COUNCIL MEETING

President Bowen called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Roll Call: President Bowen Present
Vice-President Murphy Present
Mr. Antonello Present
Mr. Blalock Present
Mr. Glasson Present
Mr. Monahan Absent
Mrs. Wagner Present

Also Present: Randy Flager, Township Solicitor; Kurt Schroeder, Township Engineer, and Randee J. Elton, Deputy Township Manager & Township Secretary.

Township Solicitor Randy Flager announced litigation, personnel and real estate matters were discussed in Executive Session prior to the meeting.

Mr. Flager announced the township received a letter of resignation from the Township Manager and a motion is in order to appoint Deputy Township Manager Randee Elton as Acting Township Manager. Motion by Vice President Murphy and seconded by Mrs. Wagner to appoint Randee Elton as Acting Township Manager. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Flager read Mr. McCauley’s resignation. Mr. Flager advised a severance and consulting agreement has been worked out with Mr. McCauley and a motion is in order to approve. Motion by Mrs. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Antonello to approve agreement. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Mr. Flager presented Mr. McCauley with a citation from the Honorable Tina Davis, House of Representative. Nick Diazza presented Mr. McCauley with a citation from the Senate and Senator Tommy Tomlinson’s office.

President Bowen read and presented Mr. McCauley with a Resolution of Commendation from Township Council for all his years of dedicated service and hard work and wishes him well on his retirement. An all-in favor motion was made and passed 6-0. Mr. McCauley thanked Township Council and Solicitor as well as the Council and employees that were here when he started in 2012.

Council President Bowen announced 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.
VOUCHER LIST & MINUTES

A. Call for a motion to approve the outstanding Voucher List and Requisitions for December 19, 2019.

Motion by Mr. Antonello and seconded by Mr. Glasson to approve the outstanding voucher list and requisitions. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

B. Call for a motion to approve the minutes of the Township Council Meeting of November 21, 2019.

Motion by Mrs. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Blalock to approve the minutes. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PRESENTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS


President Bowen presented a $50 Gift Certificate to the DeJesus and Cuttle families for their exemplary recycling efforts.

B. Swearing-In of New Police Officers.

Lieutenant Johnson introduced Officers Kyle McKenna, Emilyanne Maialetti and Ashley McCabe. Judge Wagner swore each officer in with an Oath of Office.

PUBLIC HEARING

A. Proposed 2020 Township Budget.

Public Hearing opened at 7:40 PM.

Acting Township Manager Randee J. Elton advised the 2020 proposed budget recommends no increase in taxes or trash and sewer rates. The proposed budget reflects a 3% decrease in all funds over the adopted 2019 budget.

The 2020 budget reflects continued investment in the infrastructure of Bristol Township. The Township will invest $1,000,000 in Gateway Beautification to improve all gateways and entrances to the Township; $400,000 in Blight Removal by condemning and demolishing abandoned and vacant houses throughout the Township; $5,000,000 investment in the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, sewer pump stations and collection system; and Milling and Paving and Curb Ramp Replacement Programs.

The Township works hard on submitting for grant applications to keep expenditures low. The Township has been awarded $472,289 in grant funding from the Redevelopment Authority of Bucks County for Casino Grants; $754,226 from PennDOT for traffic signal modernization; $265,000 from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the Spray Park and
$1,000,000 in Park Improvements from Bucks County Open Space for the Municipal Complex Expansion.

Parks and Recreation has coordinated with the Community Development Department for park improvements in eligible Community Development Block Grant areas for park improvements including a $750,000 Phase 1 improvement in 2019 at JFK Park, as well as upgrading playground equipment in several neighborhood parks. The Parks and Recreation Department continues to increase revenue through programs and sponsorships.

We still have financial crisis in Other Post Employment Health Benefits (OPEB). In 2015 was up to $75 million, it is down to $68 million for 2018. This is a liability that is out there, currently we pay as you go, but at some point, the liability is going to become due. Additionally, we have the police pension fund and accrued leave time that are requirements to fund.

Mr. Antonello asked where is the Debt Service Fund? Mr. McCauley advised each time we took a Note we deposited into the Debt Fund and have a $10 Million surplus.

Public Hearing closed at 8:03 PM.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution Adopting the 2020 Township Budget and Setting Forth Millage Rates to Fund Said Adopted Budget: Consideration to Adopt.

Motion by Mr. Antonello and seconded by Vice President Murphy to Adopt the 2020 Budget and set forth the Millage Rates. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

B. A Resolution for PA Small Water and Sewer Grant Submission to the Commonwealth Financing Authority for MS4 Projects: Consideration to Adopt.

Motion by Vice President Murphy and seconded by Mr. Glasson for submission of the grant application. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

Mr. Flager stated his first assignment from Mr. McCauley was to look at filing for bankruptcy in 2012 and look where we are now. Mr. Flager thanked Mr. McCauley for his service and wished Acting Township Manager Randee Elton and all the Department Heads for the Township well.
NEW BUSINESS

A. Application of YMCA of Bucks County, 2500 Lower State Road, Doylestown requesting a Waiver of Land Development in order to renovate and make improvements to the existing building and parking lot, construct a 2,700 sf addition at the NW corner of the building and a 1,940 sf addition at the front entrance of the building for the property located at 601 S. Oxford Valley Road, Fairless Hills (Tax Parcels #5-46-003-001, #5-46-230 & #5-46-231) in a C-Commercial zoned district: Consideration to take Appropriate Action.

Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) of Buck County, the applicant and property owner, has submitted a waiver of land development application. Currently, the site contains the YMCA building and parking facilities. The plans propose the consolidation of the three (3) lots. The plans also propose to remove the eastern portion of the existing building and construct an additional 30 parking spaces along with restriping of the existing parking lot and construction of two (2) building additions and to remodel the existing entrance to the existing athletic facility. No changes are being proposed to the site access from S. Oxford Valley Road or Drexel Road or to the angle parking along S. Oxford Valley Road except for expanding the drive aisle serving the four (4) existing ADA angled parking spaces. The proposed buildings will be serviced by existing public water and sewer. The Applicant is also proposing to control stormwater runoff by installing an underground stormwater management facility.

Motion by Mr. Antonello and seconded by Mrs. Wagner to approve the Waiver of Land Development. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

B. Application of Nicola & Angelina Marino, 914 Fourth Ave., Croydon (Tax Parcel #5-11-26) requesting Preliminary & Final approval in order to divide the existing parcel into two (2) lots in an R-3 Residential zoned district: Consideration to take Appropriate Action.

Nicola & Angelina Marino, the Applicant and property owners, have submitted a subdivision application. The subject property consists of 0.48 gross acres. Currently, the site contains a single-family detached dwelling, a detached garage, and shed. The plan proposes to divide the existing parcel into two (2) lots. Lot 1 will be located at the corner of Fourth Avenue & Miller Avenue, will consist of 6,753 square feet, and proposes a single-family detached dwelling and driveway. Lot 2 will be located on Fourth Avenue with access to Miller Avenue, will consist of 13,929 square feet, and will contain the existing single-family detached dwelling and proposes to remove the existing shed. The Applicant is also proposing to control stormwater runoff from the impervious coverage on both lots by installing an underground infiltration basin on Lot #2.

Motion by Mrs. Wagner and seconded by Ms. Glasson to approve Preliminary & Final Subdivision. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

C. Building Permit Reduction Request for County of Bucks: Consideration to Approve.
Motion by Mr. Antonello and seconded by Mr. Glasson to approve a 50% building permit reduction for the County building located at 7203 New Falls Road. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

D. Establishment of Council Meeting Dates and Times: Consideration to Approve.

Motion by Mrs. Wagner and seconded by Vice President Murphy for approval. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Members of Council thanked Mr. McCauley and wished him the best of luck.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

West Rexler, 504 Western Ave, spoke of issues various issues to be looked at by the Township.

Galus Obert, 51 Freedom Lane, advised the Bristol Township School District did not raise taxes this year and their credit rating was increased. Mr. Galus also asked if we could discuss clearing around the PECO substation on Mill Creek.

John McClay, 2740 Avenue B wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Peace on Earth

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Randee J. Elton
Township Secretary
Recap of December 19, 2019 Council Meeting

1. Approved Voucher List and Requisitions.
3. Appointed Deputy Township Manager Randee Elton as Acting Township Manager.
5. Judge Wagner swore in with Oaths of Office to Officers Kyle McKenna, Emilyanne Maialetti and Ashley McCabe
9. Approved Resolution (2019-94) for PA Small Water and Sewer Grant Submission to the Commonwealth Financing Authority for MS4 Projects.
10. Approved Resolution (2019-95) for Waiver of Land Development for the YMCA located at 601 South Oxford Valley Road.
11. Approved Resolution (2019-96) for Preliminary/Final Subdivision approval at 914 Fourth Avenue.
12. Approved 50% Building Permit fee request from the County of Bucks for 7203 New Falls Road renovations.