

Borough of Beaver, PA
Council Meeting
May 12, 2015
Minutes

- A regular scheduled meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on May 12, 2015 at 7:00PM by President Michael Deelo.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres (arrived at 8:25PM), Dan Deceder, Michael Deelo, Ron Embaugh, Walter McDermott, James Perini, Pat Sims, Jarrod Thomas. Borough officials in attendance: Borough Manager – Adam Rathbun, Director of Operations – Chuck Copeland (absent from 8:20 – 8:35PM), Mayor Tom Hamilton, Chief Dan Madgar and Solicitor - John Petrush. Absent: Lauson Cashdollar
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): Midge Sefton, Virginia Roberts, Kevin Baden, Charles Casbourne, Tommi Wagner, Kathy Cava Boyd, Rick Sprecker, Cheryl Hansen, and Marilyn Vogel.

Approval of minutes

Motion by Mr. Embaugh to accept the April 14, 2015 Council Meeting minutes as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. McDermott. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

- Mr. Perini inquired the totals for the manager salary, Medicare tax and social security indicating they are over budget.
 - Mr. Rathbun explained 100% of the managers salary is posted to the general fund first then to the municipal fund. Until 50% is transferred to the municipal fund, the balance will be over budget. Regarding the Medicare tax and social security – QuickBooks is set up that these taxes are applied to one account. Additional programing is required to have this corrected.
- April 2015 end of month reports and balances reviewed. Reports will be filed for annual audit.

Review invoice and authorization to pay bills

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

Public Participation –

- Ken Varhola, Senior Governmental Representative of Duquesne Light -
 - The state of Pennsylvania has required utilities to replace existing electric meters with advanced meters as part of their overall response to requirements of statewide energy conservation law, Act 129.

- Duquesne Light will send a letter to customers notifying them of the upcoming meter exchange. This notification letter will provide details about the meter exchange and outline any actions the customer should take. Three to five days before the day of the exchange, customers will receive a reminder call. They will not need to be home for the exchange.
- An EBlast will be sent to residents with information provided by Duquesne Light and to notify residents that contractors will be walking around town for several weeks. They are to display appropriate identification badges.
- Tommi Wagner, 230 Beaver Street:
 - Questioned how the procedure of obtaining a Soliciting Permit
 - Chief Madgar explained the applicant must come to the police station to complete an application. The Mayor will review and either approve or deny the permit.
 - Mayor Hamilton suggests that this may be a good time to update our ordinance to make soliciting stricter.
 - Mr. Petrush stated the laws change frequently regarding the First Amendment increasing the freedom of speech. Residents are allowed to post a “No Soliciting” sign on their door. If someone violates the request, they can then be charged with trespassing.
 - Mr. Deelo requests the Borough Manager and Chief Madgar prepare a statement for the website of what residents should do if a solicitor comes to their home.
 - Chief Madgar stated they will prepare this and forward it to the Solicitor for his approval prior to posting it on the website.
 - Questioned if the timing of the traffic signal on Beaver Street could be changed.
 - Mr. Copeland stated he has contacted PennDot with several traffic signal changes.

Reports – Commissions

Council of Governments (COG) – Reported by Mr. Deceder

Reviewed the April 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Business District Authority – No report

Civil Service Commission – No report

Zoning Hearing Board – Reported by Mr. Sprecker

- A Zoning Hearing was held on April 15, 2015 regarding 394 College Avenue, changing the property from “medical services” to “legal services” and to install a free-standing sign.
 - Decision:
 - Approve the application for change of nonconforming use (medical office) to another nonconforming use (legal office) for the first floor of the premises.
 - Deny the application to extend the nonconforming use to the second floor; and
 - Approve the application to construct a free standing sign, subject to certain conditions.

Planning Commission –

April 20, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Tree Commission –

- March 23, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet
- Mr. McDermott questioned if the Tree Commission has been following required guidelines
 - Mr. Rathbun stated Mr. Colavincenzo did not follow proper guidelines and procedures regarding the purchase of trees for Arbor Day. Since then, he has received a report dated May 7, 2015 including invoices for resident's trees.

Code Enforcement Officer Report – Reported by Richard Sprecker

- April 2015 report enclosed in council packet
- Mr. McDermott stated the borough needs to have a Code Citation booklet as soon as possible. He will be contacting other boroughs to request samples of their citations.
 - Mr. Rathbun stated at the last council meeting, a Peer to Peer Consultant was approved through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The first meeting will be held this Friday to review our code enforcement process. This should be a 90 day process to receive a report of what our needs are.

Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) – Reported by Mr. Rice

February 26, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Council Committee Reports

Public Safety – No meeting in May

Update of the dump site: Chief Madgar stated in the past 30 days, 4 citations have been issued to residents and 3 citations to non-residents. Purchasing of dump permits has increased.

Finance – Reported by Mr. Perini

Reviewed the April 15, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Highway – Reported by Mr. McDermott

- Reviewed the May 7, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet
- The committee has starting to work on lining up what streets need to be paved next year in Ward 3.

General Government – Reported by Mr. Andres

No scheduled meeting in April

Code Enforcement – Reported by Mr. Cashdollar

Reviewed the April 30, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Recreation – Reported by Mr. Embaugh

- Reviewed the May 5, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

- Community Day will be held this summer. Details need to be finalized.

Water & Sewer – Reported by Mr. Sims

April 15, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Reports

Manager’s Report – Reported by Mr. Rathbun

- Reviewed the April 15 – May 8, 2015 report enclosed in council packet
- Volunteer Fire Departments Pumper Truck was sold for \$25,000.
- Three part-time summer employees have started, a total of 9 will be working by June 8, 2015.

Director of Operations Report – Reported by Mr. Copeland

May 12, 2015 report enclosed in council packet

President’s Report – No report

Mayor Hamilton –

- Citizens Police Academy graduated the 16th class.
- The Citizens Police Academy alumni honored District Attorney, Anthony Berosh, on his retirement.

Police Chief Madgar –

- Article “Basic Instincts of the Police” and a copy of the Borough of Sayre, PA ordinance regarding Skateboard regulations enclosed in council packet
- ***Motion by Mr. Thomas that council authorize the solicitor to draft an ordinance regarding skateboard issues. Seconded by Mr. McDermott. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

Fire Department – Reported by Mr. Perini

April 2015 report enclosed in council packet

Emergency Management Coordinator –

March 2015 monthly report enclosed in council packet

Engineer –

April 2015 monthly report enclosed in council packet

Solicitor Petrush –

- Regarding the possibility of selling a couple of surplus police vehicles in the near future. Borough Code establishes a process to follow for the sale of vehicles. Determining whether or not the borough needs to advertise for bids is based on the value of the item you want to sell.
 - Adopt a resolution stating the value. If under \$1,000 the borough can sell without bid, if over \$1,000 the borough will need to advertise for bid in the newspaper.
 - If the bids received do not meet the estimated value, then Chief Madgar can advertise on an online bid process.

Old Business

Motion – Adopting and approving Resolution setting value of two surplus Beaver Borough Police vehicles and directing the sale thereof in accordance with the law controlling such sale.

Motion by Mr. Sims Council approve, adopt, and direct the full execution of the accompanying Resolution setting the values of each of two surplus Beaver Borough Police Vehicles. I move further that the Administration be and is directed to sell those two surplus vehicles in accordance with Pennsylvania Law, and that the solicitor be and is authorized to assist as needed. Seconded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed unanimously.

New Business

Statement read by Mr. Thomas – I am writing this letter to announce my resignation from Borough Council, effective tomorrow May 13, 2015. My family and I are in the process of moving out of our current ward, and Section 901 of the Pennsylvania Borough Code dictates that I must resign my seat because of moving from one ward to another. Although we have had many ups and down throughout the 3+ years I have spent on council, it has been a pleasure working with all of you.

Motion by Mr. Embaugh that Council accept the resignation of Jarrod Thomas effective May 13, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Sims. Voice vote passed unanimously.

On behalf of council, Mr. Sims thanked Mr. Thomas for his time well served on council.

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

Adjourned at 9:05PM

Submitted by Debbie Hindman