

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP

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

COUNCIL MEETING

November 20, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Davis at 7:03 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: personnel and litigation were discussed.

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

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

Public comments will be taken as each item is addressed. General comments will be taken during Opportunity for Residents to Address Council. Public comment on general and agenda items will be taken at this time. An Audience Participation form must be completed and given to the Township Secretary prior to the roll call of the meeting as provided in the Bristol Township Administrative Code, Section 306. Residents should adhere to the three minute public participation guideline. Total public comments are limited to one hour.

EXECUTIVE REPORT:

Mayor Fenton reported the Thanksgiving Parade is November 22, 2008. It will start at Haines Road, proceed to Millcreek Road, and end at Truman High School. The parade kicks off the annual Harry S. Truman vs. Conwell Egan football game which is held on Thanksgiving.

The Tree Lighting is December 4, 2008. The James Buchanan chorus will have a sing along. There will be refreshments and a sing along at the senior center following the tree lighting ceremony.

All residents are asked to display a blue light in honor of all the officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

COUNCIL ITEMS:

- A. Vice President Tarlini called for the motion to approve the outstanding voucher list and requisitions for October 2008. Second by Councilman Monahan.

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

Motion Approved 5-0

- B. Councilman Monahan called for the motion to approve the outstanding voucher list and requisitions for the Sewer Department for October 2008. Second by Councilman Pluta. Mr. Obert said the Sewer Director should be here to give us an idea of what all this money is being spent for and whether this increases capacity. Mr. Bartlett stated the centrifuge was an emergency repair. Councilman Pluta responded no work done was to increase capacity. This reduces the inflow and infiltration flows. Inflow and infiltration will reduce plant flow but not increase capacity. Flows will be monitored for six months and reviewed by DEP. A lot of the previous DMR reports were showing violations, which may not be true because the effluent meter was broken. Mrs. Mormando asked has a pretreatment coordinator been hired? President Davis stated it is out of the budget. Mark Britton assumed the pretreatment duties. Councilman Mobley stated there are no quotes for the clarifier for a total of \$11,097. Councilman Pluta stated that may be for two jobs. Councilman Mobley stated if it is over \$5,000 it should have quotes. Mr. Sacco stated if an item can only be produced from one company you would not have the quotes, I don't know the answer. Councilman Mobley stated it was in the budget and should be quoted. Councilman Pluta stated the line is approved; the plumber was approved for the year and the work is done by the guidelines with the engineer. As liaisons we were aware of this. Councilman Monahan stated this should be held until resolved. Vice President Tarlini said the motion should be rephrased. Councilman Monahan rephrased the motion: to approve the outstanding voucher list and requisitions for the Sewer Department for October 2008 with the exception of the discussed Lima Bill.

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

Motion Approved 4-1

Councilman Mobley asked when the audits will be received? Mrs. Gordon (Finance Director) responded the auditors are not done the 2007 sewer audit. Councilman Mobley asked in the future could we have it earlier? Mrs. Gordon responded next year it will be by April.

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- C. Call for a motion to approve minutes from the following Council Meeting: July 17, 2008 (Tabled), August 21, 2008 (Tabled), October 2, 2008. President Davis called for the motion to approve the minutes of July 17, 2008. Second by Vice President Tarlini.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mobley	yes
Councilman Pluta	yes
Councilman Monahan	yes
Vice President Tarlini	yes
President Davis	yes

Motion approved 5-0

Councilman Monahan called for the motion to approve the minutes of August 21, 2008. Second by President Davis.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mobley	yes
Councilman Pluta	yes
Councilman Monahan	yes
Vice President Tarlini	yes
President Davis	yes

Motion approved 5-0

Vice President Tarlini called for the motion to approve the minutes of October 2, 2008. Second by Councilman Monahan.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mobley	yes
Councilman Pluta	yes
Councilman Monahan	yes
Vice President Tarlini	yes
President Davis	yes

Motion approved 5-0

- D. Councilman Monahan called for the motion to approve waiving the sign fee in the amount of \$120.00 as requested by the People Church of Christ. Second by Councilman Pluta.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mobley	yes
Councilman Pluta	yes
Councilman Monahan	yes
Vice President Tarlini	yes
President Davis	no

Motion approved: 4-1

- E. Councilman Monahan called for the motion to approve waiving the sign fees in the amount of \$120.00 as requested by Conwell-Egan Catholic High School for the invoices billed in 2008 and deny the request to waive the fees for the years 2006 and 2007. Mr. Bartlett stated they paid the bill and now they are requesting a refund. Second by Councilman Pluta.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilman Mobley	yes
Councilman Pluta	yes
Councilman Monahan	yes
Vice President Tarlini	yes
President Davis	no

Motion approved: 4-1

REPORT FROM MANAGING DIRECTOR:

Mr. Bartlett reported Council requested the Township employees to look at clean initiatives. We are now using a vendor for the Township Building and Public Works with all green supplies, at a savings.

The Development Authority has three members. They request the Mayor add additional members. The Development Authority controls various properties. They have asked residents to put in letters of interest. It may meet quarterly. This provides low interest loans.

A meeting was held with the Board to discuss the casino grant. We will know approvals by December.

Resolution 41-08 is a grant for emergency safety equipment draw down. Councilman Monahan called for the motion to approve resolution number 41-08: a grant draw down for safety equipment. Second by Councilman Pluta. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

Mr. Bartlett stated in June limiting parking on Queen Anne Drive during school hours was discussed. No action was taken. At this time a motion is needed to authorize the solicitor to draft the ordinance to get signs. Councilman Mobley called for the motion to draft an ordinance to get signs for Queen Anne Drive to limit parking during school hours. Second by Councilman Monahan. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

Mr. Bartlett stated the reorganization meeting is January 5, 2009. This is required. The first meeting date would have been January 1, 2009. The next would be January 8, 2009. Which dates will the meetings be held? Vice President Tarlini called for the motion to hold the reorganization meeting January 5, 2009 and have the regular meeting January 15, 2009. Second by President Davis. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

Mr. Bartlett stated the Government Study Commission election results were certified. They need to be sworn in by the 29th. They would be publically recognized at a meeting. I suggest we contact the seven

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members to make arrangements for the December 4, 2008 meeting for the commission to be sworn in. They have an important task ahead of them.

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE:

Chief McAndrew reported the Township auction brought in a total of \$16,365. \$4,536 for the police, \$505 was for bikes, Public Works \$8,271, Sewer \$2,320 and the Fire Marshall Office \$733.

Permission is requested for getting a contractor to cover the fuel station. This will be paid for with confiscated funds. Councilman Monahan called for the motion to approve a contractor to cover the fuel station (to be paid for from confiscated funds). Second by Councilman Pluta. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

Chief McAndrew stated we are proceeding with the floor in the basement. It is not infringing on the budget because it is paid for from confiscated funds.

Councilman Monahan requested the status of the traffic study on Prospect Avenue and Norwood Avenue. Chief McAndrew responded the results will be available by the next meeting.

REPORT FROM PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Lawson reported we are cleaning up the back yard at Public Works to comply with the NPDES permit and MS4S requirements. We are doing well with the NPDES permit as submitted by Gary Smith.

We are still crack sealing.

Six streets were not done in Red Cedar. We still have open projects (liquid fuels) with the State. Due to a material increase some of the 2009 money will need to be used.

Trees will be cut and left in five foot sections on the green belts. The Mayor thinks this will help people with alternate fuels. President Davis asked if this could be kept here (at the Township building)? Mr. Lawson responded we could pile it up at the yard (at Pubic Works). Councilman Pluta asked where the trees are? Mr. Lawson responded some are in Red Cedar. Councilman Pluta stated it will not be on the main roads. Councilman Mobley stated it is a great idea but should be hard wood. Mr. Lawson stated we can separate it at the shop. We need to get rid of it anyway.

President Davis stated a complaint we received from a resident on Holly Drive says it should be announced when we will be working there, Holly Drive is coming up already. It wasn't tarred, near Hawthorn there are pot holes. Mr. Lawson stated it was not sealed yet. We saw where it came up. Maybe some dirt slid down or stones went into the blacktop. It is marked. We will patch it unless they make the hot material, if so we will use that.

Jake Tryon said the some of the storm sewers are too low. It is a problem when you drive on them. Mr. Lawson responded Councilman Pluta raised that question. If it is too high it might collect water. I will

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arrange to meet with you and inspect the problem. Councilman Pluta stated I am going with Mr. Lawson to look at these problem areas in Croydon with storm sewers. I will meet with Mr. Tryon Saturday at 9:00 A.M.

Mr. Ausora stated there is a pot hole at the stop sign on Ford Road. The lights on 413 are on every day. Some of the lights at five points are on and some are off. Mr. Lawson responded all are done by photocells. Maybe some of the photocells are out.

Jeff Buronich from the Edgely Fire Company said we just repaired the parking lot and the whole roadway is torn up. Mr. Lawson responded PECO is still working with it. I will check with Mr. Kucher tomorrow. We will do pipe drainage work when they are done. Amtrak has been notified.

Councilman Monahan said residents from Minot Avenue are calling about backups after the rain. Mr. Lawson stated the problem was fixed this week. Councilman Monahan stated I appreciate the help received from your department.

REPORT FROM SOLICITOR:

Mr. Sacco reported the Queen Anne ordinance will be prepared. I will need the intersections. Chief McAndrew stated I will check and provide the intersections to you.

Mr. Sacco said the State is completing a survey and changing to include land the committee wanted (two acres), including the pad. This will make it be easier to tap into utilities.

A letter was received regarding the Civil Service Amendment to clarify language for probation for one-twenty certified officers. The change will be one hundred twenty days from the start of payroll. Also needed is a change in the quorum requirement to meet the state requirements. Councilman Monahan called for the motion to authorize advertisement of the changes to the civil service to meet state requirements. Second by Councilman Pluta. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

OTHER:

Councilman Monahan said there are problems with contractors in the Township. This was discussed previously. I spoke with one resident who gave a contractor \$12,000 and no work was completed. People need to check with the Township to see if a contractor is registered. Mr. Sacco stated if we find a pattern we can push the point. Chief McAndrew stated that should be reported to the police department.

Councilman Mobley requested the status of prices for mosquito spray for next year. Mr. Bartlett stated I gave a price by the mile. It was not in the budget. It could be added. Councilman Mobley asked if grant money is available for the mosquito control? Councilman Monahan responded I will check with representative Melio's Office. Mr. Bartlett stated I will pass the information to Councilman Monahan and Councilman Mobley. Councilman Monahan stated I checked with Representative Melio's office previously, but, I will look at the information.

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Andrew Mowen Sr. - did not speak.
2. Jeff Buranick-thanked Council for including the transfer to the fire and rescue squads in the budget. Also Edgely Fire Company is kicking off their membership drive. Applications are accepted on Wednesdays.
3. Gallus Obert-spoke of concerns with the budget, due dates for the audit (per the administrative code) and asked what happened to the Budget Committee. President Davis stated two of the members resigned and the member that stayed on gave the recommendations to Vice President Tarlini and me.
4. Joan Mormando-said the Budget Committee was to give reports and department heads were to be here for the meetings. President Davis stated we had one person on the budget committee. The budget is on the website for everyone to access. Councilman Mobley stated I was disappointed in the presentation of the budget. No one was notified of the changes. President Davis stated every department wanted to meet and speak about their departments. We discussed the budget at the meeting. We had a right to present it at the meeting. People called me and were thrilled that we cut to do this budget without an increase.
5. Russell Trojan-requested a digital speed limit sign because people are going to fast on Hollyhock and Honeysuckle lanes. On Hollyhock Lane cars don't stop at the stop sign. Chief McAndrew said speed timing devices and radar were purchased with casino money. We will give warnings, we can't ticket with radar. I will put include Hollyhock Lane.
6. Ken Smith-asked whether changing the animal control hours from 12:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. is effective? President Davis responded the police thought they get more calls in the P.M.
7. West Retzler-asked the Solicitor what clarifies a point of order? Mr. Sacco responded a point of order is to be brought up by Board Members if a procedural defect is brought up. Mr. Retzler said didn't we say we were going to discontinue waiving sign fees? Vice President Tarlini responded next year we will make a policy starting in January, since we were waiving the fees until now, the Manager and I did not think it was fair for this year. Mr. Retzler said the Township is giving wood away. Could people sue for creosote in their chimneys if the house burns down? Mr. Sacco responded no. Mr. Retzler said vehicles are speeding on Gingerbush Lane.
8. Tom Ferrari-did not speak.
9. Bob Lewis-said the Township offering fire wood (from trees knocked down on the greenbelts) to the residents is a nice idea and the residents are capable of picking up the wood if it is put in a safe place. Mosquito control; the County took that over; why put expenses on our taxpayers, we should work with the County with the problem areas.

2009 BUDGET:

Vice President Tarlini said last meeting Councilman Mobley complained to the Finance Director about the budget. We are following code. Regarding Council meeting with department heads for the budget, \$450,000 was cut from the budget. Councilman Mobley stated all of us should be notified of the format. The new human resource director and Daisy Myers for \$100,000, should have been out. Human resource is still there. Two days notice was given that is not enough notice for a meeting. Everyone wants to email; no one wants to pick up the phone. Vice President Tarlini stated the Manager said we would go through this. Section 604 tells us how to do the review. There was no budget committee. I was only on the budget committee when they (the Mayor) wanted one. Councilman Mobley stated you shut off the public doing it this way. I want the public involved. President Davis stated I spent hours with each department head saying cut your budget. Mrs. Gordon did a great job. Vice President Tarlini stated looking at the code it says Council shall review the plans. When I was on the committee I didn't know Council had to meet with department heads. I don't know whether they did or not. Mr. Obert said I was on the committee you are to review the budget based on recommendations of non binding committees. There are four to nine percent increases with salaries for department heads, in the future built in raises shouldn't be allowed. Mrs. Gordon stated Mr. Bartlett and the Chief are contractual. No raises are in the current budget on line items. Mr. Obert stated Mr. Lawson is in for an eight-point two percent increase. Mrs. Gordon said the budget for 2009 is his current salary. Mr. Obert stated what will we do for the future? I can't follow the format. Many line items (a half a million dollars) could be removed. Mr. Ausora said I am concerned for the cable franchise fees, since Verizon Fios is going to have a substantial amount of the customers from Comcast it is unsure what the franchise fees will be, also how long will it take to recoup the money used from reserves? Mrs. Gordon responded there are other shortages in revenue. Hopefully the economy will come up and earned income tax will level out. Hopefully in the future the earned income tax will go up. Normally, people receive raises which increase the earned income tax. The amount was kept the same in the budget so hopefully it will even out. Mr. Sacco stated one percent total can only be an earned income tax. If we went to one and the school did we would only collect point five (1/2). Mrs. Gordon stated it would be helpful for a year and could help senior citizens. It would benefit the nonworking or retired.

Vice President Tarlini spoke of the assessment value: the budget was reviewed with the Finance Director. Mrs. Gordon stated increasing millage and decreasing fees; a person who is assessed lower will go down and some will go up depending on the value. We reduced the street light fee and used the offset of that to increase capital projects, trash collection went up five dollars. Mr. Ausora asked are we using the street light money this year? Mrs. Gordon responded it will be in reserves for the future if not spent. The only thing spent in the capital project budget is what is finished. If there are none this year we will be fine. It won't wipe out reserves. Barbara Bill asked what the balance is in reserves? President Davis responded two point one million. Mrs. Gordon stated four point eight million is recommended. Mrs. Bill stated it will lower your bond rating. Mr. Sacco stated your credit will take a hit for that. When we did the police pension we had good credit. Mrs. Bill stated money should be

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invested for more interest. Mrs. Gordon stated I have been cleaning up four years from the past finance director. We could shop around for better interest, but there is no time currently. Mr. Bartlett stated the current budget shows the rates paid at this time. We have set aside money in a line item for administrative raises (01-4911-350, \$16,000-\$18,000).

Councilman Mobley stated if you cut the decorative lighting, street lighting fund in half that would be an extra \$15,000. Unscrewing every other bulb would save money on electric. Mr. Baker stated you would have to rewire to make every other light work; it would be an expense.

Councilman Mobley said we should look for sponsors for the fireworks.

The sign out front for \$30,000 should be removed from the budget.

The human resource director was supposed to be taken out. Mrs. Gordon stated that was taken out and moved to contingency. Council can reactivate or you wouldn't use it.

Councilman Mobley stated the truck for \$35,000 was not budgeted. Mr. Lawson said the work needs to be done. Two trucks were retired. These will be new and will have a snow plow.

Councilman Mobley called for the motion to remove the township sign for \$30,000 from the budget (line item 19-4999-690). Second by President Davis. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved.

Councilman Mobley called for the motion to remove (from capital projects) equipment: character generator for \$14,000. The motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Bartlett stated this would generate labels and who is seen for the video.

Councilman Mobley stated I will meet with Mrs. Gordon to discuss further when we will have the sewer budget hearings. Mrs. Gordon stated they are part of the Township budget. Councilman Mobley stated residents are use to a separate budget hearing. We are doing it different; this is unfair not to let the public know what is going on. Vice President Tarlini stated people were informed last year was a nine month budget. Councilman Mobley stated we need to cut and deal with what we have. No one knows the financial future.

Councilman Pluta requested Mrs. Gordon to check why the amount for detective uniforms has not changed from the previous budget. Mrs. Gordon will check and report.

Councilman Pluta requested clarification for the decrease in health insurance. Mrs. Gordon responded I will go through it and give you a response, we did a spread sheet.

Councilman Pluta asked Mr. Lawson why the amount for mechanical maintenance went from \$50,000 in the 2008 budget to \$80,000 in the 2009 budget? Mr. Lawson responded we do inspections for the majority of our trucks every six months; eighty percent will need new tires (the next inspection). The tires will be expensive. We increased that and we also have four brake jobs to do. That is all calculated for this year.

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Councilman Mobley stated on the sewer budget line item 754428-480; contingency went from \$7,333 to \$75,323. Contracted maintenance was okay. The equipment rental exceeded the budget for \$20,000. A lot of that was unnecessary. Electric went up. Capital expense was \$440,000 now it is \$250,000. I thought we had more to do. Mr. Bartlett stated we tried to keep the rates down. If we need more the rate will go up. Councilman Mobley stated a lot of work should be done in house. We have \$7,000 for sewer blockage. Mr. Bartlett stated that may be if a resident has a problem we repair. We do use the jetter to clear the blockage. I will clarify.

Councilman Mobley asked did we get an estimate from DEP for the contingency line item? Mrs. Gordon responded no.

Councilman Mobley asked what the line item for water meter readings is for? Mrs. Gordon responded half of the salary is shared from the Parks Department. Councilman Mobley stated that is a union conflict. Mrs. Gordon stated the union is okay.

Councilman Mobley stated the department heads should be here to explain this budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice President Tarlini called for the motion to adjourn. Second by President Davis. Poll: all ayes. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted
Denise Gorry
Secretary

/dg

MOTIONS APPROVED:

1. Approve the outstanding voucher list and requisitions for October 2008.
2. Approve the outstanding voucher list and requisitions for the Sewer Department for October 2008 with the exception of the discussed Lima Bill.
3. Approve the minutes of July 17, 2008.
4. Approve the minutes of August 21, 2008.
5. Approve the minutes of October 2, 2008.
6. Approve waiving the sign fee in the amount of \$120.00 as requested by the People Church of Christ.
7. Approve waiving the sign fees in the amount of \$120.00 as requested by Conwell-Egan Catholic High School for the invoices billed in 2008 and deny the request to waive the fees for the years 2006 and 2007.
8. Approve resolution number 41-08: a grant draw down for safety equipment
9. Draft an ordinance to get signs for Queen Anne Drive to limit parking during school hours.
10. Hold the reorganization meeting January 5, 2009 and have the regular meeting January 15, 2009.
11. Approve a contractor to cover the fuel station (to be paid for from confiscated funds).
12. Authorize advertisement of the changes to the civil service to meet state requirements.
13. Remove the township sign for \$30,000 from the budget (line item 19-4999-690).

11/20/08

	NAME	STREET ADDRESS	AGENDA (X)	OTHER (X)
1	ANDREW MOWEN SR	462 GRASS POND RD		✓
2	JEFF BURANIL	1300 Edgely Ave		✓
3	GALLUS OBEET	FREEDOM LN	X	X
4	Joan Normando	Croydon Pa.		✓
5	RUSSELL TROJAN	33 Hollyhock		✓
6	KEN SMITH	1005 GRIEB AVE BRISTOL		✓
7	WEST KETZ LD.	WEST BRISTOL		
8	TOM FERRARI	CROYDON		
9	BOB LEWIS	202 LOUISE AVE		✓✓
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