

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF February 15, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Borough of Baldwin Council was called to order by President John Egger at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

The invocation was done by Mrs. Boyer.

The following Council members and staff answered to roll call:

Mrs. Patty Boyer
Mr. James Behers
Mr. Raymond Dee
Mrs. Denise Maiden (absent)
Mrs. Erin Brown
Mrs. Marianne Conley, Vice-President
Mr. John Egger, President
Mr. David Depretis, Mayor
Mr. Jason Stanton, Engineer
Mrs. Ashley Wagner, Solicitor
Mrs. Diana Behers – Treasurer (not in attendance)
Mr. Robert Firek, Borough Manager
Chief Tony Cortazzo

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Egger asked for the following approval of Council Meeting Minutes:

M-1 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to approve the Reorganization Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2022; second by Mr. Behers. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mrs. Conley clarified that Greg Zeman was elected to the Baldwin Whitehall School Board, not appointed, as stated in the minutes from the January 3, 2021 Reorganization Meeting.

M-2 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to approve the Agenda Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2021; second by Mrs. Brown. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on the motion. None were asked.

M-3 *Mrs. Boyer made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2022; second by Mrs. Conley. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on the motion. None were asked.

MS4 PERMIT AMENDED POLLUTION REDUCTION PLAN (PRP) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Stanton explained the Amended Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP)

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Mr. Egger asked if there were any public comments or questions regarding the plan. There were none.

AUDIENCE AGENDA: Agenda Items Only: 5 MINUTES PER SPEAKER OR GROUP

Mr. Egger asked the audience if they would like to address Council on anything that is on the agenda. If so, they should come forward and state their name and address for the record.

Many residents addressed Council concerning the potential Traffic Resolution to make Walton Rd. one way. All residents who spoke were opposed to the potential one-way Traffic Resolution. Residents who spoke provided Council with their address:

1000 Glass Run Rd.
28 Walton Rd.
12 Walton Rd.
90 Walton Rd.
48 Walton Rd.
105 Walton Rd
189 Walton Rd.
169 Walton Rd.
189 Walton Rd.
265 Walton Rd.
148 Walton Rd.
4013 Willet Rd.

Tom Higgins – 30 Gensler Rd.- Asked for the December 21, 2021 minutes, where he spoke, to be amended to correct a date he felt was inaccurate.

Mr. Egger thanked everyone who gave their comments and moved on to the next part of the agenda.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Stanton previously submitted the Monthly Engineers Report to Council at the Agenda meeting and had summarized the activity for the month. Mr. Stanton asked for the following motions:

M-4 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to approve Bond Reduction No. 4 for Crossroads Tower II from \$63,828.40 to \$0.00. This is a final release of all remaining funds for this development per the recommendation of the Borough Engineer; Second by Mrs. Boyer. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

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Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions for the Engineer. None were asked.

SOLICITOR' S REPORT

Mrs. Wagner gave her Solicitor's Report last week but had several items to discuss in executive session.

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions for the Solicitor. None were asked.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor provided information from the Police Monthly Activity report from January 2022:

Calls to Police: 683 calls
Fees collected: \$224.00
Arrest Totals: 17
Citations/tags: 44

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions for the Mayor. None were asked.

Mr. Egger asked if Chief Cortazzo had anything additional to add. The Chief replied that he did not.

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Firek presented his Manager's Report last week.

Mr. Firek clarified that GBWAA has gotten a grant from Representative Pisciotano's office in the amount of \$100,000. The language used to announce the grant award stated that the money was to be used for construction of an "indoor athletic facility." Mr. Firek clarified that a batting cage with restrooms and storage will be constructed at Leland Park and it will be a prefabricated metal building. Mr. Firek wanted to clear up confusion that may have led the public to believe the building would be something different.

Mr. Firek had the following motions tonight for Council's consideration:

M-5 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 920** updating Ordinance No. 840 updating certain provisions of Baldwin Borough's Service Employees Pension Plan; Second by Mr. Behers. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

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Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

M-6 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to Adopt **Resolution No. 2022-02-05** authorizing the Borough to participate in the 2023 joint bid for a contract for Solid Waste collection, removal and disposal services coordinated and administered by the South Hills Area Council of Governments (SHACOG); second by Mr. Behers. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

M-7 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 2022-02-06** Authorizing the Borough to submit an application for a Local Share Assessment (LSA) Grant in the amount of \$600,000 for pool repairs; Second by Mrs. Brown. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

M-8 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 2022-02-07** Authorizing the execution of the Phase II Consent Order and Agreement from the Allegheny County Health Department; Second by Mr. Dee. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

M-9 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 2022-02-08** Approving a capital lease from Huntington Public Capital Corporation for the purchase of one (1) 2022 Ford Interceptor SUV and Accessories Police Vehicle in the amount of \$50,190.50; Second by Mrs. Brown. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

M-10 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to Adopt **Resolution No. 2022-02-09** Approving and Adopting the Borough of Baldwin Employee Handbook; second by Mrs. Brown. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

M-11 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to Table **Traffic Resolution No. 368-235** designating Walton Road between Churchview Avenue and Glass Run Rd. as a One Way in the Northbound Direction (Churchview Ave. to Glass Run Rd.); second by Mr. Dee. Upon vote, the motion was tabled unanimously.*

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M-12 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to Approve Partial Payment No. 2 in the amount of \$37, 127.80 to A. Liberoni, Inc. for Contract No. 21-01 (Elm Leaf Park Ph. III) per the recommendation of HRG Engineering; second by Mr. Dee. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any question for Mr. Firek. None were asked.

FINANCE

Mr. Firek provided Mrs. Maiden's report in her absence.

M-13 *Mr. Dee made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for January 2022; Second by Mrs. Conley. Upon Vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

M-14 *Mrs. Boyer made a motion to Ratify Bills in the amount of \$631,957.23 and approve bills in the amount of \$199,762.03 for a total of \$831,719.26; Second by Mrs. Brown. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions. None were asked.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Dee thanked public works crews for their efforts during the past month regarding salting and plowing of the roadways. He then provided an overview of the monthly report.

Mr. Egger asked if anyone had any questions for Mr. Dee. None were asked.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Mrs. Boyer provided her report last week.

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions for Mrs. Boyer. None were asked.

ZONING & PLANNING

Mrs. Brown gave her report last week.

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions for Mrs. Brown. None were asked.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Behers read the following Activity Reports for BEMS and the Volunteer Fire Departments with the following calls/incidents and response times:

	Calls/Incidents:	Avg. Response Time:
BEMS	303	7.7 minutes
Baldwin #105	21	10.30 minutes
SBVFC	23	10 minutes

Mr. Behers added that he received an e-mail from a resident who suggested adding a flashing light to the stop sign at Elmwood and Prospect because cars are not stopping at the stop sign.

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions for Mr. Behers. Mr. Dee commented his thanks to the Volunteer Fire Companies and EMS for having staffing through the snow events.

Mr. Dave Connell, Assistant Chief from South Baldwin VFC provided combined annual report stats for Baldwin Borough's three fire companies for 2021:

Total Calls: 1,079
South Baldwin: 245
Option: 455
Baldwin #105: 379
Total Hours on Scene: 2,069
Training Hours: 4,661

Mr. Connell noted an agreement has been signed by all three fire companies so the process can begin to pursue a possible future consolidation. It is in early stages.

Mr. Dee added at a recent conference he attended with Mr. Firek, it was noted the average hourly wage for a firefighter is \$26.68/hr. Through volunteers, the Borough is saving approximately \$174,954 per year in wages. Mr. Dee commended the volunteers for their dedication and the value they bring to the Borough.

PERSONNEL

Mrs. Conley had the following motions for tonight:

M-15 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to approve Erin Brown to fill the vacant position on the Stormwater Authority Board for a 5-year term. (Term to expire 12-31-*

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26); *Second by Mrs. Boyer. Upon vote, the motion passed 5-0-1. (Mrs. Brown abstained.)*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

M-16 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to add a motion to the agenda; second by Mrs. Boyer. Upon vote, the motion was passed unanimously.*

Mr. Egger asked if there were any questions on this motion. None were asked.

M-17 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to Appoint Mary Sullivan to a vacant position on the Planning Commission; second by Mrs. Boyer. Upon vote, the motion passed 5-0-1 (Mr. Dee abstained siting that Mrs. Sullivan is a relative.)*

Mr. Egger asked the audience if they had any questions on this new motion since this was not on the agenda. There were none.

Mr. Egger asked council if there were any questions for Mrs. Conley. None were asked.

AUDIENCE AGENDA - Any issue pertaining to Borough: 5 MINUTES PER SPEAKER OR GROUP

Jim Vogel – 5149 Colewood – He asked if there is truth to the rumor that the City of Pittsburgh is going to annex Baldwin Borough. Mayor Depretis responded that no one from the city has spoken to anyone at the Borough about this and he would be against it if approached in the future.

Tom Higgins – 30 Gensler Rd. – He asked for minutes from the last Zoning Hearing Board meeting. Mr. Firek replied that there are no minutes. A court reporter is always present as it is a legal hearing. The Borough receives a transcript from the court reporter. Mrs. Wagner added that Mr. Higgins would have to request a copy through a Right to Know Request to the Borough Manager for that transcript. Mr. Higgins asked several questions regarding the McCluskey property on Walton Rd. He stated that his home was flooded two weeks ago. In response, Mrs. Wagner replied that Baldwin Borough Council has authorized her as solicitor to begin legal proceedings in this matter, therefore, she and council are unable to speak further on the subject.

Sharon Sweeney – 20 Gensler Rd. – stated that the address for McCluskey Construction is his Walton Rd. address. She is upset about her property value and the water/flooding issues from his property.

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Mark Frankenfield – 154 Brailer Ct. - He reiterated past complaints about noise from the McCluskey property on Walton Rd. due to construction vehicles. He asked several questions and Mrs. Wagner reiterated that she is handling the matter as Borough Solicitor through the legal process and cannot comment further on the matter.

Mr. Dee commented that he understands the resident's frustration. He asked for patience with the Borough, as they are moving as quickly as they can within the restraints of the law. He assured residents that the Borough Solicitor is doing all that she possibly can to represent the residents of the Borough. He asked for time to gain their trust.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Egger asked Mr. Firek to start thinking of options to repair/replace the aging Borough Building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

M-18 *Mrs. Conley made the motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss current and potential legal items and possible sale of Borough property; Second by Mrs. Brown. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.*

MOTION TO ADJOURN

M-19 *Mrs. Conley made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Second by Mr. Behers. Upon vote, the motion was passed unanimously.*

Respectively submitted,
BOROUGH OF BALDWIN

Robert T. Firek
Borough Manager