

Borough of Beaver, PA
Council Meeting
December 8, 2015
Minutes

- A regular scheduled meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on December 8, 2015 at 7:00PM by President Michael Deelo.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres, Dan Deceder, Michael Deelo, Ron Embaugh, Walter McDermott, James Perini, Alex Sebastian, Pat Sims, Sean Snowden (via phone conference). Borough officials in attendance: Director of Operations – Chuck Copeland, Mayor Tom Hamilton, Chief Dan Madgar and Solicitor - John Petrush.
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): George Kauffman, Shirley & Rick Sayers, Midge Sefton, Rick Sprecker, Charles Casbourne, Dana Varney, Tommi Wagner, David & Jacob Larson, Cheryl Hansen, Marilyn Vogel

Approval of minutes

Motion by Mr. McDermott to accept the November 10, 2015 Council Meeting minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

November 2015 end of month reports and balances reviewed. Reports will be filed for annual audit.

Review invoice and authorization to pay bills

- Mr. Perini questioned the total spent on phones.
- Mr. Embaugh questioned the total spent on line item 454.180 regarding recreation expenses
 - Mr. Madgar will look into and respond back to council regarding both requests
- ***Motion by Mr. Embaugh to authorize and pay submitted invoices for the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Deceder. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

Public Participation –

- Dana Varney, 180 Dravo Avenue – Stated he was unhappy with the decision to have alcohol served at the Light-up Festival.
 - Mr. Deelo and Mr. Madgar explained that the Chamber of Commerce, which is a 501C3, reviewed the regulations of the Liquor Control Board (LCB) and applied for a permit. The LCB approved a one day permit for the event.
- George Kauffman, 100 Oak Street – Requested an update on the service road
 - Mr. Madgar stated the borough needs permission to be on the tracks if the railroad is not going to fix the hillside. Mr. Martone has sent a letter to the headquarters in GA. Contact

has been made to FEMA and PEMA as well. Explained the difficulty of trying to get in touch with the appropriate division in order to get the answers required.

Reports – Commissions

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

No meeting in November. The annual Christmas party will be held December 10th.

Business District Authority – No meeting in November

Civil Service Commission – No report

Zoning Hearing Board – Reported by Mr. Sprecker

- December 9, 2015 will be three hearing requests.
 - 1298 River Road seeking variance approval related to minimum side and rear yard setback distances.
 - 1127 Corporation Street seeking variance approval to place a detached garage partially on the foundation of an old garage
 - 1185 Seventh Street seeking variance approval related to maximum height of an accessory structure and 2nd floor area of an accessory structure.

Planning Commission – Reported by Mr. Deelo

- October 19, 2015 meeting minutes and November 16, 2015 draft meeting minutes enclosed in council packet
- The December meeting has been moved from December 21st to December 14th. Speakers will be discussing the potential impacts of the proposed Shell cracker plant upon the quality of life in Beaver Borough.
 - Representation from Shell will not be attending the meeting.
- Mr. Martone was invited to be a part of the Advisory Committee. He participated in choosing the color of the retaining wall by the railroad tracks across the river.

Tree Commission –

- October 26, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet
- Mr. Deelo stated to maintain the Tree City USA status, a commitment is required by the borough to spend \$2.00 per capita on shade tree activities. Council gave a verbal commitment to the Shade Tree Commission to maintaining trees in the community and will have funds added to the budget in the future.

Code Enforcement Officer Report – Reported by Mr. Sprecker

November 2015 report enclosed in council packet

Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) – No meeting in October

Council Committee Reports

Public Safety – Reported by Mr. Snowden

November 23, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Finance – Reported by Mr. Perini

Reviewed the November 18, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Highway – Reported by Mr. McDermott

- Reviewed the December 3, 2015 meeting minutes distributed to council
- Fire Department parking lot is completed
- Main goal for 2016 is to save as many streets as possible. Researched a new process of micro-paving which is approximately \$5.00 sq/yard verses \$20.00 sq/yard of regular paving. Micro-paving should last approximately 7 to 8 years.
 - Preliminary list of roads to be micro-paved:
 - Corporation Street
 - Navigation Street from River Road to Bank Street
 - River Road
 - Wilson Avenue to East Second Street
 - Turnpike Street from College Avenue to Beaver Street

General Government – Reported by Mr. Andres

Reviewed November 24, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet

Code Enforcement – Reported by Mr. Sebastian

- No meeting in November
- Informal discussion with Mr. Jason Dailey from Cranberry. Will forward a report to council this month.
- Mr. Deelo stated Jason Dailey, through the office of the Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED), is consulting with the Borough regarding code enforcement.

Recreation – Reported by Mr. Embaugh

- Reviewed the December 1, 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet
- Stated he would like to meet with Mr. Madgar regarding the concession stand

Water & Sewer – Reported by Mr. Sims

- November 2015 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet
- Transition of Water Sewer Engineer is running smoothly

Reports

Manager's Report – Reported by Chief Madgar

- Reviewed the November 2015 report enclosed in council packet
 - Borough Building roof – total cost covered by the insurance company

- Light-up Festival - Approximately 7,000 to 10,000 people attended. Thanked everyone involved to make it such a success. There were no incidents to report.
 - Will review changing the location of setting off the fireworks to open up additional parking spaces.
- Mr. George Kauffman provided a list of approximately 25 trees on River Road that our borough workers will work on over the winter.

Director of Operations Report – Reported by Mr. Copeland

- Reviewed the December 8, 2015 report enclosed in council packet
- He is negotiating with a possible candidate for the Pool Manager position

President’s Report –

- There will be an Executive Session at the end of the Regular Session to discuss salary for the Police Chief and the Director of Operations. A motion is expected at the end of the Executive Session.
- Comcast letter dated November 17, 2015 regarding price changes enclosed in council packet
- Organization meetings will be held on January 4, 2016 – Civil Service Commission at 6:30PM and Beaver Borough Council at 7:00PM. Meetings may include deliberating agency business or taking official action or both.
- Regular Council meeting will be held on January 12, 2016 at 7:00PM

Mayor Hamilton – No report

Police Chief Madgar – No report

Fire Department – Reported by Mr. Perini

- No report provided by the Chief of the Fire Department
- Fire Department had 2 training nights
- The siren has been fixed

Emergency Management Coordinator – No report

Borough Engineer and Water/Sewer Engineer -

- November 2015 monthly reports enclosed in council packet
- Report dated November 18, 2015 regarding Beaver Borough 2015 Road Paving Project – A. Folino Construction invoice enclosed in council packet.

Solicitor Petrush –

- The budget needs to be amended to add a line item 401.970 of \$106,000 – Capital Reinvestment Expenditure.
- Worked on the following –
 - Municipal Finances: Claims and Liens
 - General Government: Real estate purchase; Right-to-Know Request; Property of 250 East End Avenue; Proposed Rental Registration and Inspection Ordinance

- Litigation – Code Enforcement: Proposed 2016 Fee Schedule
- Zoning Ordinance: Planning Commission definition of “family”
- Municipal Finances: 2016 Tax Ordinance

Old Business

Motion – Tax Levy and Rate of Tax for 2016

Motion by Mr. Perini that Beaver Borough Council approve and enact the attached ordinance amending Chapter 24 of the Code of Ordinances, to levy and fix the rate of a tax on real property for the fiscal year 2016. Seconded by Mr. McDermott. Roll call vote: Mr. Embaugh – Yes, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Sims – Yes, Mr. Deceder – Yes, Mr. Sebastian – Yes, Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. McDermott – Yes, Mr. Snowden – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes. Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 9-0.

Motion – Adopt 2016 Beaver Borough General Fund Budget

Motion by Mr. Perini that the 2016 Beaver Borough General Fund Budget as advertised by adopted. I move further that a copy of that budget, electronic or otherwise, be attached hereto and retained in the Borough Records. The budget shall be amended to add \$106,000 to line number 401.970 Capital Investment Expenditure for the purchase of the property on Wayne Street. Seconded by Mr. Sebastian. Roll call vote: Mr. Embaugh – Yes, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Sims – Yes, Mr. Deceder – Yes, Mr. Sebastian – Yes, Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. McDermott – Yes, Mr. Snowden – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes. Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 9-0.

Motion – Adopt 2016 Beaver Borough Water & Sewer Budget

Motion by Mr. Sims that the 2016 Beaver Borough Water & Sewer Fund Budget as advertised by adopted. I mover further that a copy of that budget, electronic or otherwise, be attached hereto and retained in the Borough Records. Seconded by Mr. McDermott. Roll call vote: Mr. Embaugh – Yes, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Sims – Yes, Mr. Deceder – Yes, Mr. Sebastian – Yes, Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. McDermott – Yes, Mr. Snowden – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes. Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 9-0.

Discussion:

Regarding the motion from August 2015, Mr. Perini questioned if the borough will be moving forward to look for a Borough Manager.

- Mr. Deelo stated he activated the request to DCED to provide assistance when the time was agreed upon by council to look for a Borough Manager. The budget combines the positions of Police Chief and Interim Borough Manager through April 2016. The decision is council’s when they want to move forward with the decision.
- Mr. Andres stated this is being discussed by the General Government Committee, as recorded in the latest committee minutes, which all council members are encouraged to attend. This will continue to be discussed after the first of the year.
- Mr. Perini stated his approval with General Government discussing the position and requested prompt action.

- Mr. Deelo suggested council wait until after the re-organizational meeting to discuss the future plans of the Borough Manager.

New Business

Motion – Adopt 2016 Beaver Borough Fee Schedule

Motion by Mr. Perini that the attached Beaver Borough Fee Schedule be and is hereby approved and adopted for the 2016 calendar year. Seconded by Mr. Sims. Roll call vote: Mr. Deceder – Yes, Mr. Sims – Yes, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Embaugh – Yes, Mr. Snowden – Yes, Mr. McDermott – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes, Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. Sebastian – Yes. Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 9-0.

Motion – 2016 Schedule of Regular Beaver Borough Council Meetings

Motion by Mr. Andres that the attached 2016 Schedule of Regular Beaver Borough Council Meeting be and is hereby approved and adopted for the 2016 calendar year, and that the Solicitor be a d is hereby directed to properly advertise the same. Seconded by Mr. Embaugh. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion – Contract for services

Motion by Mr. Sims that the Interim Borough Manager be authorized to offer contracts for services to the following individuals for calendar year 2016. 1) Anna Lane, Custodian; 2) Charles Knisley, Animal Control Specialist; 3) Dan Martone, Borough Engineer, Zoning Officer and Water Sewer Engineer; 4) Randy Morrow, Property Maintenance Code Officer; 5) Richard Sprecker, Code Enforcement Officer. Contracts are attached. Seconded by Mr. Sebastian. Roll call vote: Mr. Sebastian – Yes, Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. McDermott – Yes, Mr. Snowden – Yes, Mr. Embaugh – Yes, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Sims – Yes, Mr. Deceder. Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 9-0.

Motion – Animal Ordinance

Motion by Mr. Andres that Council accept the proposed draft of an Animal Ordinance, attached, to be sent to the Solicitor to review, standardize and advertise. Seconded by Mr. Embaugh. Roll call vote: Mr. Perini – No, Mr. Embaugh – Yes, Mr. Sims – Yes, Mr. Deceder – Yes, Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. McDermott – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes, Mr. Sebastian – Yes, Mr. Snowden – Yes, Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 8-1.

- Mr. Andres thanked Mr. Sprecker for his contribution and dedication
- Solicitor Petrush recommended having a town meeting so the residents can ask questions and voice their concerns.

Motion – Full-time police officer

Motion by Mr. Snowden that Council hire one full-time police officer awarded to Shawn Reese, effective April 1, 2016 that will correspond with the two Memorandum of Understanding items (attached) that were already agreed by the Police Union contingent upon this motion being approved. Seconded by Mr. Sims.

- Mr. Deceder stated it is expensive to pay and train part-time police officers to have them leave for full time positions.

- Mayor Hamilton stated the Police Association agreed to change the tier from a five year to a seven year tier in an effort to ease the financial burden to the Borough of hiring an additional full-time officer.
- Sgt. McCoy stated this resolves a long term solution by hiring a younger officer.
- Mr. Snowden stated our part-time officers do not want to leave the borough, however, they need full-time jobs. It is beneficial to be proactive rather than reactive. Our current officers are taking this seriously with the concessions that are offered.

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

Motion – Zoning Ordinance definition of Family

Motion by Mr. Deceder that Council direct the Solicitor to advertise a proposed ordinance to change the Zoning Ordinance definition of family as written by Solicitor Petrush ad as recommended by the Planning Commission to read as follows: Family – A person living independently, or a group of persons living as a single household unit using housekeeping facilities in common, but not to include more than three persons who are unrelated by blood, marriage, adoption, or foster-child status. Secoded by Mr. Andres. Roll call vote: Mr. Embaugh – Yes, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Sims – Yes, Mr. Deceder – Yes, Mr. Sebastian – Yes, Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. McDermott – Yes, Mr. Snowden – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes. Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 9-0.

Public Session ended at 8:50PM to enter into Executive Session to discuss salary for the Police Chief and the Director of Operations.

Executive Session ended at 9:30PM

Motion – Real-estate purchase

Motion by Mr. Deceder that Council authorize a 3.5% pay increase for Chief Madgar’s 2016 salary. Secoded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Embaugh, Secoded by Mr. Snowden. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35PM.

Submitted by Debbie Hindman