. They will clean up all the debris.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Gallus J. Obert-said documentation of the ownership of Radcliffe Street was given to Mr. Bartlett and President Tarlini. President Tarlini said Lieutenant Sava is working on this.
2. Jake Tryon- said Aqua only fixed part of his road. Mr. Lawson responded they didn't get released yet. Mr. Tryon said Hartwell's Garage is empty and messy. Mr. Bartlett responded he will look into it.
3. Mark Haydek-wants Mr. Sacco to provide a copy of the revised agreement regarding the land from the County for the skate park.
4. Liz Fisher-asked Council and residents to consider sending letters to Representative Melio regarding house bill 2553 to enable municipalities to make their own dog laws to reduce delays. It would help with dogs with behavior problems to prevent them from hurting other dogs or people.
5. Pat Reynolds- spoke of her dog which was killed in May by a vicious dog.
6. Joe DiGiorgio- did not speak.
7. Mike Slipp-said he was not pleased with the February 5th meeting, people should be courteous, but, not cut off. Also, asked what the meeting on February 13th was for and said even after the large increases in sewer rates nothing seems to get done. President Tarlini stated the special meeting was rushed because it was due that day. This was for the grant. People weren't familiar with the contract.
8. Ken Smith-asked for the status of the shooting range for the police department? Chief McAndrew stated we are still working on it.

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9. Carol Esterline-did not speak.
10. West Retzler-asked if the new vehicle is in the budget? President Tarlini responded yes. Mr. Retzler asked why the reception phone is not answered at lunch time? President Tarlini responded that must be the time the receptionist takes lunch. At that time the website could still be accessed if someone needed information. Mr. Retzler stated revenue could be made on New Falls Road from speeding.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Tarlini called for the motion to adjourn. Second by Councilwoman Davis. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted
Denise Gorry
Secretary

/dg

MOTIONS APPROVED:

- 1) Approve the voucher list and requisitions for January 2009 with the exception of Lima for verification and Pennoni line item 184911, \$14,675.65 for further clarification (the Manager and Mr. Kucher have a meeting with them next week).
- 2) Approve the voucher list and requisitions for the sewer department for January 2009 with the exception of Keystone Engineering and Lima for verification.
- 3) Grant permission for the I95 pumping station replacement project.
- 4) Draft waiver language to make rate schedule revisions easier.
- 5) Approve the request for a permit for the Memorial Day Parade as requested by the Croydon Civic Association and the Schumacher VFW Post #1597.
- 6) Advertise to seek outside contractors for the road project (using clear specs).
- 7) Approve the purchase of F350 truck (through Costars bidder) in the amount of \$30,979.
- 8) Approve the purchase of a vehicle for the mobile substation.
- 9) Approve the purchase of a cover for the gas pump and redoing the impound lot from confiscated money.
- 10) Write up an ordinance (vending) to suggest for 2010.

2/1/09

	NAME	STREET ADDRESS	AGENDA (X)	OTHER (X)	
1	GALLUS J. OBERTEL	FREEDOM LN	X	X	8:53
2	WHE TRYON	CROYDEAN	X	X	9:06
3	MARK WEYDEK	Red Cedar	X	X	9:11
4	Luiz Fischen	1103 Wood St		X	9:13
5	Dan Reynolds	Princess Ave		X	9:27
6	JOE DIGIORGIO	ALL CLEAN LAUNDRY		X	N/A
7	Mike Slipp	928 Center Ave		X	9:17
8	KEN SMITH	1005 GRIEB Ave	X	X	9:29
9	Carol Esterline	Bristol Twp.		X	did not talk
10	WEST KAZUL	WEST BRISTOL			9:32
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