

Borough of Beaver, PA
Council Meeting
March 10, 2020
Minutes

- A regular scheduled meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on March 10, 2020 at 7:00PM by President, Sean Snowden.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres (arrived 7:07PM), Frank Bovalino, Michael Deelo, Chris King, Margaret McKean, Jim Perini, Adam Rathbun, Sean Snowden. Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Tom Hamilton, Chief Dan Madgar and Solicitor Fedeles. Absent: Alex Sebastian
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): Midge Sefton, Cheryl Hansen, Charles Casbourne, Jim Woolley, Rick Sprecker, Nancy Lonnett Roman

Approval of minutes

Motion by Mr. Rathbun to accept the February 11, 2020 Council meeting minutes and the February 25, 2020 Work Session minutes. Seconded by Ms. King. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report –

- February 2020 end of month reports and balances reviewed.
- Reports will be filed for annual audit.

Review invoice and authorization to pay bills

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

- Ms. McKean and Ms. King asked why the borough pays for benches in town – Chief Madgar stated the borough has always bought them outright and then residents who wish to purchase a bench write a check to the borough.

Public Participation – No comments

Reports – Commissions / Authorities

Council of Governments (COG) – No report

Civil Service Commission – No report

Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) – No report

Planning Commission – Reported by Mr. Martone

- February 2020 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet.

Tree Commission – Reported by Nancy Lonnett Roman

- January 27, 2020 and February 24, 2020 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet.
- Meeting every month and following up on all tree request forms
- Preparing for Arbor Day
- Preparing for annual tree planting

Code Enforcement Officer Report – Reported by Mr. Sprecker

- February 2020 report enclosed in council packet.
- Cable lines loosely-wrapped around utility poles are becoming a safety hazard, Mr. Sprecker is working with Comcast to get this fixed.
- Columbia Gas projects/work pans are constantly changing, the borough is unable to give residents a clear answer because of frequent changes.
 - Ms. McKean suggested that council invite Columbia Gas to the next Work Session to explain what plans they have to residents
- 1004 4th Street- has not complied with timeline the borough has given. The borough will take the next step to see the project is completed.

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

- HARB is exploring historical preservation educational opportunities to provide to the public.
- Should there be enforceable historical preservation guidelines, such as design guidelines and construction permit process, to promote upkeep – being discussed by HARB.

Municipal Authority – Reported by Mr. Deelo

- January 15, 2020 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet.

Reports

Manager's/Police Report – Reported by Chief Madgar

- Reviewed the February 2020 report enclosed in council packet
 - February 2020 Rental Registration: Registered 353, Inspected 19, Re-inspected 11.
 - 2020 Rental Registration: Registered 361, Inspected 29, Re-inspected 28.
- Liens filed for the 2018 Sidewalk Replacement on Turnpike Street, Laura Street and Park Street
 - Total invoiced \$139,664, total paid \$120,266, liens placed \$14,852
- New municipal bidding thresholds for 2020 enclosed in council packet
- Pool – reviewed initial bids to renovate approximately 10 years ago
- Borough Building – considering renovation options
- Rental Registration Appeals Board – ordinance states to have 3 members on appeals board

- Contacted Ambridge – they haven't had any appeals yet. Cost to appeal is \$500, follow the IPMC.
- Ms. McKean – follow IPMC, use Appeals Board for any gray area
- Mr. Perini – consider lower cost
 - Chief Madgar - \$400 would cover borough expenses for appeal, believes board members should be from Beaver Borough
- On August 14, 2018, a three-page Rental Registration Checklist of the common violations, including interior and exterior, was passed by council. At that time, Mr. Thomas was on council and voted for the motion.

Motion by Mr. Rathbun, I move that Beaver Borough Council establish a three (3) member Rental Registration Appeals Board. The members will consist of the Council's Chair of Public Safety or if unavailable, as an alternate, Council's Chair of General Government, and two (2) additional members from local municipalities who serve as Rental Registration Officers and/or in the field of Code Enforcement. The representative of Council will be the individual serving as the Chair at the time of the requested appeal. Borough officials will obtain based on availability the two additional members from local municipalities. Fee for a Rental Registration Appeals hearing is \$400 as set by the Fee Schedule. Seconded by Ms. McKean.

- Council discussion regarding who should serve on the Appeals Board
- *Motion by Mr. Deelo, I move that Beaver Borough Council table the motion. Seconded by Mr. Andres. Roll call vote: Mr. Bovalino – No, Ms. McKean – No, Mr. Andres – Yes, Ms. King – No, Mr. Perini – No, Mr. Rathbun – No, Mr. Deelo – Yes, Mr. Snowden – No. Motion to table denied based on the roll call vote, 2-6.*
- *Roll call vote on original motion by Mr. Rathbun and seconded by Ms. McKean. Mr. Bovalino – Yes, Ms. McKean – Yes, Mr. Andres – Yes, Ms. King – Yes, Mr. Perini – No, Mr. Rathbun – No, Mr. Deelo – No, Mr. Snowden – No. Motion tied based on roll call vote, 4-4. Mayor Hamilton – No. Motion denied based on roll call vote, 4-5.*

Motion by Mr. Rathbun, I move that Beaver Borough Council establish a three (3) member Rental Registration Appeals Board as appointed by council; Alex Sebastian, Rick Sprecker and a member of the Planning Commission. Fee for a Rental Registration Appeals hearing is \$200 as set by the Fee Schedule. Seconded by Mr. Perini. Roll call vote: Mr. Bovalino – Yes, Ms. McKean – No, Mr. Andres – No, Ms. King – Yes, Mr. Perini – Yes, Mr. Rathbun – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes, Mr. Snowden – Yes. Motion passed based on the roll call vote, 6-2.

- Requesting discussion at the next Work Session to discuss the Civil Service Eligibility List which will expire at midnight on August 26, 2020. The police department lost two (2) of our part-time police officers to full-time positions in other communities. Last year, the department spent approximately \$100,000 in part-time wages to cover staffing.

President's Report – Reported by Mr. Snowden

- Reviewed the Committee section of the February 25, 2020 Work Session minutes
- Need finances from Mr. Kennedy to help council decide how to move forward with hiring additional full-time police officers. Of the six (6) that applied, three (3) have accepted full-time positions in other communities.
- Executive Session to discuss Personnel, Negotiations and Real Estate. Motions are expected afterwards.

Mayor Hamilton – No report

Fire Department – No report

Emergency Management Coordinator (EOC) –

- EOC report dated March 7, 2020 enclosed in council packet regarding Emergency Operation Center training on May 11, 2020 and Beaver Valley Power Station Evaluated Exercise on June 9, 2020.

Engineer –

- March 5, 2020 Borough Engineer report enclosed in council packet

Solicitor Report – No report

Motions

Motion – Highway Department Promotion

Motion by Mr. Bovalino, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the promotion of Brian Koslosky to the level of Apprentice 2 effective April 1, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Deelo. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion – Purchase police vehicle and sell two police vehicles

Motion by Mr. Rathbun, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve check number 1667 in the amount of \$33, 235.00 payable to Tri Star Motors for the purchase of a 2020 Ford Explorer police vehicle. Additionally, I move to direct the Police Chief/Borough Manager to sell two police vehicles. This is part of the established rotation. Seconded by Mr. Bovalino. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion – Right-of-Way Agreement with Columbia Gas

Motion by Mr. Bovalino, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the attached Right-of-Way Agreement between Beaver Borough and Columbia Gas in order to allow Columbia Gas to place a new gas line along the southern side of Clark Park, Tax ID# 16-002-1400.000 (along Canal Street). Seconded by Ms. McKean. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion – Beaver Area Chamber of Commerce Wine Festival

Motion by Ms. King, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the request from the Beaver Area Chamber of Commerce for the organization to host the 6th annual Wine Festival in the Borough's Business District on September 12, 2020. The event is to be coordinated through the Borough Manager who will involve the Police Department as needed. Seconded by Mr. Andres. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Council entered Executive Session at 8:16PM. Motion by Ms. McKean, Seconded by Mr. Perini.

Council ended Executive Session at 8:50PM.

Motion by Mr. Rathbun, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve to pay back to June 15, 2014 any unpaid balances from Robert Morrison pension to the Robert Morrison Estate, balance set by the actuary. Seconded by Mr. Bovalino. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Rathbun, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the submitted job description for the Municipal Authority Operations Coordinator. Seconded by Mr. Bovalino. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Deelo. Seconded by Ms. McKean. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 8:58PM

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips