



## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRYN ATHYN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### ***COUNCIL CHAMBER*** **February 3, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by President Jeffrey Elsing at 7:00p.m. The following were present:

#### **MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Glenn Gurney  
Ric Asplundh  
Jeffrey Elsing

Duane D. Hyatt  
Steven Huntzinger

ALSO: Victoria S. Trost, Mayor Ken Schauder, Solicitor R. Rex Herder. Councilman Brent McCurdy and Mark Pennink were excused.

Council observed a Moment of Silence for Police Officer Alessandro Cricelli who passed away on January 26, 2025. Alex was a dedicated member of the Bryn Athyn Police Department since 2018. Before joining our team, Alex served 20 years with the Philadelphia Police Department, spending much of his career with their Drug Task Force. Known for his extraordinary ability to detect and combat crime, Alex achieved numerous successes throughout his distinguished career. Alex was fearless, confronting danger head-on to protect our community. He personified the courage and commitment that defines the profession. Alex is survived by his wife, Maureen, and his daughter, Alexis. His loss is deeply felt by all who knew him and served alongside him. Our thoughts are with his family during this difficult time.

#### **MINUTES**

*On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council voted unanimous approval of the January minutes.*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund Revenue for January was \$11,490.27. General Fund Expenses were \$162,021.45. Net Income was -150,531.18.

There was no Sewer Fund Revenue for January. Sewer Fund Expenses were \$28,827.59. Net Income was -\$28,827.59.

Today PLGIT paid 4.22%. PLGIT Prime paid 4.33%.

Included in the General Fund cash receipts were:

\$	3,430.00	in Transfer Tax receipts
\$	3,938.73	in Earned Income Tax receipts
\$	10.61	in Local Services Tax receipts
\$	1,344.68	in Fines
\$	320.00	in Road Opening Permit receipts
\$	2,219.25	in Building Permit receipts
\$	25.00	in Grading Permit receipts
\$	175.00	in Zoning Permit receipts

## TAX COLLECTOR

### 2025 Real Estate Tax

Tax Collector, Bradley Cranch reported that the 2025 Borough Real Estate tax bills were mailed out on January 31, 2025. The total 2025 tax collectable is \$1,241,176.29.

### Tax Collector Fees

Mr. Cranch explained that the tax collector compensation from the Borough has not increased for more than 30 years and that the tax collector depends on fees from tax certifications and other services provided. Any fees collected by the tax collector must be approved by Council by ordinance. Currently, the tax collector imposes a \$30 fee for tax certifications and \$30 for returned checks. The tax collector would like to collect a fee for providing additional copies of tax bills to taxpayers (\$10) and a fee to provide tax information to mortgage companies (\$5).

*On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Jeffrey Elsing, Council voted unanimously in favor to authorize the Borough Secretary to advertise a public hearing at the March meeting to consider adopting an ordinance for the tax collector to collect a \$10 fee for providing duplicate tax bills and a \$5 fee to provide tax information to mortgage companies.*

## BILLS

### GENERAL FUND BILLS

21 <sup>st</sup> Century Media	\$721.69
Armour & Sons Electric, Inc.	390.00

Bradley E. Cranch, Tax Collector	419.37
Bryn Athyn Fire Company	257.74
Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc.	288.00
Davidheiser's Inc.	60.00
DeLage Landen	183.75
Eastburn & Gray, PC	2,302.50
Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin	1,336.50
Independence Blue Cross	7,110.15
Kenneth J Schauder Incorporated	540.00
LexixNexis Matthew Bender	71.08
LOCALiQ	1,217.01
McDonald Uniform Company	221.95
PA Association of Municipal Administrators	150.00
Peco Energy	1,338.43
Petty Cash – Brigdon Odhner	384.73
Petty Cash – Victoria Trost	150.58
Police Chief's Association of Montgomery County	500.00
PA State Mayor's Association	70.00
T & G Industries Inc.	279.00
TGI Office Automation	61.71
The Vanguard Group	1,782.47
Verizon Wireless	292.89
Victoria Trost	50.00
Wawa – Wright Express	1,118.58
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,297.58</b>

**SEWER FUND BILLS**

EEMA	\$875.00
Home Depot	4.24
Independence Blue Cross	704.06
Lower Moreland Township	88.00
Mac Medical Gases, Inc.	7.00
McGovern Environmental LLC	706.32
PA Dept. of Environmental Protection	1,000.00
Paychex of New York	214.66
Peco Energy	732.24
Postmaster	594.00
Verizon	94.61
Verizon Internet	71.10
Verizon Wireless	42.57
Wawa – Wright Express	131.77
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,265.57</b>

**BMO MASTERCARD PURCHASES****General Fund**

Google Workspace	\$136.80
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Adobe AcroPro	19.99
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Media	14.00
Gannett Newspapers	14.99
Amazon.com	404.49
Staples	18.78
Microsoft 360	105.99
Quill.com	149.98
Rubbercal	308.80
Yearli.com	37.74
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,211.56</b>

**Sewer Fund**

Google Workspace	\$7.20
eBay.com	1,891.53
Amazon.com	349.41
GoVets	26.86
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,275.00</b>

*On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Glenn Gurney, Council unanimously voted to authorize payment of the bills as listed.*

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**Bryn Athyn Mail Delivery

President Jeff Elsing reported that the acting Huntingdon Valley Postmaster was going to make an announcement this evening, but was not able to attend. The message for Borough residents is that anyone who wishes to have mail delivery must apply to the Huntingdon Valley Post Office by February 20, 2025. No applications will be accepted after that date except for new homes and new residents moving into the Borough.

Bryn Athyn Post Office

Mr. Elsing reported that he had a discussion with the Bryn Athyn Postmaster, Maria Bouvier following a recent incident where the Elkins Park Post Office sent a busload of passport applicants to Bryn Athyn. Maria explained that the post office needs the revenue from passport business to stay open and that they must accept walk-ins in addition to appointments. No passports will be processed before 10:00am or after 2:00pm. President Elsing will try to have someone from the USPS attend a council meeting to answer questions and hear complaints.

**POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Brigdon Odhner reported the following activity for January:

All Police Activities	1020
Alarms	14
Assist Bryn Athyn Fire / Ambulance	11
Assist Other Police Agencies	18
Public Service Calls / Assist Citizens	13
Special Traffic Details	20
Suspicious Circumstance Investigations	6
Traffic Citations	31
Vehicle Accidents	4
Animal Complaints	3
Traffic Stops	55
Theft	1
Domestic	0

- Chief became an official member of the Borough Workplace Safety committee.
- The department enabled a feature, where you can mount the department cell phone on the dashboard and use it as a license plate reader. As well as using a filter to look for specific infractions.

The Police Department appreciates the support from the community for Alex Cricelli's family and the Department. It was noted that counseling is available for the police officers.

## **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Ken Schauder reported 35 Fire Calls in January, 24 in Lower Moreland, 8 in Bryn Athyn and 3 in other municipalities; 201 EMS Calls in January, 115 in Lower Moreland, 14 in Bryn Athyn and 72 in other municipalities. There were 131 Transports to the hospital, 86 in Lower Moreland, 11 in Bryn Athyn and 34 in other municipalities. There were 20 dispatches for the second ambulance in January, 12 in Lower Moreland, 3 in Bryn Athyn and 5 in other municipalities. The Chief noted that we are getting good EMS and fire coverage in both Bryn Athyn and Lower Moreland with support from both municipalities.

Chief Schauder noted that there were a few bumps in the road with the station number change to 19 reporting which have been addressed.

## **CHIEF OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Chief Mark Showmaker reported the following activity for January:

*Please find my activity for the month of January outlined and up to the date of this report. It has been a very busy month for emergency responses. The New Tower Ladder Fire Truck has been placed into service. The following will briefly cover monthly activity.*

*Weeks 1 and 2*

- *I attended both the Bryn Athyn Borough Council meeting and Lower Moreland Township Commissioner meetings.*
- *Updated both Boards regarding the status of the Pierce Mid Mount Tower Ladder.*
- *Continuous Training on new Tower Ladder Truck*
- *Reviewed the monthly Bryn Athyn Fire Company Financial and response statistics.*
- *Reviewed the monthly Huntingdon Valley Fire Company financial and response statistics.*
- *Review and approve the Huntingdon Valley Fire Shift Program time sheets for the month*
- *Switched over to the new united numbering system 19, 19-1 and 319 for 911 center*
- *Glick Fire Equipment to finalize the last items for completion in station*
- *Responded to numerous emergency calls*
- *Executed cross insurance coverage agreement*

*Week 3 and 4*

- *Responded to numerous fire emergencies*
- *Met with BAFC Chief and President for update of budget*
- *Review HVFC Shift Program time sheets second half of month*
- *Conducted Fire Station replacement research*
- *Career Staff Employment interviews BAFC*
- *Attended PA Career Fire Chiefs meeting for State updates*
- *Attended joint training of both stations*
- *Conducted joint meeting of officers from both stations to set up work groups*
- *Conducted Emergency Service Committee meeting*

*Fire Calls of Interest:*

*1-6-25 Metter Rd., Kitchen Fire with extension in to attic space*

*1-23-25 Auto Extrication, Countyline and Heaton*

*Emergency Response Data for the month as of the date of this report:*

<i>BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in BA</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>BAFC Emergency Medical Calls in LM</i>	<i>115</i>
<i>BAFC Emergency Medical Calls other</i>	<i>72</i>
<i>BAFC Monthly total EMS Calls</i>	<i>201</i>
<i>Year to date EMS Calls</i>	<i>201</i>

<i>BAFC Fire Calls in BA</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>HVFC Fire Calls in LM</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>BAFC Fire Calls IN LM</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>HVFC Fire Calls in BA</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>BAFC Fire Calls Other</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>HVFC Fire Calls Other</i>	<i>3</i>

BAFC Monthly Fire Calls 40  
Year to Date Fire Calls 40

HVFC Monthly Fire Calls 41  
Year to Date Fire Calls 41

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Emergency Management Coordinator Ken Schauder reported that the team will be meeting in a few weeks.

## MAYOR'S REPORT - None

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None

## BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

### 2025 Required Reports

Borough Manager Vikki Trost reported that all county, state and federal reports for 2025 have or will be filed by their due dates.

### Hazard Mitigation Plan

Montgomery County alerted the Manager that in order to receive any future funding from FEMA, we need to adopt the 2022 Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan. This can be done by resolution. Mr. Elsing and Chief Schauder will review the plan before the next meeting. Mr. Huntzinger requested clarification as to who was requiring the plan adoption. Mrs. Trost responded that the County was asking the Borough to adopt the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan. Chief Schauder explained that we would not be able to receive any funding from FEMA without adopting the plan because FEMA funds come to us through PEMA and then the County.

## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

### Offers of Employment for Part-Time Police Officers

Chairman Jeff Elsing asked Council to approve the conditional offers of employment for two part-time police officer candidates, Sean Perry and Sean Quinn. There was a discussion concerning the availability of Mr. Perry since he has a full-time position as chief of police and the amount of time that he would be available to the Borough. Mr. Quinn can start training for an upcoming full-time position.

*On a motion by Duane Hyatt, seconded by Ric Asplundh, Council voted unanimously in favor to make a conditional offer of employment pending physical, psychological evaluation and background check to Sean Perry and Sean Quinn.*

Officer Johnson Resignation

Mr. Elsing reported that Officer Ken Johnson has submitted a letter expressing his intent to retire from the Department in September. Mr. Elsing noted that Officer Johnson had only intended to stay for five years initially, but has given the Borough an additional four years of service. Mayor Schauder suggested that a replacement be hired in July, however Mr. Hyatt stated that there is no budget for that. Mr. Elsing added that if we can get Sean Quinn (who is the only remaining candidate on the Civil Service list) trained as soon as possible, we can slide him into the slot when Ken Johnson leaves. We continue the search for part-time officers.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**Alden Road Improvement Project

Mr. Huntzinger reported that the Public Works Committee needs to set up a meeting with Peco to discuss the timing of the work needed to complete the gas line connections for the Alden Road project. Borough Engineer Nick Rose confirmed that he is setting that meeting up. Mr. Elsing noted that the Alden Road bid opening has been delayed 60 days due to the requirements for Peco connections needing a lot more time than we had anticipated. Peco is requiring six months to plan the connections. Peco was not initially very responsive to our request. We need to review the project time line.

Dump Truck/Snow Removal

It was noted that the pump on the tailgate spreader is out for repair.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Chairman Duane Hyatt reported there was no meeting in January that Ali Durand has agreed to fill the vacancy on the Finance Committee. President Jeff Elsing confirmed the appointment to the committee.

**LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES/ SHADE TREE COMMITTEE - None****PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE - None****ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - None****PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT - None**



## **ZONING OFFICER**

There were two (2) Zoning Permit applications approved in January. Six (6) Building Permits were issued. One (1) Grading Permit was issued.

## **SEWER ADMINISTRATOR**

Glenn Gurney reported that two pumps were repaired last month, the Delaware Valley Basin Commission (DRBC) annual report was filed, a water heater was replaced, the billing spreadsheet was submitted, preparations are being made for the generator project, a meeting was held on January 15, 2025 with the generator project contractor. It is hoped that the project can begin in March.

## **BOROUGH ENGINEER - None**

## **OLD BUSINESS - None**

## **NEW BUSINESS - None**

## **QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Buck Road resident Lori Nelson expressed concerns about the dust coming off of the Bryn Athyn Elementary School construction site onto properties on Buck Road. Her property has not been affected so far, but she is concerned about the upcoming demolition of the old school building affecting her home. Mr. Huntzinger responded that the contractor should have an environmental plan and there should be some controls. Nick Rose recommended that Ms. Nelson contact Stewart Asplundh, Kiri Rogers and Derek Elphick at the elementary school. It was suggested that Ms. Nelson send a letter to the Church outlining her concerns.

Janice Roscoe reported that the Belgium block gutter in front of her house may be sinking. Bradley Cranch will go out to inspect the gutter.

Another resident reported a sewer odor on South Avenue and has already reported this to Reid Heinrichs. Mr. Gurney suggested that Reid Heinrichs can check the area.

Mr. Gurney reminded everyone that it is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain their septic systems, noting that Reid Heinrichs goes well beyond the Borough's responsibility to resolve issues.

A reminder notice to homeowners of their responsibility will be included in the Bryn Athyn Post.

There being no further business presented; the meeting was adjourned at 9:01pm.

Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Borough Hall.

Victoria S. Trost  
Secretary