

**BRISTOL TOWNSHIP
2501 BATH ROAD
BRISTOL, PA 19007**

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

COUNCIL MEETING

President Pluta called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

President Pluta announced there was an Executive Session held on Tuesday 8/30/11 where Personnel Issues were discussed.

Roll Call:	Councilman Tucker	Present
	Councilman Lewis	Present
	Councilman Blalock	Present
	Vice President Tarlini	Present
	President Pluta	Present

EXECUTIVE REPORT:

Mayor Monahan received correspondence from Amy Daley, a nurse volunteer of the Bucks County Medical Reserve Corps. promoting a free Tdap Vaccine Clinic on Saturday, September 17, 2011 from 12-3 P.M. at the Bucks County Department of Health Lower Bucks Office 7321 New Falls Rd, Levittown PA 19055 for ages 11 and up. Mayor Monahan stated that last weekend was a trying and worrisome time with loss of power flooding and downed trees. He wanted to thank the Emergency Management Coordinator Kevin Dippolito for the effort he put forth. He also thanked the Department Heads Highway and Sewer Departments and the First Responders for their efforts and many hours worked.

REPORT FROM PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Mr. Lawson made an apology for a comment he made at the July 21st meeting. The 2011 Paving Project is over and there is money left over from the Casino Grant and looking into other streets to pave. There was natural disaster last weekend if anyone has any questions about what they would be entitled to from FEMA or PEMA they can contact the Fire Marshal's Office. There is a broken sewer main on Palmer Avenue. There are drainage problems that will be addressed after the clean up from the storm.

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Mr. Bartlett said the Community Service Presentation has been rescheduled for 10/6/11.

REPORT FROM MANAGING DIRECTOR:

Mr. Bartlett stated he thinks our staff did an exemplary job with the storm given the situation that they were faced. The key issue was that Kevin Dippolito coordinated some preplanning for the storm. Their job is not over. There are two separate teams consisting of members from FEMA PEMA and Bucks County Emergency Management they have been going out with our staff and evaluating various locations. One team dealt with Township related problems and the other dealt with individual businesses and homes.

There is a company Action Manufacturing that is currently based in Philadelphia will be relocating to the Keystone Industrial Park. They will be purchasing the property.

COUNCIL ITEMS:

Mr. Bartlett stated according to Act 205 requires the Chief Administrative Officer of the Pension Plan must submit to the Governing Body for their approval a minimum pension obligation that the Township must make in payments as per the Ordinances to be in compliance with State Pension Regulations. Mr. Bartlett used the anticipated payroll for 2012 to come up with a dollar amount of \$70,143.00 for the non uniform pension plan and for the police pension plan 1,588,664.00.

Motion by Vice President Tarlini to approve the 2012 Minimal Municipal Obligation for pension plan funding. Second by Councilman Lewis.

Roll Call Vote:	Councilman Tucker	Yes
	Councilman Lewis	Yes
	Councilman Blalock	Yes
	Vice President Tarlini	Yes
	President Pluta	Yes

Motion passed 5-0

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Mr. James Jones gave a presentation on the proposed Charter School in Bristol Township. The Charter School will be called Excel Academy School of Bristol. The School would run 12 months a year Kindergarten through Eighth Grade approximately 375 students from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. The Municipal Grant Application must be submitted by September 30th. The Total Project Cost is \$5,009,555.00 the Grant request amount is \$500,000.00. Councilman Lewis questioned if they were certified by the State. Mr. Jones said he was not familiar with the term certified, but they plan to go before the School Board September 12th to be reviewed by them. They have to be approved by the Charter Application. Councilman Lewis questioned if the students can be from outside the Township. Mr. Jones said a large percentage of the students will be from Bristol Township the others would be required to live within a 9 mile radius. Councilman Lewis said it was his understanding that they will be requesting waiver of fees on certain things that the Township will not receive fees for permits. He said it was also discussed that they would request some equipment from Public Works. The Township is tight on the budget and we are looking for Casino Grants for what we need for the Township and hopes we will not be asked to share our Grant money for the Charter School. Mr. Obert stated it seems like the cart is before the horse and we shouldn't be having this conversation. There is a waiting period of 45 to 75 days after the School Board discusses it. Mr. Michael Bly of Elkins Park Operations Manager for Paragon Schools stated that the Excel Academy is waiting for the School Board to give permission for the School to open. Then they can move forward securing a site and state identification numbers. On September 12th it will be 42 days into the process and that is giving the School District time to review the application and then put them on the agenda to present and defend the application. Mr. Obert stated the opinion of the School Board was in the newspaper that the Township would take a financial hit if this was approved. The Council and the School District are two separate bodies and we shouldn't be discussing this until they get their license and get all their ducks in a row and then discuss it. Councilman Lewis said it was his understanding that for every student opts to go to a charter school the School District must send \$15,000.00 to cover the student who goes there. Ms. Sheila Beeman of Bristol said that she commends Mr. Jones for wanting to give a brighter future to the students of the community but she also agrees they should be before the School District first. To take a chunk of money out of the Township now is not going to happen. She does not believe that any school is going to make or break a student, the student and the parents do that.

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President Pluta stated he applauds them on their quest. Aside from the Casino Grants to ask the residents of the Township to give up the limited service we are able to provide now in order for you to get to your final goal that is a big thing for them. When they come back with the approval from the School Board and everything that is needed and are a viable school the Township can look at what they can do to possibly help. Mr. Melvin Howard of Bristol Township stated that he thinks there is a misconception about the Grant process. There are 5 or 6 entities that can apply for the Grants and it is not and it is not directly Bristol Township funding. It is a bulk fund and is given to certain certified Townships. They are not asking for Bristol Township to give money. The education funds come from through State.

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF LICENSE & INSPECTIONS:

Mr. Kucher and Mr. Bartlett met with a developer interested in developing the former Getty Station and property to the rear off of Ford Road. The Company is proposing a Taco Bell and a pad site for a bank or retail outlet. Fast food restaurants are not permitted in Town Center Zoning District it would be required to go for a variance from the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Kucher would like to put that up for discussion at the October Council Meeting. No formal paper work has been submitted. President Pluta stated he thinks this is something Council would want to entertain. Councilman Lewis questioned what work is going on Franklin Avenue and Rt. 13. Mr. Kucher stated they were looking into a Contractor Facility.

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF POLICE:

Lt. Godzieba stated a week prior to the storm the Police worked with Kevin Dippolito, who did a fantastic job as Emergency Management Coordinator for the Township. Police were put on a 12 hour shift. There were plenty of comments on how quick Public Works responded to take care of the problems. The Police worked with the Fire Police there were 11 generators for the traffic lights. Two Officers were issued accommodations. Officer Frank Goodwin stopped a car at 4:00 A.M. and found some GPS units on the floor. He was aware there were a lot of car thefts in the area and uncovered a lot of stolen property. Officer Tom Van Winkle noticed thefts taken place

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at Verizon on New Falls Road the two suspects were taking copper wire and tools. September is Emergency Preparedness Month. There is a website READYPA.ORG where a lot of good information can be obtained.

REPORT FROM SOLICITOR:

No report was given.

OTHER:

Vice President Tarlini stated she wanted to thank all the Township Personnel for doing a wonderful job during the hurricane. President Pluta said he wanted to give a special thanks to Kevin Dippolito and his crew the Emergency Management Team along with the extra effort from the Police Department and the continuing effort from the Public Works Department. There were some sewer issues also with the flooding and they also stepped up to the plate.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

Mark Robinson of Croydon stated he had pictures of the damage that was done to his curb and apron. He said if the Township does not want to take responsibility for the damage he would like something in writing that he will not be liable for the damage if his house is sold. Councilman Lewis said he was out to look at the damage and the Township should take care of it. Vice President Tarlini said she does not understand why Gary Smith said it cannot be patched. Mr. Robinson said Mr. Smith said a patch will not last and it is still structurally sound. Mr. Robinson would like it to be repaired correctly. President Pluta stated he would like Gary Smith to go back out there.

Ms. Patti Nichols questioned what was going on with the Bamboo Ordinance. Mr. Sacco stated the Ordinance was presented to Council at the last meeting if Council would like to put it on an upcoming agenda. President Pluta stated he would like broaden the Ordinance to include evasive grass and plants.

Motion by Councilman Lewis to advertise the bamboo/evasive grass Ordinance.
Second by Councilman Tucker.

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Ms. Nichols questioned what the fine would be if someone planted bamboo. Mr. Sacco stated that the Ordinance would not prohibit the growing bamboo it will prohibit it spreading to another property. It will be added to the Nuisance Ordinance #134 letters A through N this will be letter O. The penalty provisions will be the same. A letter of violation will be sent an opportunity will be given to cure the violation. If the violation is not cured a fine would be issued up to \$1,000.00.

Roll Call Vote:	Councilman Tucker	Yes
	Councilman Lewis	Yes
	Councilman Blalock	Yes
	Vice President Tarlini	Yes
	President Pluta	Yes

Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Gallus Obert of Farmbrook Section questioned how much does the Township pay for the MMO. Mr. Bartlett said without the budget he could not say. It is significantly more than the minimum. The resident of Greenbrook Drive request that signs be posted for speeding. There is a light pole out at 10 Mistletoe Lane that was reported and no one has responded. The storm has forced the rocks to run down on Red Cedar Drive and filling the drain. Mr. Obert feels it is Township Property and the curb should be built up or the level rock be taken down. There is a pothole in front of 17 Mallow Lane. The residents have been complaining about broken pipe on Mountain Lane that has been filled with stone. A resident at 5 Crescent Lane has a bamboo issue. Mr. Obert said once the Ordinance goes through it should be advertised on T.V. The EIT will be collected progressively and that should save the Township money to reduce our loans. Mr. Obert said Princess Avenue was not milled before being paved and has caused a hump. There is a scorched out house on Red Maple Lane that is not secured there should be an Ordinance for installing fencing around the property. Mr. Kucher said that property has been scheduled for demolition.

Mr. Ken Smith of Edgely Section displayed pictures from the storm a week ago not the hurricane. He called to have somebody clean out the storm drains before the hurricane. He requested years ago to have more storm drains placed on his street. Public Works came out and said the storm pipe could be broken. Mr. Smith said it still is not fixed. During the hurricane he pumped the water for hours so he would not get

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flooded again. He questioned why Public Works could not use the Camera Truck. President Pluta stated it is a labor issue there is nobody in house with experience with the truck and the union is blocking the Township from hiring someone who is experienced. Mr. Smith said he would like his issues attended to.

Mr. Wes Retzler of West Bristol questioned if an investigation is being done on the burned out house trailer. President Pluta stated he does not have any new information. Mr. Retzler questioned what the cost for a video of the meetings. President Pluta stated he has not seen anything recently about it. He will remind Officer Lebo about it.

Motion by Vice President Tarlini to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 P.M. Second by Councilman Lewis.

Roll Call Vote:	Councilman Tucker	Yes
	Councilman Lewis	Yes
	Councilman Blalock	Yes
	Vice President Tarlini	Yes
	President Pluta	Yes

Motion passed 5-0

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- 1. Motion to approve the 2012 Minimal Municipal Obligation for pension plan funding.**
- 2. Motion to advertise the bamboo/evasive grass Ordinance.**
- 3. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 P.M.**

**Respectfully submitted by
Betsey Kelly-Kryven
Secretary**