

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

- A regular scheduled meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held remotely on Zoom due to COVID-19 social distancing restrictions. Meeting was called to order on November 10, 2020 at 7:00 PM by Alexander Andres.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres, Michael Deelo, Chris King, Margaret McKean, Jim Perini, Adam Rathbun, and Alex Sebastian. Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Tom Hamilton, Solicitor Garen Fedeles, Borough Secretary Debbie Hindman, Finance Officer Andy Kennedy, and Borough Engineer Dan Martone. Absent: Sean Snowden and Frank Bovalino
- Visitors in attendance: Midge Sefton, Carole & Robert Snider, and Nancy Lonnett Roman

Approval of minutes

Motion by Ms. McKean to accept the October 13, 2020 Council meeting minutes and the October 27, 2020 Work Session minutes. Seconded by Mr. Sebastian. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report –

- October 2020 end of month reports and balances reviewed.
- 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. Sebastian. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Public Participation – No comments

Reports – Commissions / Authorities

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

- October 2020 minutes enclosed in packet.
- Suggested that the 211-hotline information be added to the Borough website and Familywise prescription savings cards be distributed to residents.
 - Information can be put in the magazine.

Civil Service Commission – No report

Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) – Reported by Mr. Martone

- Currently no hearings scheduled but expecting approximately four variances to be scheduled within the next 30 days.

- Meetings will be held in person.

Planning Commission – Reported by Mr. Martone

- September 21, 2020 meeting minutes and October 19, 2020 draft meeting minutes enclosed in council packet.
- Environmental Planning & Design (EPD) will be submitting recommended changes to the Zoning ordinance. This will come to council, expecting within the next 30 days.

Tree Commission – Reported by Ms. Lonnett Roman

- Explanation of requested contractor information on Tree Permit Application included in council packet.

Code Enforcement Officer Report –

- October 2020 report enclosed in council packet.

Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) –

- September 14, 2020 meeting minutes enclosed in council packet.

Municipal Authority – Reported by Mr. Deelo

- Reviewed the October 21, 2020 meeting minutes in council packet.
- Mr. Martone – By the end of 2020, disinfection for the drinking water will be changed to sodium hypochlorite. This will be safer for the environment and easier to use.

Council Committee Reports

Public Safety / Code Enforcement – No report

Finance – Reported by Mr. Perini

- Asked about final Fire Truck payment and FNB Loan payment, and if a motion is required for those two payments.
 - Mr. Kennedy – Will make final payment if the budget is able to afford making those payments. Will be discussed at November Work Session.
 - Motion will be made at the December Council Meeting regarding any final payments.
- Mr. Andres – What can be done about the shortage expected at the end of the year?
 - Mr. Kennedy – Shortage is in the earned income tax and business privilege tax revenues. Expected to end the year slightly over budget.
- Solicitor Fedeles – Asked if any confirmation was made from the county as to how much will be awarded from the CARES Act. Beaver Borough should be awarded approximately \$106,000 within the next few weeks.
 - Mr. Kennedy – CARES Act has not been considered in current draft budget. Once the official amount comes in, it will be added to the budget.

Highway – Reported by Mr. Martone

- Youngblood Paving (subcontractor of Team Fishel) started conducting repairs to trenches on Fourth Street and Navigation Street. Repairs should last approximately 1-2 weeks.

General Government – No report

Recreation – Reported by Ms. McKean

- Asked if there was any information regarding a pool being built in Bridgewater.
 - Solicitor Fedeles – this construction is being done privately, will not be a public pool.
- Asked Mr. Martone if he looked into having a retention pond on the Brighton Township side of the Water Lot.
 - Mr. Martone – A retention pond may not be necessary but can mention the option to Brighton Township.
 - Ms. McKean would like to speak with Brighton Township regarding a retention pond. There can't be a grant proposal with stormwater damage occurring.
- Asked Mr. Martone if Brighton Township should be approached regarding the draining pipe.
 - Mr. Martone – Yes, Mr. Martone will bring to their attention.

Reports

Manager's/Police Report – Reported by Ms. Hindman

- Reviewed Borough Manager report provided in council packet.
- Need to postpone public pool meeting due to increased COVID-19 cases until 2021. Will post informational PowerPoint presentation for public until public meeting is able to be held.
- Discussed Chamber of Commerce holiday kickoff events coming up and Underground Beaver's Cookie Crawl to promote local businesses.
- Spoke with Mr. Bovalino who was unable to attend the meeting but stated that he supported the motions at tonight's meeting.

President's Report – Reported by Mr. Andres

- Noticed increased police presence on Election Day – thanked police officers.
 - Extra police officers were funded by the county on Election Day.

Mayor Hamilton –

- One Beaver Police Officer tested positive for COVID-19 and is currently off-duty. Those that were in contact with him have been tested, those results came back negative for the virus. Entire Borough building has been sanitized to ensure safe working conditions.
- Discussed letter enclosed in council packed addressed to Beaver Borough Council from John Dioguardi dated October 29, 2020. Property on River Road is owned by the Municipal Authority and will be discussed by the Municipal Authority Board.

Fire Department – Reported by Mr. Perini

- Discussed letter included in council packet from Beaver Area Superintendent, Dr. Rowe regarding Fire Department training on school property.

Emergency Management Coordinator – No report

Borough Engineer and Borough Municipal Authority Engineer –

- October 2020 Borough Engineer monthly report and mid-September 2020 through mid-October 2020 Borough Municipal Authority Engineer monthly report enclosed in council packet.
- Asked Youngblood Paving for commitment dates for upcoming paving projects.
- Meeting with Columbia Gas on November 20, 2020 to discuss 2021 projects, will report back to council.

Solicitor Report – No report

Motions

Motion – Approve and Advertise Tax Rate Increase for 2021

Motion by Mr. Perini, I move that Beaver Borough Council approves the Solicitor to prepare an ordinance of a tax increase from 26 mills to 29 mills effective January 1, 2021 and to authorize the Solicitor to advertise for adoption at the December 8, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Ms. McKean. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion – Approve and Advertise Draft General Fund Budget for 2021

Motion by Mr. Perini, I move that Beaver Borough Council approves the Draft General Fund Budget for 2021 and to authorize the Solicitor to advertise for adoption at the December 8, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Deelo. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Motion – Police Department Body Cameras

Motion by Mr. Sebastian, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the attached Watch Guard quote dated October 30, 2020 in the amount of \$24,242.00 for twelve Vista HD police body cameras and hardware. Seconded by Mr. Rathbun. Voice vote passed unanimously.

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

Adjourned at 8:14 PM

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips