

ALDAN BOROUGH, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

May, 2018

The Borough Council met in an Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. and in a regular session at 8:00 p.m. at the William Reinl Recreation Building on the above date with President Short presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Council President Harry Short.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: S. Urban; S. Oropollo; J. Connolly; S Durso;
H Short; M. Corrigan

Council members absent: S. Maiden

Officers present: C. Maniaci, Mayor; P. Close, Engineer; J. McBlain, Solicitor; P.
Rankin, Treasurer

Officers absent: J. White, Borough Manager

MINUTES

On a motion made by Councilman Connolly seconded by Councilman Oropollo the minutes from the April 2018 Council Meeting be accepted as presented and unanimously approved.

RECEIPT OF COMMUNICATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Aldan resident Ed Sabatini was questioning being stopped by Code Enforcement while working on his driveway. He stated he was told he was stopped for other's being on the job and him not having Workers' Compensation Insurance. He stated he was unaware and did not find this anywhere in the codes since this was an unpaid friend helping him on the job. Mr. McBlain told him that since he is the homeowner and not a contractor he can have friends helping him on the job.

Mr. Sabatini's second concern was about what the width of his driveway is allowed to be. He would like to expand the driveway and was told it could only be 18 feet in width. He did show pictures of other locations that had driveways with a larger width than 18 feet. Mr. Tartaglia did look at the pictures and tell him that these are parking areas and not driveways which is why they can be more than 18 feet.

Due to the questions that Mr. Sabatini had, Mr. McBlain offered a solution to have Mr. Tartaglia speak with him sometime after the meeting to cover these issues. President Short stated him and Mr. Tartaglia will meet with him during the week at his property to discuss further.

Aldan resident Mr. Whiteside stated that he has been doing work in the borough for almost 3 years and has had no issues. He stated he is being harassed about getting a Worker's Compensation Affidavit that he has never filled out before. He stated he filled out affidavits and the one he sent on that particular day was sent back from Mr. Tartaglia stating that this gentleman was not an officer of the company. Mr. Whiteside stated he is an Aldan resident and gives a discount to Aldan residents. He is frustrated because he is stating that every time he comes into the office something changes. Mr. Whiteside understands the rules but does not understand the sudden changes in needing a waiver and then being questioned when he does submit what Mr. Tartaglia asks of him. Mr. Short questioned what happens if one of these employees he is bringing on the job gets hurt, Mr. Whiteside stated that they are highly insured and each individual working is part owner of the company. Mr. Tartaglia stated he just wanted to know why the employee's names were not on the insurance; he just wanted verification that they were in fact employees. Mr. Tartaglia stated that it would not have been an issue if the affidavit came in with insurance. Mr. Whiteside's main concern was why after all this time he was asked for an affidavit when he was never asked for one before. Mr. Tartaglia stated that he is sure that Jennifer (Aldan Borough's previous Borough Secretary) asked him for it in the past and if it was not asked for then it was a mistake. Mr. Tartaglia stated that he has seen affidavits come through for his company and Mr. Whiteside stated that was a lie and he just produced one for the first time the other day and Mr. Tartaglia needs to produce them for council to see. Mr. McBlain stated that again, nothing has changed and he does share his frustration as he spoke with Mr. Whiteside prior to the council meeting. Mr. McBlain stated the rules and Mr. Whiteside acknowledged that he understood but was still frustrated because he had to cancel work he was doing to get to a notary to have these affidavits signed and notarized. Mr. McBlain told him that under the law the Borough has 15 days to issue a permit and Aldan does a good job at processing permits quickly as he was given his permit within a few days. Mr. Whiteside wanted to know if the affidavits are going to be needed for every job or if they will be good for 6 months or a year. The answer was that the affidavits will be good for a year.

Mr. Lyons, a resident of Aldan, stated that he had submitted a permit application in September and it was not approved until February because of "games like this". He feels that Tony is not consistent with the rules he enforces and does not enforce. The latest issue being his sidewalk being marked because of the surface which he does not believe is in the borough code and he feels that Tony makes up rules as he goes.

AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

None

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Maniaci shared with residents that state mandated Act 180 training continues for our officers. This training includes 16 hours in the classroom, firearm and CPR and first aid training. Along with Chief Coppola, Mayor Maniaci believes in training for our officers. In addition to the state mandated training, our officers are constantly being sent to seminars to continue their learning.

Mayor Maniaci reminded residents to lock your car doors. It is getting nice out which means more people will be outside. He let residents know to call 9-1-1 if they need an officer. He also stated that the 9-1-1 system is used for any police issues, emergency or non-emergency. Mr. Whiteside inquired about how many break-ins there have been in which Mayor Maniaci stated that there have been several that have been reported along with others that have not. He stated that they come by checking doors and getting in to unlocked car doors and taking change.

Ms. Bradford, an Aldan resident, inquired about what is happening at 4 Bonsall Avenue where the fire took place July 2017. At this time the grass/weeds are growing where the lot was. Mr. Short stated that the owners are responsible for bringing the property back with normal grass. He stated money is held and before it is released it will all need to be taken care of. She asked if the borough would consider doing the job and just subtract that from the money that is due to them as it is an eye sore. Mr. Short let Ms. Bradford know that if they do not respond, yes, the borough would consider that. Her concern is that residents are cited for grass over 6 inches so she would like to know when this property will be taken care of. Mr. McBlain shared that last year the ground was seeded and in some areas it took well and in others it did not. He shared he also saw how bad it has gotten and it is on the list to circle back around with the owner. They will have to level and seed it. He stated they will talk about how to get it back up to standard if the owner does not respond.

BOROUGH MANAGER

Borough Manager John White was absent.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS**TREASURER**

Mrs. Rankin read the Treasurer's Report:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>State Highway Fund</u>	<u>Sewer Fund</u>
Balance of cash on hand	\$ 451,310.49	\$ 138,619.85	\$ 220,753.78
Receipts for period	\$ 1,222,945.89	\$.78	\$ 621,541.80
Expenditures Last Month	\$ 166,557.11	\$ 7,289.42	\$ 1,959.00
Loan from Reserve	\$	\$	\$
Transfer to Police Capital Res\$	\$	\$	\$
Ending Balance	\$ 1,222,945.89	\$ 131,331.21	\$ 840,336.58

Mrs. Rankin asked for council's approval for the following amounts of checks; from General Fund \$166,557.11, for the State Highway Fund \$7,289.42, and Sewer Fund \$1,959.00.

Councilwoman Urban made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as reported and authorize the disbursements of funds, seconded by Councilman Maiden and unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR

Mr. McBlain stated that council has before them a draft resolution to make application for supplemental county liquid fuels tax funds under the pothole program. Back in February the council approved a request from the county for \$10,000 in Liquid Fuels Tax Funds from the fund that is established. These funds are paid in gas taxes and are given to the state and then it is dispersed to the municipalities. The county distributes about 50% of its Liquid Fuels Fund to the municipalities in the county. Due to the difficult year with the weather and the potholes that have developed, the county believed it was appropriate to distribute more of the money as a supplemental distribution so municipalities were able to fix potholes on local roadways, this is not state highways.

Councilman Connolly made a motion approving the resolution for the application to the Delaware County Council for the allocation of county Liquid Fuels Tax Funds in 2018 for the Pothole Assistance for Taxpayers Program, seconded by Councilwoman Corrigan and unanimously approved.

ENGINEER

Mr. Close reported on the 2018 Road Program on Tuesday, May 1, bids were received and opened for the road program. He stated he will be available for questions during the Public Health Committee Report as the Chairman for the Highway Committee is absent this evening.

Second, the 2017 Community Development Block Grant Project for street improvements in the northeast quadrant of the borough (W. Maryland Avenue from Springfield Road to E. Maryland Avenue; Birchwood Road from Elm Avenue to W. Maryland Avenue; Willows Lane from W. Maryland Avenue to the Cul-de-sac). The contractor is finishing up a project in another township but is looking to start Monday or Tuesday of next week. The work should take a little under 2 weeks.

Lastly, the pavilion/snack bar project application to the Department of Community and Economic Development is called a GTRP Grant Application. There are a lot of documents required, but they have been put together and submitted online and a hard copy on Tuesday May 8th. It was due at the end of the month, but was sent in way before it was due. He will keep residents informed on the progress of the application.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

PUBLIC HEALTH

Councilman Durso stated that for the month of April 2018, 160.22 tons of trash and 29.60 tons of recycling were collected.

Mr. Durso reported on the E-Cycling Event that took place on April 28th, he stated that it was a great day and well received. He is glad that the message is getting out to everyone because these events are great for the borough. An entire dumpster was filled with TV's and electronics. Aldan residents disposed of 59 TV's, 3 air conditioners and about 15 computers. Mr. Durso stated that everything went smoothly and wanted to thank everyone involved, including those who came to recycle their electronics. A lot of communities there is a charge to get rid of these electronics, but Aldan Borough is covering the cost for their residents. He also stated that the Drug Take Back Day was a success with about 9 boxes full of old medicine.

Also, May 16, is Bulk Trash for the west side of town. Electronics will not be included in pick-up during the Bulk Trash Day.

In Councilman Maiden's absent, Councilman Durso was asked to make a report for the Highway Committee. The lowest bid was from Charlestown Paving and Excavating Inc. for \$83,195.70.

Councilman Durso made a motion for council to Charlestown Paving and Excavating's Bid for the 2018 Road Improvement Program seconded by Councilman Maiden and unanimously approved.

HIGHWAY

Councilman Maiden was absent.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilman Oropollo advised that there was another back up in the sewer line on Jeffrey Road. General Sewer came out to clean the drains and advised the issue was paper and baby wipes.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Councilwoman Corrigan reported that there were 9 calls to Collingdale Fire Company's 1 and 2 for the month of April with no damage being reported and during the month they also responded to 28 calls in the Borough of Aldan.

LAW, ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Councilman Connolly reported that there were 47 building permits issued with a construction value of \$158,849.46. In addition 9 transfer inspections and 30 midterm inspections were completed for the month of April.

Mr. Connolly advised that permits have been being issued for the new convenience store located at the corner of Oak Avenue and Providence Road. Significance progress has been made within the last two weeks.

The borough has recently received many permit applications for fences. According to the ordinance, fences are not permitted in the front yard of the home which is defined as the distance between the main building and the public roadway. If it is a corner property there will be two front yards. A fence in the side yard can be a maximum of 4 foot high and only in the back of the yard can a 6 foot fence be permitted. A 4 foot fence is required around all pools, ponds and saunas.

As a reminder to all residents that it is grass season and all lawns are to be maintained and grass cut to less than 6 inches. Please don't forget to clear the curb line along the streets to keep the streams clean.

FINANCE

Councilwoman Urban reported that all the bills have been made for the month. No major deposits have been made this month.

Councilwoman Urban made a resolution 2018-3 stating opposition by the mayor and borough council to the implementation of an earned income tax on the residents of Aldan by the William Penn School District, seconded by Councilman Durso and unanimously approved.

President Short along with the Mayor and Borough Manager attended a meeting with the school district where the district rallied for the imposed income tax. Mr. Short, Mayor Maniaci and Mr. White spoke with our school board representative who assured them that he will vote no on this issue. A couple other school board representatives were present who also stated they would object. There were not enough objections to be a majority at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing outstanding.

NEW BUSINESS

Caucus will be held Tuesday, June 5th at 7:30 P.M at the Municipal Building

Council will meet Wednesday, June 13th at a 7:00pm in the William Reinl Recreation Center.

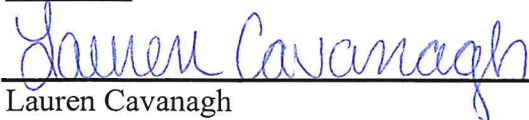
PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilman Connolly and seconded by Councilwoman Urban, unanimously approved, the regular meeting of the Borough Council was adjourned at 8:06pm.

ATTEST



Lauren Cavanagh
Asst. Borough Secretary