

Borough of Beaver, PA
Work Session Meeting
August 23, 2022
Minutes

- A regular scheduled work session meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 7:00PM by Council Vice-President, Sean Snowden.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Michael Deelo, Roberta Good, Whitney Learn-Conjeski, Margaret McKean, Alex Sebastian, and Sean Snowden. Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Tom Hamilton, Rebecca Phillips, Debbie Hindman, and Sgt. Ken McCoy. Absent: Alexander Andres, Jim Perini, and Amy Stettler.
- Public in attendance (signed in): Robert Rice, Steve McGrew, Rick Sprecker, and Chuck Copeland

Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB) Presentation to Request Amendments to Ordinances –

- Presented by HARB members Bob Rice (chair), Steve McGrew, and Elaine Savoldi
- Requested to amend the Beaver Historic District Ordinance (Historic Preservation – Chapter 11)
 - Add HARB responsibility to review and recommend to Council Certificates of Appropriateness (COA) or permit approval for new construction and alterations to all existing buildings within the Historic District.
 - Implement a 3-tier system based on level of project impact
 - Add criteria to Demo criteria/Best interest of the Borough
 - Reviewed permit administration and the impacts anticipated
- Detailed request included in the Council packet.
- Mr. Madgar reviewed concerns from the Borough Solicitor regarding the proposed amendments:
 - Does Council want to invest Borough time and money into these proposed changes?
 - Is Council willing to pay legal fees if permits are denied or assist with any legal aspects that may come of this?
 - Is Council willing to have Borough staff spend additional time reviewing and assisting with applications as they are submitted?
- Council to review HARB requests at September Council Meeting.

Public Participation - None

Council Committee Reports

Shaw Park / Pool – No report

Public Safety / Code Enforcement – Reported by Mr. Sebastian

- Reviewed the success that the Police Department has had by utilizing the camera system.

Finance – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Starting to work with Mr. Perini and Mr. Kennedy to begin preliminary drafts of the 2023 budget.
- Mr. Snowden asked if the Borough should be expecting any more grant money.

- Mr. Madgar – The Borough will receive the second round of ARP funds this fall. The amount expected is approximately \$224,000.

Highways – Reported by Mr. Deelo

- The 2022 Road Paving Bid was advertised and bids are due by September 8, 2022. An update will be provided at the September Council Meeting.
 - Mr. Snowden – Complimented Columbia Gas’s construction crew for be so accommodating and working so well with the residents directly impacted by their work.
- Reviewed the recent meeting with Columbia Gas representatives that discussed their 2023 projects.

General Government –

- Ms. McKean – Received complaints regarding the Zoning Overlay Public Hearing that residents were disappointed the vote was planned the same night as the hearing. Residents felt that their opinions were not taken into consideration on the matter. Ms. McKean suggested that votes be delayed until the next meeting in the future.
 - Mr. Snowden – The proposed ordinance changes were discussed for months during Planning Commission meetings and multiple times at Council Meetings. The changes were also advertised weeks in advance in the Beaver County Times, Borough website and posted in various locations around town. Residents who lived near the proposed district were also notified prior to the public hearing via mail.

Recreation – No report

Reports

Manager/Secretary Report – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Upcoming events:
 - Wine Fest Saturday, August 27th
 - Crafts in the Park event Saturday, September 3rd
 - Concert at the Gazebo Monday, September 5th
- New vehicle for the Highway Department was delivered today. This vehicle was ordered approximately one year ago.
- Municipal Authority has added an additional monthly meeting, will now also meet the first Tuesday of the month at 4:00PM
- Continuing to work with Duquesne Light to complete lighting at Clark Park. Concrete work that was completed on the monument is not satisfactory. Payment will not be issued for this portion of the work. Working with Mr. Martone to get a contractor to fix the concrete steps.
- Provided a quote from Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) to provide a schematic design of the landscaping for the old bathhouse and Shaw Park. A motion is expected at the September Work Session for approval.
- Reviewed the current requirements to apply as a full-time police officer. Consider amending to encourage more to apply and reflect same credentials as surrounding communities.
- Western Beaver School District has reached out with interest of hiring a Beaver Police Officer as a School Resource Officer.

- Will request approval at the September Council Meeting to issue conditional offer to Robert Applegarth to be hired as a full-time police officer.
- Update from Zayo Group – currently awaiting some items from the Borough. Work will not start until multiple permits from surrounding communities are also approved. They have begun work in Ohio but have not yet entered Pennsylvania. Zayo expects to start work before 2023.

Mayor Hamilton –

- Thanked Mr. Sprecker for handling and resolving multiple issues.

Police Chief Madgar – No report

Fire Department – No report

Emergency Management Coordinator – No report

Engineer – No report

President – No report

Adjourned at 8:06 PM

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips