

BRISTOL TOWNSHIP

2501 BATH ROAD
BRISTOL, PA 19007

JUNE 19, 2014

COUNCIL MEETING

President Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Roll Call:	Mr. Bowen	Present
	Mr. Glasson	Present
	Ms. Longhitano	Present
	Mr. Monahan	Present
	Ms. Murphy	Present
	Vice President Brennan	Present
	President Lewis	Present

Council President Lewis stated that the monthly reports are available for review in the Township Manager's Office and public comment on land development and official items will be taken during the meeting. In, addition, residents may offer general comments at the end of the meeting. Council President Lewis stated matters of personnel and litigation items were discussed in the executive session.

VOUCHER LIST & MINUTES

- A. Call for a motion to approve the outstanding Voucher List and Requisitions for June 19, 2014

Motion by Councilman Monahan and seconded by Councilwoman Murphy to approve the outstanding voucher list and requisitions for June 19, 2014.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Vice President Brennan, Councilman Glasson and Councilwoman Longhitano abstained.

- B. Call for a motion to approve minutes from the Council Meeting on May 15, 2014.

Motion by Councilman Bowen and seconded by Councilman Monahan to approve the minutes from the Council Meeting on May 15, 2014.

Motion carried by a vote of 4-0. Vice President Brennan, Councilman Glasson and Councilwoman Longhitano abstained.

Township Solicitor Randall Flager noted for the record that the members abstained due to not being present on May 15, 2014.

COMMENDATIONS, PRESENTATIONS and REPORTS

- A. President Lewis presented certificates of Commendation to the Colon Family of Margo Garden and the Nelms Family of Bloomsdale and presented both families with a \$50.00 gift certificate to TD Bank for their exemplary recycling efforts.

President Lewis stated that during the month of May, 380 tons of recyclable material was collected compared to 245 tons in May 2013. This is a 54.77% increase in residential recycling compared to the corresponding month last year.

Township Manager William McCauley stated that May was the second month in a row where the Township realized an increase of over 50% in residential recyclable materials. April saw an increase by 52.62% and May showed a 54.77% increase. This is clear proof that the program is working.

Vice President Brennan stated for the residents watching at home that this is a serious increase in the amount of recycling which allows the Township to enjoy an increase in performance grant money.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution Authorizing the Approval of an agreement to Participate in the Planning Process of the 2014 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: Consideration to Adopt.

Township Manager McCauley stated the importance of this participation is that it allows us to be eligible for State and Federal disaster relief funds and eligible for pre-disaster mitigation funds. This is done every five years and once the plan is completed it will be submitted for Council's approval and require another Resolution at that time.

Motion by Councilman Bowen and seconded by Councilwoman Murphy to approve participation in the Planning of the 2014 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

- B. Resolution Authorizing the PA Horticultural Society to Submit an Application for funding on Behalf of Bristol Township for the Watershed Restoration and Protection Program: Consideration to Adopt.

Scott Swichar stated that the PA Horticultural Society (PHS) approached Bristol Township requesting to be the lead applicant for DCED Watershed Restoration Grant, looking to partner with Bristol, Falls and Middletown Townships. The project entails planting trees, removing invasive species and invasive tree growth. The best aspect about the grant is that there is no monetary match required. PHS is asking for non-monetary assistance as in Volunteers.

Barley Van Clef from PHS discussed in detail the aspects of the project. PHS is hoping to have the project in a watershed lined basis with the section of Mill Creek, Queen Anne, and Martin sharing a large watershed that is impaired caused mostly by storm water. PHS would like to correct the impairment by planting trees along the buffer zone. The goal is to have 5,000 trees planted within the three Townships. Bristol Township would receive the trees along the Mill Creek Green Belt primarily on Mill Creek Drive and Plumridge Drive. PHS would be responsible for the staffing and training of the volunteers for tree planting as well as responsible for the care and watch of the newly planted trees to ensure proper growth. PHS is in need of the proposed Resolution and a Letter of Support from the Township to submit with the Grant application that is due in mid-July.

Motion by Council President Bob Lewis and seconded by Councilwoman Longhitano to authorize PHS to submit an application for funding on behalf of Bristol Township.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

- C. Resolution of Commendation for Bob White, Executive Director and the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority in Appreciation of their Efforts to Create Jobs in Bristol Township: Consideration to Adopt

President Lewis read into the record Resolution of Commendation for Robert White and the Redevelopment Authority for their commitment to Bristol Township. Robert White and the BCRDA have been instrumental in assisting Bristol Township in reducing blight and bringing new businesses into the Township which, in turn, have created 1,612 jobs and increased the tax revenues of the Township.

Motion by Councilman Monahan and seconded by the entire Council to adopt the above-resolution.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Township Manager McCauley referred to the Power Point spreadsheet explaining that since Council took office in January of 2012 there have been 1,612 new jobs created in the Township and the direct role that Robert White and the BCRDA have played in this success.

Robert White thanked the Council, Bristol Township, and his team for allowing him to do what he loves for the past 20 years.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Township Manager McCauley stated he had no formal report at this time.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

Township Solicitor, Randy Flager, stated that the Township has hired Ballard Spahr as special Labor Counsel and he asked that the Council also approve the hiring of Neil Morris as special Labor Counsel to be used at the Manager's discretion.

Motion by Councilman Bowen and seconded by Councilman Glasson

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0

Former Councilman Anthony Tucker did not submit his W-4 until a month before the end of his tenure and subsequently was not compensated for his service. Upon leaving Council, Mr. Tucker asked to be paid for the first three years of his term. Mr. Tucker agreed to settle his claim for \$7500.00 which equals two out of three years instead of the \$10,500 for all three years. Solicitor Flager requested that Council approve the settlement.

Motion by Councilman Glasson and seconded by Councilman Brennan to approve the settlement of a claim from James Anthony Tucker for his compensation as a Council Member.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Township Manager McCauley stated the Council is in receipt of the Annual Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2013. The numbers that were reported to Council in April of 2014 have been confirmed in this report. Mr. McCauley reviewed the financial highlights for Council and residents:

- Bristol Township ended 2013 with a \$5,143,081 surplus.
- The General Fund ended with an increase of \$8,045,000.50.
- Council was able to have in excess of 8 million for use in multi-year highway improvements.

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- Five to Seven years of Principal & Interest payments were prefunded with proceeds from the sale of the Water system.
- Township reduced unfunded liabilities by \$10.7 million in other post-employment benefits from 2012.
- The report also shows that tax revenue from new businesses has increased and this is testimony to the exemplary work done by Council, Bob White and the BCRDA.

Lastly Mr. McCauley stated that in 2012 the former Finance Officer said that the Township would end 2013 with negative assets and then continue to have that number increase by 4 to 5 million a year. Mr. McCauley is pleased to report that the Township finished 2013 with net assets of \$17,347,775.00. Township Manager McCauley thanked Council and the dedicated workforce of Bristol Township.

Mr. McCauley requested that Council accept the 2013 Financial Audit and make it available to the public on the Township website.

John Riotto of 2160 Maple Avenue congratulated the Township Manager for such an excellent financial report and asked how the Township was doing on sewer payments or if that was something separate.

Motion by Councilwoman Murphy and seconded by Councilwoman Longhitano to receive the 2013 Annual Financial Report and make it available to the public for review on the Township's website.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Addendum

Resolution Honoring Township Manager , William J. McCauley III, for his tireless efforts over the last two and a half years in leading the rebirth of the Township's return to financial stability and viability.

President Lewis read into record a Resolution of Commendation for Township Manager, William J. McCauley, III, in recognition for his tireless efforts over the last two and a half years in leading the rebirth of the Township's return to financial stability and viability.

Motion by Council President Bob Lewis and seconded by the entire Council to adopt a resolution honoring Township Manager, William J. McCauley, III..

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

Mr. McCauley thanked the Council for the honor.

- B. Application of MacPherson-Hardy Partnership for Preliminary & Final Land Development Approval for Property Located at 1611 Hanford Street, Levittown, T.M.P # 5-69-57-2, 5-69-46, 5-69-56, and 5-69-57-4 in an M-2 Heavy Manufacturing District Consideration to Approve

The Township Council tabled action on this application at the applicant's request until July 17, 2014.

- C. Application of Bristol Township District for Preliminary & Final Land Development Plan Approval for Property Located at 1800 Keystone Road, T.M.P# 05-053-051 for the Mary Devine Elementary School: Consideration to adopt

Attorney Timothy Duffy, on behalf of the Bristol Township School District, requesting Preliminary & Final Land Development Plan Approval. Mr. Duffy is accompanied by Kenneth Bissinger of Renew Design Group to review the engineer letter although the applicant agrees to comply with all of the Engineer's comments.

Councilman Bowen stated that he and Councilwoman Murphy attended the School Board meeting and were told by the District's Solicitor that all permits were in with the exception of what is before Council tonight.

Mr. Duffy stated he did not believe that all the permits for Mary Devine were obtained.

Council Vice President Brennan inquired about the permits still outstanding from the PA DEP.

Mr. Bissinger stated they were still in negotiations with the DEP and actively working on moving forward quickly.

Council President Lewis asked if the EDUs from Maple Shade could be transferred to Mary Devine.

Mr. Bissinger is confident they will be able to work with the DEP.

Mr. Bissinger reviewed the site plan for Mary Devine. Unlike Buchanan and Emerson, Mary Devine is on a flood plain so they are unable to start building the new school behind the existing Mary Devine. There will be a Kindergarten playground area as well as for the upper grades. The bus loop will be coming off River Road to hopefully limit the amount of traffic in the neighborhoods. There are three storm water basins located on the proposed property. The ball field will remain in the same location.

Mr. Timothy Duffy presented the June 2014 Review letter from Gilmore & Associates to identify any issues Council may see. Mr. Duffy restated that this is a full will comply on behalf of the school district.

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Councilwoman Longhitano questioned why the current Mary Devine cannot remain open while the school district gets their permits instead of bussing students across town.

Marianne Long, Croydon Avenue, stated that she has three grandchildren that attend Mary Devine questioned if it will take two years for the school to be built? Dr. Samuel Lee representing the School District stated that it will take 2 months to bid and 14 months to build for a total of 16 months once all permits are acquired.

Richard Bowers, Croydon Avenue, questioned the bus loop on River Road and wants to know where the busses will park when awaiting their next route?

Cathy Neumann, 131 Newportville Road, stated she has three children that attend Mary Devine and is concerned about the safety, quality of life and quality of education for her children. She started a petition and has received 921 signatures in agreement that Mary Devine should not be closed and the children displaced until all required permits are obtained.

Bill Engle, 919 Excelsior Rd, has concerns about the children being displaced and as well as the animosity between the Township Council and the School District. He urged both sides to try to put their differences aside to come together for the betterment of the children.

Barbara Bill, Drexelwood, states that the bus traffic will happen but it will be temporary and you don't need another traffic study to tell you that there will be congestion.

Tony Bolger, 5 Patrician Street, stated he does not trust anyone touching this project. He feels as though he cannot get a straight answer from the School Board and that the taxes are "killing us."

Donna Huhn, 612 Central Avenue, stated she feels that this has been a public bashing on the School Board.

John Riotto, 2160 Maple Avenue, wants to know from Dr. Lee how much each one of these schools is going to cost.

Motion by Council President Bob Lewis and seconded by Vice President Troy Brennan to grant preliminary land development plan approval.

Motion carried by a vote of 6-1 with Councilwoman Longhitano voting No.

Township Solicitor stated that this approval is contingent upon the will comply issues and waivers.

The School Board has requested a waiver in reduction of permit fees. Council President Lewis read into the record a Resolution for the reduction of permit fees by 30% for James Buchanan, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Mary Devine Elementary Schools only if the School District complies with the following:

1. That the School Board publicly broadcast three consecutive Board meetings and continue to do so thereafter. Council offered the use of the municipal building and our equipment asking only that the School District be responsible for the cost of our Communications Tech.
2. In exchange for the above, Council asked the School Board to remove the deed restrictions on 800 Coates Avenue which the School Districts sold to the Township some years ago.

Motion by Council President Bob Lewis and seconded by Vice President Troy Brennan to adopt the above-resolution.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

Police Pension Committee: Consideration to Appoint

Township Manager McCauley requested that Council appoint the following members and terms for the Police Pension Committee:

Vice President Troy Brennan for a Five-year term expiring in 2018

Councilman Craig Bowen for a Four-year term expiring in 2017

Human Resources Officer Thomas Scott for a Three-term expiring in 2016

Detective Robert Lebo for a One-year term expiring in 2014

Officer Jason Reilly for a Two- year term expiring in 2015

Motion by Council President Lewis and seconded by Councilwoman Murphy to appoint the above members to the Police Pension Committee.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-2. Council President Brennan and Councilman Bowen in abstention

OTHER BUSINESS

Township Manager McCauley requested approval of a release of \$193,834.25 from the Site Development Agreement for Estee Lauder, with the Township retaining \$30,606.05 to serve as the 18-month maintenance bond.

Motion by Council President Lewis and seconded by Councilman Monahan to release \$193,834.25 to Estee Lauder from their Site Development Escrow and maintain \$30,606.05 for the 18-month maintenance bond.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Ellen Miller, Eugene Drive, stated that the Public Education originally scheduled for June 26 has been postponed. She inquired if there are any plans to relocate the Sycamore trees that were removed from the Super Wawa? These trees were removed by PENNDOT per Council President Lewis.

Patti Nickles, 1936 Prospect Avenue, brought up the road construction on Haines Road and the new guardrail is obstructing the access to a fire hydrant. Two properties that need attention for grass cutting and maintenance are located on Maple Avenue and Prospect respectively.

John Riotto, 2160 Maple Avenue, also brought up the property on Maple Avenue. Would like the School Board to answer his earlier questions and wanted to state for the record that Dr. Lee did not respond.

Tony Bolger, 5 Patrician Street, congratulated the Truman Seniors. Mr. Bolger distributed pictures of the property next to his house that needs desperate attention. The property is owned by the bank and has been neglected. Mr. Bolger is requesting the Township become involved to get this property maintained.

West Rexler, West Bristol, inquired why the Agenda was not suspended to bring up New Business to the meeting. Mr. Rexler questioned if Neil Morris is the same attorney from a previous meeting for the Township? He continued to ask why the Township is paying to have an attorney for employees concerning a separate legal issue.

Motion by Craig Bowen and seconded by all of remaining Council to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 p.m.