

Borough of Beaver, PA  
Work Session Meeting  
July 24, 2018  
Minutes

- A regular scheduled work session meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on July 24, 2018 at 7:00PM by President, Sean Snowden.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Council Representatives in attendance: Michael Deelo, Chris King, Jim Perini, Sean Snowden. Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Tom Hamilton, Chief Dan Madgar. Absent: Alexander Andres, Margaret McKean, Adam Rathbun, Alex Sebastian, Jarrod Thomas.
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): Jim Woolley, Steve McGrew, Rick Sprecker

**Public Participation –**

- Steve Cable, 895 Chapel Road - Asked if there were any new updates regarding a situation with the Shade Tree Commission which was discussed at a previous work session meeting June 26, 2018.
  - Mr. Snowden –Due to the low attendance, there would be a discussion about the situation at the next scheduled meeting August 14, 2018.
- Steve McGrew, 218 Insurance Street –
  - Interested in purchasing the property located in a R1 District at 394 College Avenue. Questioned zoning options regarding the possibility of using as an Airbnb then converting to a single family home.
    - Mr. Perini – Explained that the Rental Registration has specific language regarding Dwelling Unit and Transient. Cannot rent individual rooms.
  - Informed by Columbia Gas that he would be receiving a new service line since his was approximately 20 years old. However, they only replaced two new joints. Questioning why Columbia Gas did not replace the old service line.
    - Mr. Madgar – Asked Mr. McGrew to reach out to Debbie Hindman via email with concerns so she could forward directly to Columbia Gas for a response.

**Council Committee:**

**Public Safety/Code Enforcement –**

- Rental Registration –
  - Mr. Snowden discussed that the Rental Registration checklist was taken from New Brighton as a template and is successfully used by many different communities such as Beaver Falls and Midland.
  - Mayor Hamilton – Suggested that the check list should provide a blank section for anything unlisted that may need reported.
  - Mr. Snowden - the main point of the Rental Registration checklist is to ensure that rental properties are safe.
  - Mr. Deelo - Asked what the follow up would include when a box is checked on the checklist during an inspection.

- Mr. Madgar, Mr. Snowden – Corrective action would be taken on the items checked off.
  - Mr. Snowden – Asked if a practice run should be held to determine how long an average inspection would take.
    - Mr. Madgar – Was informed from New Brighton that an average inspection lasts about 10 to 15 minutes.
    - Discussed that the code enforcement officer will shadow an officer from New Brighton during a rental inspection
- Rick Sprecker – Shared photos with council of a restaurant located on Third Street of improper disposal of grease and the fire hazard it presented. He asked if this may be brought to the attention to the Health Inspector.
  - Debbie Hindman – Informed Mr. Sprecker that she would have the Health Inspector contact him for any further action needed.
- Mr. Madgar – Discussed a potential Ambridge task force that has an official on duty to enforce the fire code county wide but still needs the approval from the District Attorney. He asked if this would be something to consider as a solution for this issue.
  - Mr. Perini – Added that there may be someone from the Fire Department interested in that position
- Mr. Sprecker –
  - Zoning Hearing Board will meet on August 6, 2018 regarding a sign variance located at 469 Market Street. The proposed building sign is to replace a recently removed sign advertising a legal non-conforming use business.
  - Expressed his concerns of use of larger fire pits in town

#### **Finance – Reported by Mr. Perini**

- Budget will be discussed in 4 weeks
  - Mr. Snowden complimented Mr. Perini on the information and organization he provides while discussing the budget.
  - Mr. Madgar also complimented Mr. Deelo for his help during the budget discussions.

#### **Highway –**

- Mr. Madgar – Stated that Mr. Martone will be preparing the following: Bid for curbs and sidewalks for Laura and Park Streets; Letter informing Laura and Park Street residents of the estimated cost of curbs and sidewalks; Letter to residents regarding the estimated completion of the Columbia Gas Project.

#### **General Government – Reported by Mr. Deelo**

- Discussed the previous idea with the Planning Commission of a multi-purpose building located at Shaw Park. Asked if Borough Manager would attend next Planning Commission meeting to discuss the idea further and potential funding.
- Ms. King – Asked for any comparison numbers from 2 Mile Run.
  - Mr. Madgar – Received estimated numbers from 2-3 years ago that they rented 260-270 times per year. Previous discussion of this multi-purpose building estimated a cost of \$700,000 to \$800,000. There are grants available which require match money. The drawings that were presented to the Planning Commission are preliminary drawings.

- Mr. Snowden – Would like to discuss at a later Council Meeting when more members are in attendance, the request for a location for a Veteran’s Memorial and what steps need to be taken.
  - Mr. Madgar – Shared that the borough has been in contact with the Solicitor to discuss the potential memorial.
  - Mr. Deelo – Need to consider who will be responsible for the maintenance of these memorials.
  - Ms. Hindman – Shared a response from the Solicitor that explained a long term lease on borough property would be a better option for the borough to consider, that assigns maintenance responsibility and what type of monument.

**Recreation –**

- Ms. King – Shared that the pool looked good when recently visited.
- Mr. Snowden – Attended the previous Shade Tree Commission meeting and the members are concerned with the current drought. Some recently planted trees have died and they would like to ask the borough to purchase water bags to help.
  - Mr. Madgar – Believes the borough still has some left over, as they were just recently purchased within the past few years. The borough will follow up with the Shade Tree Commission.
  - Mr. Deelo – Discussed the challenges of knowing when to use the water bags.
  - Mr. Madgar – Asked the Shade Tree Commission to inform the borough of new trees so they can water them, whether with a map or a ribbon to identify new trees.
- Mr. Snowden – Announced that the Shade Tree Commission is down to three members and are in need of more members.
- Ms. King – Asked if the Chamber of Commerce had any updates on Touch-a-Truck.
  - Mr. Madgar – Mr. DeGori had a meeting and has everything ready with the food vendors and Mr. Madgar will meet with Carrie Rowe to update her on the event since it is on the school’s campus. There will be a following meeting later in August.

**Borough Manager –**

- Mr. Madgar, Ms. Hindman and Mayor Hamilton went to a meeting this evening regarding details of the car cruise. Many different ideas will be added to this year’s event. The car cruise will begin an hour earlier this year at 11AM and end at 8PM.
- Mr. Madgar and Ms. Hindman met with the county, and were informed they should receive a phone call by the end of the month regarding the \$300,000 grant needed for new dump trucks and leaf pickup trucks. The borough will have some match money approximately \$50,000 to \$70,000. If the borough would have decided on 100% match money, it would only be able to be used for recycling and not plowing during winter months etc. Ultimately the borough decided to do 75/25, and if approved the truck will be able to be used year round.
- The Shell Plant would like to provide six recycling receptacles to the borough that will be used for special events, such as the car cruise. The borough will then receive money back on their tonnage of recyclables reported.
- Asked for approval and a motion at the next Council Meeting for the borough to remove the fence that is currently owned by Sieger’s Jewelry, located behind the borough, due to its deterioration. The deteriorating fence is not on borough property but would cause obstacles to install a new vinyl fence on borough property, which would provide safety for the Beaver Police Department. The borough has permission from Sieger’s to remove their fence.

- Ms. Hindman spoke on the possible motion for the creation of an ordinance that requires a permit for dumpsters. The ordinance would let the borough keep track of who owned the dumpsters, where they were, and how long they were there.
- Katie Hummel sent an email to the borough concerning fireworks being set off on dates other than the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
  - The borough will look into the situation and any resolutions.

Adjourned at 8:37PM

Submitted by Rebecca Roberts