

Borough of Beaver, PA  
Council Meeting  
June 9, 2020  
Minutes

- A regular scheduled meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held remotely on Zoom due to COVID-19 Stay at Home Statewide Order. Meeting was called to order on June 9, 2020 at 7:01PM by President, Sean Snowden.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres, Frank Bovalino, Michael Deelo, Chris King, Margaret McKean, Jim Perini, Adam Rathbun, Alex Sebastian (7:06PM – 7:51PM), Sean Snowden. Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Tom Hamilton, Chief Dan Madgar, Borough Solicitor Garen Fedeles and Borough Secretary Debbie Hindman.
- Public in attendance: Christie Ringer, Midge Sefton, Robert Snider

**Approval of minutes**

***Motion by Mr. Bovalino to accept the May 12, 2020 Council meeting minutes and the May 26, 2020 Work Session minutes. Seconded by Ms. King. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

**Treasurer's Report –**

- May 2020 end of month reports and balances reviewed.
  - Worst-case scenarios are being prepared for but revenue is starting to come in.
- Reports will be filed for annual audit.

**Review invoice and authorization to pay bills**

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

**Public Participation –** No comments

**Reports – Commissions / Authorities**

**Council of Governments (COG) –** Reported by Alex Andres

- Last meeting was held in Executive Session to review regular business.

**Civil Service Commission –** No report

**Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) –** Reported by Ms. Hindman

- Two Zoning Hearing requests will be submitted in the near future.

**Planning Commission –**

- April 20, 2020 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet.

**Tree Commission** – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Replanting nine trees and fixing tree boxes on the main street. Replacing wooden boxes with concrete boxes.
- Rerouting electric and water lines.
- Ms. Nancy Roman will submit list to Borough as to which trees to plant.

**Code Enforcement Officer Report** –

- May 2020 report enclosed in council packet.

**Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB)** – No report

**Municipal Authority** – Reported by Mr. Deelo

- May 20, 2020 minutes enclosed in council packet.
- Municipal Authority is continuing the discussion regarding water quality and making sure all requirements are being met. Any issues are being addressed.
- Sewage Treatment Plant is in need of major construction project and will begin in the near future.
- Mr. Sebastian asked for an update regarding the Water Lot
  - Mr. Snowden – topic will be discussed during June Work Session
- Mr. Bovalino asked if moving yard waste was still a topic of discussion for the Municipal Authority
  - Mr. Deelo – The Municipal Authority is making sure that they comply with DEP. The topic is not yet settled and is still being discussed.

**Council Committee Reports**

**Public Safety / Code Enforcement** – No report

**Finance** – Reported by Mr. Perini

- June 15, 2020 Reassessment Program will begin.
- Although revenue is starting to come in, the Borough still needs to be cautious with spending moving forward.
- There may be a lag between when businesses create revenue and then start paying the Business Privilege Tax.

**Highway** – Reported by Mr. Bovalino

- Gas project is progressing.
- Discussed the deterioration of Market Street from 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> Street and who's responsibility it is to fix
  - Mr. Rathbun and Mayor Hamilton – PennDOT is responsible.
  - Mr. Madgar will contact Mr. Martone to verify and will keep council informed.

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

- 5 Year Strategic Plan will be revised for years 2021-2026.

## **Recreation** – Reported by Ms. King

- Could movies in the park be organized since Beaver County is moving to “Green Phase”?
  - Solicitor Fedeles – The limit on gatherings in “Green Phase” is 250 people.
  - Mr. Rathbun – It would be difficult to control the amount of people gathering.
  - Mr. Snowden – Can discuss in the June Work Session.
- Ms. McKean – Professor from Penn State, Nathan Reigner, is willing to come out to the Water Lot and do a site visit at a cost of approximately \$500-\$700. The site visit would give the Borough an idea of a cost estimate. If council approves, Ms. McKean could have a report of the assessment for the Work Session.
  - Mr. Sebastian believes that Council should do something with the land.
  - Mr. Snowden – A discussion should be held regarding a walking trail to consider all details such as who will maintain the trail, any insurance needed, lighting, what all the Borough is responsible for, etc.
    - Ms. McKean – Professor Nathan Reigner has worked with other communities in Pennsylvania before and will be able to answer questions beyond cost, including liability. Adding appropriate signage will limit the Borough’s liability.
  - Mr. Deelo – This is an opportunity to have an expert look at this project at a modest cost. The assessment will start to address these questions.
    - Mr. Sebastian – Consider having someone local assess this project.
    - Ms. McKean – Researched local companies that build trails. Reached out to the local Penn State campus and this professor was recommended. Can continue to research for local companies.
  - Mr. Snowden – A motion can be moved to hire this expert to come in and assess the project or a discussion can be held at the June Work Session.
  - Mr. Rathbun – Besides being a faculty member at Penn State, what credentials does this professor have that justifies this cost of his assessment?
    - Ms. McKean – The professor works in the Parks Recreation and Tourism Department and has done this for communities before.
  - Mr. Snowden – Create a motion and if it does not pass, it can be discussed at the next work session.
    - Mr. Bovalino – Would prefer to discuss in the next Work Session so Council Members have a chance to reach out to other people who are qualified. This may help with the decision making.
    - Ms. McKean – Is ok with waiting but saw this as a good opportunity.
  - Mr. Snowden – Asked Ms. Hindman to add to the agenda for June Work Session.

## **Reports**

### **Manager’s/Police Report** – Reported by Chief Madgar

- Reviewed the May 2020 report enclosed in council packet.
- Rental Registration Inspections have started again:

- 635 registered
- 367 inspections
- Currently getting caught up on original appointments scheduled.
- Received Recycle Grant of \$211,000
- Chamber events canceled this year:
  - Car Cruise
  - Wine Festival
- Waiting to hear any updates regarding Garrison Day Sale and Concert in the Park (currently postponed to September).
- County Reassessment will start in Beaver – due to their offices being located in Beaver.
  - Mr. Bovalino – Will assessors be entering homes? If so, residents should be made aware.
    - Solicitor Fedeles – Assessors will not be entering the homes or asking to enter the homes. Measurements may be made outside of the home and home owners may be asked questions regarding the home. A link will be posted soon on the County’s website that will include a general overview of the process.
- June 20 Relay for Life will have luminaries lit on River Road instead of having a race in Brady’s Run.
- August 8 will be Town Yard Sale.
- August 15 Town Clean Up on river-side of town, August 22 will be other side of town.
- Bank Street is expected to be milled down and first wear coat should be able to be applied. Final coat will not be applied because Columbia Gas will eventually need to rip up, final coat will be applied by Columbia Gas after work is completed.
  - Park Place will also receive some attention during this project.
- Commerce Street (in between 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Streets) is being looked at by Borough Engineer, Dan Martone, to be slated for next year. Will start to communicate with home owners regarding possible curb and sidewalk replacement.
- Meeting was held to go over rally that will be held Saturday, June 13 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Courthouse. A permit was obtained from the county but if they are off county property, they are the Borough’s responsibility.
  - Mr. Andres – Will people be marching in the streets for this rally?
    - Mr. Madgar – No, it will be a stationary at the Courthouse. Depending on the crowd of people, streets may be closed from vehicle traffic if needed.
    - Solicitor Fedeles – The permit submitted was for use of the sidewalk/front steps with signage and speakers. They do not anticipate this to be a moving rally.
- Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a Solidarity Walk from the pavilion at the High School to the Courthouse beginning at 10:00 a.m.
- Recognized the Highway Department, Fire Department, Police Department and everyone else that came together to clean up from the recent storm that came through town.
- Working with the Fire Department, Highway Department and Municipal Authority to make the catch-basin in front of the pavilion safer and create a misting area for the summer.

- Basketball Court will open this week.

#### **President's Report –**

- Recognized the community, Police Department, Fire Department, Highway Department and Borough Workers coming together after the storm hit town.
- A company would like to provide the Borough a design for the pool and asked for a small ad-hoc group on Council. The group will act as a liaison between the company and Council. The group will include Mr. Rathbun, Mr. Andres and Mr. Bovalino. They will meet with the company on Thursday, June 11.
  - A cost and design will be presented to Council and then to the community.
- Will plan for the next Work Session to be held in the Community Room at the Borough Building.
  - Social distancing will be enforced.
  - Solicitor Fedeles – Attendees cannot be limited during a public meeting. Allowing residents to call in or live stream is a possibility if the Borough has that capability.
  - Mr. Snowden – Discussions regarding social distancing, face masks, etc., can continue until a concrete decision/plan is made.
    - Look into larger spaces to hold a meeting in once designs of the pool are being presented to the public.

#### **Mayor Hamilton –**

- Once Beaver County is in “Green Phase,” Borough will resume street maintenance and enforcement, beginning with issuing warnings.

#### **Police Chief Madgar – No report**

- Mr. Deelo – Are any changes/adjustments for the Police Department or police procedures being looked at/considered?
  - Mr. Madgar – Legislation regarding training is being discussed at a state level. Procedures have been reviewed by the Solicitor and insurance company.
  - Solicitor Fedeles – At this point, no definitive changes have been made but there may be in the future.
  - Mr. Snowden – Police Department should continue to follow requirements from state and federal level and recommendations from Police Chief and Solicitor.

#### **Fire Department – Reported by Mr. Perini**

- Training and meetings have resumed.
- During storm, the Fire Department had 11 calls. Had good cooperation from community and surrounding departments.
- Thanked Solicitor Fedeles for researching if the Borough could put the Pool on voting polls.
  - Solicitor Fedeles – Any questions wanted on the ballot poll in November will need to be submitted at least 45 days prior. A resolution would need to be passed by Council and wording would need to be submitted by Election Bureau.
  - Mr. Snowden – If this is something that Mr. Perini would like, please work on wording to submit to Council.

- Mr. Madgar – Is also working on something to propose to Council regarding the Borough Building renovations.

**Emergency Management Coordinator – Reported by Mr. Madgar**

- Fire Department has placed an order with a company the Borough uses for PPE Respirators and other equipment.
  - Billing is being tracked for reimbursement.

**Engineer –**

- June 3, 2020 Borough Engineer and May 19, 2020 Municipal Authority Engineer reports included in Council packet

**Solicitor –**

- Ms. McKean – Asked Solicitor Fedeles to provide overview regarding the recreational liabilities for the next Work Session.

**Motions**

**Motion – Payment for Street Sweeper repairs**

***Motion by Mr. Bovalino, regarding the repair of the Highway Department Street Sweeper, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the attached Golden Equipment invoice # 20-45696 dated April 1, 2020 in the amount of \$26,019.85. Seconded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

**Motion – Pool items**

***Motion by Ms. King, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the following items to be sold from the public pool: Pumps, heaters, ladders, handicap lift, water slide and any other items of value. Monies will be put back into the budget as decided by the Finance Manager and Council. Seconded by Mr. Bovalino.***

- Mr. Deelo – Consider historic structure and equipment. This will imply that these items will no longer be used. Should Council wait on this decision until a meeting is done with the public? Reports should be collected by engineers that are qualified in this area.
- Mr. Snowden – Does not think that opening the pool should be a risk that Council is willing to take.
- Mr. Deelo – Believes Council should present their case to the public before any items are sold.
  - Mr. Snowden – The engineer report was presented to the public.
- Ms. McKean – For the purpose of public reassurance, Council should have another engineer look at the pool.
  - Mr. Snowden – A motion can be created for Council to have another engineer look at the pool.
- Mr. Bovalino – Whatever is decided on the pool, this equipment will not be reused. Also, does not want to delay this project any longer.
- Mr. Andres – If we sell these items, Council will only be able to rebuild the pool or close it all together. Is there a timeline or reason the items are being sold now?

- Mr. Madgar – No, saw as an opportunity because the equipment is sitting there and not being used. Other municipalities could use them and saw as an opportunity to generate revenue. There is no timeline.
- Mr. Snowden – Pool can be put on the agenda as an item to discuss at the next Work Session

***Roll call vote: Mr. Bovalino – Yes, Ms. McKean – No, Mr. Andres – Yes, Ms. King – Yes, Mr. Sebastian – Yes, Mr. Perini – No, Mr. Rathbun – Yes, Mr. Deelo – No, Mr. Snowden – Yes. Motion passed on the indicated roll call vote, 6-3. (Mr. Sebastian’s & Ms. McKean’s vote is recorded via email due to loss of internet connection during vote)***

**Motion by Mr. Bovalino to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Perini. Voice vote passed unanimously.**

Adjourned at 8:29PM

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips