

Borough of Beaver, PA  
Work Session Meeting  
July 25, 2023  
Minutes

- A regular scheduled work session meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 7:00PM by Council President, Alexander Andres.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres, Roberta Good, Whitney Learn-Conjeski, Margaret McKean, Alex Sebastian, Sean Snowden, and Amy Stettler.
- Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Thomas Hamilton, Chief of Police and Borough Manager Dan Madgar, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Sprecker, and Rebecca Phillips.
- Absent: Michael Deelo and Jim Perini
- Public in attendance (signed in): Robert Snider and Todd Hindman

**Public Participation** – None

### **Council Committee Reports**

**Shaw Park / Pool** – Reported by Mr. Andres

- Continuing to meet and go over assignments.
- Ms. Learn-Conjeski has been in communication with Rachel Telljohann of the Shaw Park Project committee to discuss potential partnerships.
- Ms. Stettler has been in communication with Ms. Telljohann and Vivian Mahli as well. Ms. Mahli discussed interest in having an informational table at the concert in Linn Park.
- Mr. Andres reviewed the positive feedback given at the informational table at the Carnival.
  - Ms. Stettler received feedback that the tickets to attend the Carnival were expensive.
    - Ms. McKean expressed interest in comparing prices from surrounding carnivals.

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

**Finance** – Reported by Ms. Stettler

- Budget discussions starting internally. Ms. Stettler will be meeting with Mr. Kennedy to review before presenting first draft to Council.
  - Mr. Madgar stated that new zero-turn lawn mowers will be needed soon for the highway department as the current ones are old and malfunctioning. These will be purchased through COSTARS.

**Highways** – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Reviewed Road Paving Project No. 1, work will start August 1, 2023.
- PennDot has begun work on Market Street from Third Street to Seventh Street.

- Road Paving Project No. 2 is expected to go out to bid by mid-August.
- Ms. Learn-Conjeski was contacted by a resident who was questioning why the ordinances to replace curbs and sidewalks during road paving was no longer being enforced.
  - Mayor Hamilton explained that these ordinances were enforced by a previous Council and lead by one Council person in particular.
  - Mr. Madgar stated that Council at that time decided Beaver Borough would front the money to replace the curbs and sidewalks on the paving projects and then lien the properties if the balance was not paid after a determined amount of time. The Borough is still owed thousands of dollars from these projects years ago. The majority of council has changed since this was done and it has been determined that the Borough is not able to afford this.
  - Mr. Sprecker suggested that this ordinance be reviewed and potentially changed.
  - Mr. Snowden asked if the Borough has a type of practice to routinely review ordinances.
    - Ms. Phillips explained the codification process that is completed every few years.

**General Government** – Reported by Mr. Snowden

- Recognized the Beaver Area Heritage Foundation for their tremendous support of our community and thanked the members for all of the work they do.
- Reviewed inaccurate information that was posted to social media regarding the Shaw Park Project and the old pool house renovation project. Mr. Snowden clarified that:
  - Beaver Borough received approximately \$440,000 American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds that need to be spent by the end of 2025.
  - After determining that the pool needed to be closed due to its deteriorating structure, the discussion changed focus to the old pool house which was still structurally sound. Council could have torn the building down, used it for storage, or repurpose the space.
  - Council agreed to move in the current direction of renovating the space to a community center that anyone could use. A study was completed by Moshier Studios to determine how much it would cost to renovate the space, that figure came back at \$2.2 million which the Borough was unable to afford.
  - Mr. Madgar contacted Larry Renninger and asked him to review the idea of the project and asked for his help. Mr. Renninger has been a tremendous help with this project by providing his expertise and professional drawings, saving the Borough thousands of dollars.
  - Mr. Snowden recognized the Borough Road Department for their expertise and work they have done at the pool house to help save money on the project.
  - Mr. Snowden believes that once finished, the space will be able to be utilized by residents for a variety of different occasions.
  - To date, approximately \$135,000 of the ARP funds have been used or designated for the project.
  - Mr. Snowden clarified that Council has discussed this project at public meetings for at least three years and that a pool is not a second thought and has been incorporated into the decision making of the pool house project. The Shaw Park Project committee is working hard independently to fundraise for a pool and is in favor of the renovations of the old pool house. Both entities are working to improve the recreational space at Shaw Park.
  - The Borough Solicitor advised that a motion to approve the renovations was not needed after Council had extensive discussions and were in general agreement with the project.
  - Mr. Snowden asked that residents who have questions or concerns regarding this project or any Borough matters address Council or reach out to the Borough Manager.

- Ms. McKean suggested that the Shaw Park Project committee have public meetings to clarify any questions for those who were not in attendance of Council discussions.
- Ms. Learn-Conjeski recognized the Shaw Park Project committee for being out in the community at events educating residents on their fundraising and being so active on social media.
- Mr. Madgar stated that the Borough and the Shaw Park Project committee have a transparent and positive relationship to promote both projects.
- Mr. Andres recognized the work from Mr. Renninger, Ms. Stettler, Borough officials and employees, contractors, volunteers and many others to make this project possible.
- Ms. Good suggested an article or something similar be put out to share the work that is being done.

#### **Recreation –**

- Reviewed the mini-stage that is being proposed by Dave O’Leary to be placed in Quay Park. Mr. O’Leary has spent time fundraising and designing for this structure.
- Council was in general agreement to move forward with the proposed design of the mini-stage and begin the process to install. Beaver Borough will contribute labor to install the concrete pad needed.

## **Reports**

#### **Manager/Secretary Report – Reported by Mr. Madgar**

- Upcoming events:
  - Concert in Quay Park on July 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Car Cruise will be held August 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Concert in Linn Park will be held Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>
- The first phase of digitizing Borough documents has been completed. There is still approximately \$4,000 left to spend of what Council authorized. Will continue to digitize additional documents. Asked Council to consider allocating additional funds this year or next year.
- Pool House renovations continuing. Windows will be delivered the first week of August. Plumbing and electrical work is ongoing.
- Ms. McKean asked for an update regarding the signage at Clark Park being installed.
  - Mr. Madgar – A lamp post has been ordered to illuminate the area and for security purposes. Once this is installed, the signage will be installed. A contractor was engaged to repair the concrete. Landscaping options were discussed.

#### **Mayor Hamilton –**

- Will notify Mr. O’Leary to move forward with the mini-stage to be installed at Quay Park.

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

#### **Fire Department – No report**

#### **Emergency Management Coordinator – No report**

**Engineer** – No report

**President** – Reported by Mr. Andres

- Beaver County Legislative Cruise is July 26<sup>th</sup>
- Free Concert in Quay Park on July 30<sup>th</sup>

## **Motions**

### **Rescinding Ordinance 728**

Motion by Ms. Good, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the attached ordinance rescinding Ordinance 728 and confirming all action taken by the Beaver Borough Municipal Authority from January 1, 2016 to the present. Seconded by Mr. Snowden. Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.**

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips