

## BRISTOL TOWNSHIP

2501 BATH ROAD  
BRISTOL, PA 19007

June 22, 2016

## COUNCIL MEETING

President Bowen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call:	President Bowen	Present
	Vice President Longhitano	Present
	Mr. Allen	Present
	Mr. Antonello	Present
	Mr. Glasson	Present
	Mr. Monahan	Present
	Mrs. Murphy	Present

Council President Bowen announced 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 Bowen stated matters of personnel and litigation were discussed in executive session prior to the meeting.

### VOUCHER LIST & MINUTES

- A. Call for a motion to approve the outstanding Voucher List and Requisitions for June 22, 2016.

*Motion by Mr. Monahan and seconded by Mr. Glasson to approve the outstanding voucher list and requisitions for June 22, 2016.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0*

- B. Call for a motion to approve minutes from the Council Meeting on May 19, 2016.

*Motion by Mrs. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Allen to approve the minutes from the Council Meeting on May 19, 2016.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6 – 0. Vice President Longhitano abstained.*

**COMMENDATIONS, PRESENTATIONS and REPORTS**

**A. Presentation of Certificates of Commendations for exemplary recycling efforts.**

Deputy Township Manager Scott Swichar congratulated the residents of Bristol Township for increasing recycling totals for the second straight year.

Mr. Swichar announced that the 2016 Fall Clean-Up will be on Saturday October 22nd from 8:00am to 2:00pm. This event will be rain or shine.

Mr. Swichar stated the Hazardous Waste Event will be on Saturday August 27th from 9am to 3pm at Harry Truman High School.

Yard waste containers are available to residential customers for \$2, valued at \$35. For more information please call 267-812-2950.

**B. Swearing-in Ceremony for New Lieutenant in Police Department.**

Public Safety Director, Robert Coulton announced the promotion of Ralph Johnson to Lieutenant.

Lieutenant Johnson is a thirty-year veteran of the Bristol Township Police Department, beginning his law enforcement career in February 1986. Lt. Johnson's previous assignments include patrol, fatal traffic investigation unit, D.A.R.E., K-9 and the narcotics and vice enforcement units.

Lt. Johnson served as acting Chief of Police from December 2014 until June 2015, and has been an Acting Lieutenant for the past year. He is a graduate of the Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command.

The Honorable Jan Vislosky administered the Oath of Office to Ralph Johnson.

**PROCLAMATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

**A. A Proclamation Declaring June 4, 2016 as Bailey's Bar & Grille Day in Bristol Township as They Mark their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Consideration to Adopt.**

*Motion by the entire Council Declaring June 4, 2016 as Bailey's Bar & Grille Day in Bristol Township.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0.*

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**B. A Resolution Accepting a \$174,292.90 Pennsylvania Green Light-Go Program Grant and Authorizing the Township Manager to Execute the Necessary Green Light-Go Reimbursement Agreement: Consideration to Adopt.**

Township Manager Bill McCauley stated the Township was fortunate to receive two (2) grants under the Pennsylvania Green Light-Go Program.

The Oxford Valley Road/Levittown Parkway and New Falls Road Traffic Signal Modernization Project was awarded \$174,292.90 and the Bristol-Oxford Valley Road, Bath Road and Lakeland Road signal was awarded \$144,626.62.

Mr. McCauley explained that these are 50% grants and originally the Township was going to use the \$300,000 from the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) Municipal Grant program, but since those monies must be expended by March 31, 2017 and that the Township is at the mercy of PennDot who could take their time in completing the project the Township will be able to do more work and improve more intersections with the Green Light-Go Grant Program.

Mr. McCauley requested Council action in order to accept the grants and authorize him to execute the reimbursements.

*Motion by Vice President Longhitano and seconded by Mrs. Murphy to Approve both Green Light-Go Grants simultaneously.*

*Motion by Vice President Longhitano and seconded by Mrs. Murphy Accepting a \$174,292.90 Pennsylvania Green Light-Go Program Grant and Authorizing the Township Manager to Execute the Necessary Green Light-Go Reimbursement Agreement.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0.*

**C. A Resolution Accepting a \$144,626.62 Pennsylvania Green Light-Go Program Grant and Authorizing the Township Manager to Execute the Necessary Green Light-Go Reimbursement Agreement: Consideration to Adopt.**

*Motion by Vice President Longhitano and seconded by Mrs. Murphy Accepting a \$174,292.90 Pennsylvania Green Light-Go Program Grant and Authorizing the Township Manager to Execute the Necessary Green Light-Go Reimbursement Agreement.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0.*

**D. A Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of a Grant Application by the Bristol Township Police Department to the COPS Hiring Program (CHP) Grant, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services: Consideration to Adopt.**

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Public Safety Director, Robert Coulton, requested that the police department be authorized to submit for the 2016 COPS Hiring Program Grant. After discussing needs assessments, the department is applying for grant funding for three officers. This increase in police staffing will allow for intensified enforcement of quality of life issues within our community and more engagement with community organizations, Town watch, faith-based groups that will build trust.

The Grant award will cover 75% of the approved entry level salary and fringe benefits of each newly hired and/or rehired full-time career law enforcement officer over the three-year (36 month) award period. A maximum grant of \$125,000 per officer position which requires minimally a 25% local cash match. Requests will be capped at 5% of the actual sworn strength of the department at date of application, which allows the department to ask for three sworn officers.

As part of the COPS Grant process, the Township will be expected to take over more of the cost of salary and benefits during years two and three of the three-year funding period, ending with 100% of the cost of the officer being borne by the municipality in year four.

Bristol Township Police Department is asking to fund three new officers at a cost of \$375,000 in grant funds.

Gallus Obert, Farmbrook, inquired if after the three years, the Township would absorb the officers into our fold. Director Coulton stated that the department would have to stay at the budget authorized strength per guidelines of the grant.

*Motion by Mrs. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Monahan Authorizing the Submittal of a Grant Application by the Bristol Township Police Department to the COPS Hiring Program (CHP) Grant U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0.*

**E. A Resolution of the Township of Bristol Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Equipment: Consideration to Adopt.**

Township Manager McCauley stated that the Township has two sewer pumps and two decommissioned police cruisers to be placed on Munibid.

Mr. Antonello asked what the approximate value of the items being sold is.

Deputy Manager Swichar stated that the starting bid for the two pumps is \$1400 and that there is a bidder committed to that price. The police cruisers are worth the value of scrap metal which is approximately \$300 each.

*Motion by Mr. Glasson and seconded by Vice President Longhitano Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Equipment.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0.*

**REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP MANAGER**

Township Manager McCauley elaborated on the new contract with Constellation New Energy for electricity supply that Council approved at the May meeting. Bristol Township has the best electricity supply contract in Bucks County paying .05141 per kilowatt hour while other municipalities pay between the .07 and .08 range. The three-year contract which combines electricity for both streetlights and buildings would be a 5% annual savings versus our existing contracts. The Township will save \$12,964.02 per year or \$ 38,892.06 over three years. Five years ago Bristol Township did not have the best of anything and now the Township leads Bucks County with the best electrical supply contract, milling & paving program and streetlights.

**REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR**

No Formal Report .

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Bids for Municipal Complex Site Improvements: Consideration to Accept:**

Township Engineer, Kurt Schroeder, announced that on Monday June 20, 2016 electronic public bids for the site improvements project for the exterior of the Municipal Building to include the installation of pavement, curb, sidewalk, concrete pads, steps, railings, landscaping, access gates and irrigation system were opened. Unfortunately the results were not what we had hoped for with only one bid coming in from Bencardino Excavating at \$1,359,798.50 which is substantially higher than the \$750,000 projected estimate.

At this time Mr. Schroeder asked that the bid be rejected.

