

Borough of Beaver, PA  
Council Meeting  
January 13, 2015  
Minutes

- A regular scheduled meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on January 13, 2015 at 7:00PM by President Michael Deelo.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres, Lauson Cashdollar, Dan Deceder, Michael Deelo, Ron Embaugh, Walter McDermott (via phone conference), James Perini, Pat Sims, Jarrod Thomas. Borough officials in attendance: Borough Manager – Adam Rathbun, Director of Operations – Chuck Copeland, Mayor - Tom Hamilton, Police Chief Dan Madgar and Solicitor - John Petrush.
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): Sean Snowden, Midge Sefton, Paula Cribbs, Rick Sprecker, Francy Mantine, Cheryl Hansen, Tommi Wagner

**Approval of minutes**

***Motion by Mr. Deceder to accept the December 9, 2014 Council Meeting minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

**Treasure's Report**

December 2014 end of month reports and balances reviewed. Reports will be filed for annual audit.

**Review invoice and authorization to pay bills**

***Motion by Mr. Embaugh to authorize and pay submitted invoices for the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Cashdollar. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

**Public Participation –**

- Midge Sefton, 1360 River Road – The discussion by council members regarding the volunteers of the Shade Tree Commission (STC) at the last council meeting was an embarrassment to the volunteers. The problem should have been discussed with the members in a private meeting.
  - Mr. Cashdollar stated the discussion was not intended to embarrass any member, their service to the community is greatly appreciated. However, there was a meeting with members with repeated requests for information and reports which were not received. Council needs to make sure all commissions follow certain standards.
  - Mr. Andres read an email he sent to the Finance Committee dated November 18, 2014 regarding his request for the STC budget amendment. He stated his email received no response. Therefore a motion was brought to the last meeting.
  - Mr. McDermott stated he wanted the residents of Beaver Borough to know why the budget was being cut.

- Paula Cribbs, 443 Third Street, Representing Girl Scouts – Requested status of the banner request submitted.
  - Mr. Deelo stated Dan Martone, Zoning Officer, would respond to her request.

## **Reports – Commissions**

**Council of Governments (COG)** – No report

**Business District Authority** – No report

**Civil Service Commission** – Reported by Midge Sefton  
December 31, 2014 end of year report enclosed in council packet

**Zoning Hearing Board** – No report

**Planning Commission** – Reported by Mr. Deelo

- November 17, 2014 meeting minutes and November 29, 2014 sub-committee minutes enclosed in council packet
- Mr. Deelo stated Mr. Cashdollar attended the Vanport Zoning Hearing on December 29, 2014 to present Beaver Boroughs concerns of a new electronic sign at the corner of Third and Buffalo Street. The hearing was for a request of a variance since the proposed sign exceeds size limits of Vanport’s zoning ordinance.
  - The Vanport Zoning Hearing Board voted in favor of the variance
  - Solicitor Petrush distributed a memo dated January 13, 2015 to members of Council titled New Sign at Beaver Cemetery explaining Beaver Borough would have little chance of success in challenging the decision by the Vanport Zoning Hearing Board.

**Tree Commission** – No report

**Code Enforcement Officer Report** – Reported by Richard Sprecker  
Monthly report enclosed in council packet

**Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB)** – No report

## **Council Committee Reports**

**Public Safety** – Reported by Mr. Thomas

- Reviewed the December 22, 2014 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet
- Mr. Thomas asked Mr. Copeland if he has resolved the issue of the lack of lighting behind the borough building or crosswalks.
  - Mr. Copeland will discuss during his report.

**Finance** – No report

**Highway** – Reported by Mr. Cashdollar

Reviewed the January 8, 2015 meeting minutes distributed to council

**General Government** – Reported by Mr. Andres

Reviewed the December 2014 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

**Code Enforcement** – Reported by Mr. Cashdollar

Reviewed the December 22, 2014 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

**Recreation** – Reported by Mr. Embaugh

- No meeting in January
- Mr. Thomas asked if a decision was made regarding the yearly summer carnival
  - Mr. Embaugh stated Deshler's is not the preferred choice due to their contract restraints regarding local booths participating and the insurance restrictions. The committee intends to research a possible replacement as quickly as possible.
  - Mr. Cashdollar stated several concerns:
    - Our existing insurance carrier does not offer insurance covering catastrophic injury for mechanical rides.
    - Need to protect the borough. We cannot afford to sponsor another carnival unless we have the proper insurance.
  - Mr. Rathbun stated any possible replacement the committee contacts needs to have their insurance coverage reviewed by our insurance carrier.
  - Mr. Deelo stated the carnival decision needs to be made by council due to the liability issue.

**Water & Sewer** – Reported by Mr. Sims & Mr. Rathbun

- December 2014 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet
- Mr. Rathbun stated he and Charles Etta met with an insurance company which offers a program that works with the borough to provide coverage for the residents for water and sewer line breaks.
  - Coverage is from the main to the house including the curb valve. Price is \$5.75 a month for water line insurance and \$7.75 a month for sewer line insurance.
  - Insurance not only protects the resident but also takes financial burden off the borough.
  - Last year the borough had numerous water line breaks due to the age of our infrastructure.
  - Mr. Rathbun will provide the license agreement to the Water & Sewer Committee at their next meeting. The committee will review and decide if they will make a motion at the next council meeting.

**Reports**

**Manager's Report** – Reported by Mr. Rathbun

- Reviewed the December 2014 report enclosed in council packet
- The Beaver Volunteer Fire Department surplus truck was properly advertised for sale; no bids were received.

- ***Motion by Mr. Cashdollar for Beaver Borough Council to authorize the Borough Manager to sell the Beaver Volunteer Fire Departments Surplus Truck. Seconded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed***

**Director of Operations Report** – Reported by Mr. Copeland

- Reviewed the January 13, 2015 report enclosed in council packet
- Lighting on Third Street – Researching the possibility of attaching lights on the polls when the crosswalk signal is in operation. May also put lights on the crosswalk of Third Street and Wayne Street. The lights will reach the middle of the street.
- Borough workers can put additional lighting behind the borough building
- Maintenance requests from the Fire Department is in progress.

**President's Report** – No report

**Mayor Hamilton** – No report

**Police Chief Madgar** –

Officer Bo Blinn slipped on the inside back steps. He will need physical therapy for four weeks.

- Mr. Copeland was asked to have the outside step that is loose fixed and to have new non-slip tape put on the inside and outside steps.

**Fire Department** – Reported by Mr. Perini

Reviewed the December 2014 report enclosed in council packet

- Numerous list of repair items are still waiting for the work to be completed

**Emergency Management Coordinator** – No report

**Engineer** – December 2014 monthly report enclosed in council packet

**Solicitor Petrush** –

- Researched and provided an opinion letter to the Borough Engineer regarding the new roof project and the Prevailing Wage Act.
- Handout regarding Hovanec Reimbursement Claim enclosed in council packet
  - ***Motion by Mr. Cashdollar that the Borough of Beaver authorize the reimbursement of medical expenses of retired Borough Chief Hovanec for 2014 in the amount of \$11,805.57. Seconded by Mr. Andres. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

## **Old Business**

**Motion – Increasing tree maintenance and Tree Commission budget line items by a total of \$8,000**  
***Motion by Mr. Cashdollar that the Borough Manager be and is directed and empowered to increase two budget line items relating to trees and hillside maintenance (454.251 and 454.252) by a total of \$8,000.00 and that he allot that \$8,000 increase among those line items as he deems fit. Source of funding will be an \$8,000 transfer from line item 401.720 (Contingency). Seconded by Mr. McDermott.***

- Mr. Thomas stated the budget should not have been changed from \$27,000. If the current members are not providing the necessary information then the commission may need to be restructured.
- Mr. Cashdollar and Mr. McDermott stated past discussions stated if the STC were in compliance the necessary funds would be available and moved back in the budget line item.
- Mr. Perini asked if the requested documents were received this month. Mr. Rathbun stated they were not received.
- Mr. Embaugh stated the STC has enough funds to cover the Tree City USA requirements
- Mr. Andres stated \$8,000, must have been a compromise.

***Roll call vote: Mr. Embaugh – No, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Sims – Yes, Mr. Cashdollar – Yes, Mr. Deceder – Yes, Mr. Thomas – No, Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes. Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 7-2.***

## **New Business**

**Motion – Approving and enacting the attached Ordinance amending Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances relating to adding a new provision setting the minimum fee and usage rate per calendar quarter for Sanitary Sewer Rental Services**

***Motion by Mr. Cashdollar that the attached Ordinance setting the minimum fee and usage rate per calendar quarter for Beaver’s Sanitary Sewer Rental Services be and is approved and enacted and that the Borough Manager obtain the full execution thereof. Seconded by Mr. Sims. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

**Motion – Approving and enacting the attached Ordinance amending Chapter 26 of the Code of Ordinances relating to adding a new provision setting base fee and usage rater per calendar quarter for water supply service**

***Motion by Mr. Cashdollar that the attached Ordinance setting the base fee and usage rate per calendar quarter for Beaver’s water supply services be and is hereby approved and enacted and that the Borough Manager obtain the full execution thereof. Seconded by Mr. Sims. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

**Motion – Directing the Solicitor to advertise the attached draft ordinance amending Beaver Borough’s IPMC Code – Appointing Code Enforcement Committee as Board of Appeals**

***Motion by Mr. Cashdollar that the Borough Solicitor be and is authorized and directed to advertise the attached Draft Ordinance amending Chapter 4 of Beaver Borough’s Code of Ordinances – relating***

*to property maintenance – for consideration at the February 2015 regular meeting of Beaver Borough Council. Seconded by Mr. Embaugh. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

**Motion – Accepting and approving the recommendations in the attached Planning Commission document and directing the Solicitor to draft amendment language for each of the 4 recommendations**

*Motion by Mr. Cashdollar that Borough Council hereby accepts and approves the attached four recommendations of the Beaver Borough Planning Commissions and directs the Borough Solicitor to draft the language of the four suggested amendments to the Borough’s Zoning Ordinance for submission to Council and the Planning Commission for further review. Seconded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

**Motion – Police vehicles purchase**

*Motion by Mr. Thomas that the Borough of Beaver direct our Borough Manager to make arrangements to purchase or lease two new 2015 Ford Explorer police vehicles in 2015. Furthermore, I move to direct the Borough Manager and Police Chief to sell 2 vehicles: 1 Dodge Charger and 1 of the 2 Crown Victorias. One Crown Victoria is to be used for the School Resource Officer position and public event duties. Seconded by Mr. McDermott.*

- After discussion of council the following amendment was made
  - **Motion – Amendment to the Police vehicles purchase motion**
    - *Motion by Mr. Perini that the Borough of Beaver direct our Borough Manager to make arrangements to purchase or lease two new polices vehicles and to advertise to sell three cars. Seconded by Mr. Cashdollar. Roll call vote: Mr. Embaugh – Yes, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Sims – No, Mr. Cashdollar – Yes, Mr. Deceder – Yes, Mr. Thomas – No, Mr. Andres – No, Mr. McDermott – No, Mr. Deelo – No. Amendment failed on the indicated roll call vote, 4-5.*
- Original motion “Police vehicles purchase”: *Voice vote passed unanimously.*

**Motion – Purchase of a truck for the Highway Department**

*Motion by Mr. Cashdollar that the Beaver Borough Council approve the purchase or lease of a 2015 Ford Super Duty F-250 4WD diesel truck in the amount of \$34,002.00. Pricing summary attached. Seconded by Mr. McDermott. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

**Motion – Bright Arrow Alert System**

*Motion by Mr. Thomas/Public Safety Committee that Beaver Borough Council direct our Borough Manager to move forward with the purchase of the Bright Arrow Safety Alert Program (details attached) immediately. Seconded by Mr. Cashdollar. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

**Motion – Beaver Area Heritage Foundation (BAHF) Concert in the Park funding**

*Motion by Mr. Andres that Council approve BAHF’s request for \$3,000 to help fund the Concert in the park scheduled for July 2015. Seconded by Mr. Embaugh. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

**Motion – Annual contracts for Borough Manager and Director of Operations**

***Motion by Mr. Cashdollar that Beaver Borough Council approve the attached contracts for the Borough Manager and Director of Operations for 2015 with a yearly review. Seconded by Mr. McDermott. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

**Motion – Appointing Linda Lyden to the Beaver Borough Business District Authority**

***Motion by Mr. Andres that Linda Lyden be and is hereby appointed to a five year term on the Beaver Borough Business District Authority beginning January 2015. Seconded by Mr. Cashdollar. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

**Motion – Shade Tree Commission member**

***Motion by Mr. Embaugh that Beaver council re-appoint Tim Stancec to the Beaver Shade Tree Commission for an additional 5 year term effective January 2015. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

***Motion to adjourn by Mr. Embaugh, Seconded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

Adjourned at 9:45PM

Submitted by Debbie Hindman