

Borough of Beaver, PA
Work Session Meeting
November 27, 2018
Minutes

- A regular scheduled work session meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on November 27, 2018 at 7:00PM by President, Sean Snowden.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres (arrived at 7:05), Michael Deelo, Chris King, Margaret McKean, Jim Perini, Adam Rathbun, Alex Sebastian, Sean Snowden, Jarrod Thomas. Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Tom Hamilton, Chief Dan Madgar, Solicitor Fedeles
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): Rick Sprecker, Cheryl Hansen

Public Participation –

- Cheryl Hansen, 1260 River Road:
 - Thanked Rick Sprecker for his work and for putting the article in the Beaver Life magazine regarding the Animal Protection Law.

Mr. Snowden announced that Solicitor Fedeles was in attendance to discuss the rental registration ordinance and budget discussions.

Council Committee:

Public Safety/Code Enforcement – Reported by Mr. Sebastian

- Borough received a donation of \$35,000 from an anonymous resident for License Plate Recognition (LPR) cameras. The installation process for the system began today, November 27th.
- Chief Madgar added that the system should be completely installed by the end of the year.
- Discussed the benefits and setbacks of implementing a street performance ordinance. The street performance ordinance is tabled until further notice.
- Discussed adding a disruptive clause to the rental registration ordinance.
 - The clause may include that if the police are called to a rental property a specific number of times within one year, the landlord would be required to begin the eviction process.
 - Chief Madgar shared that several landlords in the borough have communicated to him that they would be in favor of a disruptive clause added to the ordinance.
- Council discussed how often registered rental properties should be inspected. The current ordinance states the property should be inspected every two years.
 - Mr. Snowden discussed that the county housing in Beaver is inspected every three years by the county. County housing is currently excluded from the rental registration inspections.
 - Benefits and possible issues were discussed.
 - Mr. Snowden stated that the purpose of these inspections were to protect the occupants of the residence, the landlord, the borough and ultimately make sure the property is safe.

- Council discussed the option of keeping County and Federal housing registered under the rental registration ordinance but would not perform any inspections.
- Mr. Thomas questioned the rental registration fee schedule, if \$75 per rental unit per year was appropriate.
 - Mr. Sebastian and Chief Madgar explained they took an average fee cost from surrounding municipalities with a rental registration.
- Ms. McKean stated that she believes that rental properties should be required to provide off street parking to its tenants.
 - Mayor Hamilton explained that the borough does enforce this requirement to any new built structure that is a rental property or any structure that is newly converted into a rental property.
- Council discussed the issue of cars parking on public streets without moving for long periods of time.
 - Chief Madgar explained that if the car is inspected and registered they cannot do anything. The police can only ticket if the car is in violation of the street signs.
- Additional information was received regarding the 902 Grant stating that the entire amount that was requested by the borough was granted. The trucks were split 60-40% and the excavator was split 75-25%.

Finance –

- Solicitor Fedeles discussed a likely county reassessment.
 - Beaver County has not had a reassessment in 36 years.
 - Local municipalities are required by law, when the reassessment happens, they must lower their millage rate to whatever is equal to the revenues of the year before. Municipalities may not raise their taxes more than 10% of what the previous revenue the year before.
 - Council discussed the possibility and impact of a count reassessment.
- The borough discussed possible changes to the fee schedule. A motion to pass the new fee schedule is scheduled for the next council meeting.
- Chief Madgar explained that three sub accounts were opened in the capital fund. The sub accounts will be used for a health savings account, future projects and the rental registration. This will make tracking money easier to track.
- Andy Kennedy, Finance Manager, discussed the option of a strategic plan to rotate police vehicles every four years. This ensures that the police officers are not using a vehicle that is too old. Funds will come from the Shell Project. A motion will be presented at the December council meeting.

Highway –

- Funds that were allocated in the budget for the Highway committee will be transferred to the reserve account to be used next year, pending a motion at the December council meeting.
- Paving is planned to begin in the spring of 2019.

General Government – Reported by Mr. Andres

- Discussed the importance of continuing to create a strategic plan to prepare for future expenses within the borough.

- Solicitor Fedeles explained that a man fell on borough property which required him to get surgery. An attorney representing the man has reached out to the borough. The borough's insurance has been notified. No further action is required by the borough at this time.
- Mr. Deelo stated that the borough's medical marijuana ordinance is currently being reviewed by the county planning commission and the borough's planning commission. The borough's planning commission is requesting a meeting with the borough's solicitor to go over their recommendations to council.
- Ms. McKean stated that a state legislator may be proposing an amendment that may affect the borough's ordinance to keep Beaver a dry town.

Recreation –

- Mr. Andres announced that the next COG meeting will be December 13, 2018. The Ohio Trails would be discussed.

President –

- Mr. Snowden and Mr. Andres complimented the work of the borough employees for Light up Night.
- Mr. Snowden complimented Pacer Studios for their camera and video work they prepared from last year's Light up Night.
- Ms. McKean suggested different parking options for next year's Light up Night.

Borough Manager – No report

Adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Submitted by Rebecca Roberts