*Motion by Vice President Longhitano and seconded by Mr. Antonello to Reject the Bids for Municipal Complex Site Improvements.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0.*

**B. Proposal for Construction Management Services for Municipal Complex Site Improvements. Consideration to Approve.**

Township Manager McCauley requested Council approve the proposal from Boyle Construction Management in the amount of \$55,000. Boyle Construction oversaw the municipal building improvements and was conscientious not only of the work performed by the contractors but our tax dollars as well.

*Motion by Mr. Glasson and seconded by Mrs. Murphy Approving the Proposal for Construction Management Services for Municipal Complex Site.*

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*Motion carried by a vote of 7 – 0*

**C. Cooperation Agreement between the Township of Bristol and the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Bucks for Redevelopment Undertakings and the Elimination of Blighted Areas: Consideration to Approve.**

Mr. McCauley stated that this is an agreement with the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) vis-à-vis the Township's Blight Removal Program. The RDA has voted to file declaration of taking a townhome on Fleetwing Drive that was previously blighted. The Township is required to give the RDA the Fair Market Value of the property as well as provide the funds to demolish the structure and this agreement requested by the RDA provides for those reimbursements.

*Motion by Vice President Longhitano and seconded by Mr. Allen Approving the Cooperation Agreement between the Township of Bristol and the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Bucks for Redevelopment Undertakings and the Elimination of Blighted Areas.*

**D. Request from McDonald's USA, LLC dated, May 23, 2016 for Escrow Release for Site Improvements: Consideration to take Action.**

Mr. Schroeder stated that this is the first and final escrow release for McDonald's LLC, located at Bath Road and Veteran's Highway. Final site improvements as well as the maintenance bond being held for 18 months has been completed therefore Gilmore & Associates is recommending the release for the full escrow amount of \$369,467.02.

*Motion by John Monahan and seconded by Mr. Glasson Approving Escrow Release for McDonald's USA LLC in the amount of \$369,467.02.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0.*

**E. Request AAMCO Transmission Center dated June 13, 2016 for Escrow Release for Site Improvements: Consideration to take Action.**

Mr. Schroeder stated that AAMCO Transmission Center located at 2520 Durham Road is requesting their second escrow release. Essentially all site improvements have been met with the exception of two minor improvements therefore Gilmore & Associates is recommending the release in the amount of \$97,114.39.

*Motion by Mr. Glasson and seconded by Mr. Monahan Approving Escrow Release for AAMCO Transmission in the amount of \$97,114.39.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7 – 0.*

Mr. Underland, owner of AAMCO Transmission Center, was in attendance and thanked Council for their help in getting the project completed.

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**F. Request from 3115 Steele Avenue Subdivision dated June 21, 2016 for Escrow Release for Site Improvements: Consideration to take Action.**

Township Engineer Schroeder stated that this is the first escrow release being requested for 3115 Steele Avenue therefore Gilmore & Associates is recommending the release in the amount of 414,693.40 leaving \$29,882.66 remaining in escrow.

*Motion by Mr. Glasson and seconded by Mr. Monahan Approving Escrow Release for 3115 Steele Avenue Subdivision in the amount of \$14,693.40.*

*Motion carried by a vote of 6 – 0. President Bowen abstained.*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. McCauley thanked Deputy Manager Scott Swichar for a job well done in covering last month's Council meeting while he was attending the Association for Pennsylvania Municipal Managers Conference.

**COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Vice President Longhitano expressed a resident complaint concerning the removal of a sidewalk from a corner property in the Oaktree section be investigated as it is against ADA regulations.

Councilman Allen inquired if there is an existing policy on responding to constituents or their representatives once an e-mail complainant has been submitted.

President Bowen stated when he receives a complaint, regardless if the Township Manager has been copied he automatically refers to the Manager's Office.

McCauley stated there is no policy however when the complaint is received it is forwarded to appropriate department for action. The department reaches out to the complainant to appraise them of the action whether it resulted in a work order being generated or enforcement. Unfortunately, the lack of manpower does not allow the Township to write a letter to every complainant for each pothole that is filled.

Councilman Allen asked if the emails are acknowledged and that Council be copied on those acknowledgements.

Councilman Antonello stated he would like to know the resolution to the complaints.

Councilwoman Murphy stated she asks the Manager for updates to the complaints as does Councilman Glasson.

Councilman Antonello stated that sometimes he does not get a straight answer. That when he directly questioned the manager the name of the new Lieutenant to be promoted he was received

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the response hey don't worry about it I will tell you tomorrow.

President Bowen stated that the email read that the matter would be discussed at Executive Session.

Councilman Antonello stated that in response to a direct question to the manager that he, a duly elected official of the Township, felt that the manager did have to answer at the time the question was raised.

Councilman Antonello asked Council if they had knowledge of the name of the new Lieutenant sworn in at tonight's meeting prior to Executive Session.

President Bowen stated no, that it would be discussed in Executive Session as it has always been done.

Vice President Longhitano stated no.

Councilwoman Murphy stated it is the role of the Township Manager to handle personnel matters.

Councilman Antonello stated that he was not questioning the role of the manager but that when a duly elected official of the Township asks the manager a direct question about Township business which is his right to know gets told I will tell you tomorrow that is a problem.

Councilman Antonello stated he was a bit perturbed by the answer he received because he is the representative that answers to the residents.

President Bowen reiterated that personnel matters are discussed in Executive Session.

McCauley stated that per the Administrative Code and the First Class Township code that the Manager is the hiring and promoting authority for Township personnel and that as it has always been done in the past those matters are discussed during Executive Session.

President Bowen announced the next Council meeting will be Tuesday July 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

G.O.A.L will be hosting a tree planting event on Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center from 9 am to 12 pm.

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Gallus Obert, Farmbrook Section, wishes to see a more dedicated Township service in way of utilizing the Township's street sweeper or a concentrated partnership with the state Representatives in regards to have our state roads kept clean.

Joe Hogan, 44 Mountain Lane, is concerned for the Disabled American Veteran's Building located at 5915 Emilie Road as it is rumored to be placed for sale.

John Riotto, 2160 Maple Avenue, spoke on issues concerning the Bristol Township School Board.



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West Rexler, 504 Western Avenue, commented on issues not related to Township business.

*Motion by President Bowen and seconded by the entire Council to adjourn the meeting.*

*Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.*

*The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.*

RECAP OF JUNE 22, 2016 TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

1. Approved the outstanding Voucher List and Requisitions from June 22, 2016.
2. Approved the May 19, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes.
3. Presented Monthly Awards for Exemplary Recycling Performance.
4. Administered the Oath of Office to Lieutenant Ralph Johnson.
5. Declared June 4, 2016 Bailey's Bar & Grille Day in Bristol Township.
6. Approved a Resolution Accepting a \$174,292.90 Pennsylvania Green Light-Go Program Grant and Authorizing the Township Manager to Execute the Necessary Green Light-Go Program Grant Reimbursement Agreement.
7. Approved a Resolution Accepting a \$144,626.62 Pennsylvania Green Light-Go Program Grant and Authorizing the Township Manager to Execute the Necessary Green Light-Go Program Grant Reimbursement Agreement.

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8. Approved a Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of a Grant Application by the Bristol Township Police Department to the COPS Hiring Program (CHP) Grant, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.
9. Approved a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Equipment.
10. Rejected the only Bid for Municipal Complex Site Improvements.
11. Approved Proposal from Boyle Construction for \$55,000 for Construction Management Services for Municipal Complex Site Improvements.
12. Approved a Cooperation Agreement between the Township of Bristol and the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Bucks for Redevelopment Undertakings and the Elimination of Blighted Areas.
13. Approved the Request from McDonald's USA LLC dated May 23, 2016 for an Escrow Release of \$369,467.02.
13. Approved the Request from AAMCO Transmission dated June 13, 2016 for an Escrow Release of \$360,718.38.
14. Approved the Request from 3115 Steele Avenue Subdivision dated June 21, 2016 for an Escrow Release of \$14,693.40.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:04 pm.