

Borough of Beaver, PA  
Council Meeting  
January 14, 2025  
Minutes

- A regular scheduled meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room of the Beaver Borough Municipal building and was called to order on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 7:00 PM by Council Vice President, Amy Stettler.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres, Robert Bickerton, Michael Deelo, Roberta Good, Todd Hindman, Margaret McKean, and Amy Stettler.
- Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Thomas Hamilton, Chief of Police and Borough Manager Dan Madgar, Solicitor Garen Fedeles, Sergeant Ken McCoy, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Sprecker, Debbie Hindman, and Rebecca Phillips.
- Absent: Whitney Learn-Conjeski and Sean Snowden.
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): Midge Sefton and Ellen Kretchmar.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

***Motion by Ms. Good to accept the December 10, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes with corrections. Seconded by Mr. Hindman. Voice vote passed unanimously with requested amendments.***

#### **Treasurer's Report**

***Motion by Mr. Hindman to accept the December 2024 Treasurer's report. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

- Ms. McKean suggested separate Borough public finance committee meetings and COG specialty meetings on budgetary best practices.
- Mr. Andres suggested that the Council committees are more involved with Borough expenditures.

#### **Review invoices and authorization to pay bills**

***Motion by Ms. Good to authorize and pay submitted invoices for the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Hindman. Voice vote passed unanimously. Mr. Bickerton abstained from any MGSoft-Net invoices.***

#### **Public Participation –**

- Ellen Kretchmar, Ward 2
  - Gave a suggestion for a third-party assessment of police.
  - Asked that Council look into police overtime costs.
  - Asked that meetings be available virtually.
  - Reviewed other communities tax increases.

## **Council Committees**

**Finance** – No report

**General Government** –

- Mr. Andres complimented the Road Department for their continued work to keep the roads cleared and safe from snow.
- Ms. Stettler requested a reminder be posted to social media that residents are responsible to clear sidewalks of snow and ice.

**Highways** – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Will meet with Columbia Gas to review 2025 projects, will keep Council updated. Road work and closures to be announced as information becomes available.

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

**Recreation** – No report

## **Reports**

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

- Working with the Engineer to determine what roads need paved or repaired in the coming years. Areas being considered are:
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Street
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Sharon Road
  - Service road by the river
  - Columbia Gas project roads
- Reviewed various costs that are increasing, including electric/street light bills, etc.
- Reviewed costs due to the increasing amount of Right to Know requests being submitted to the Borough office. Many submitted by the same requestor. These costs are not budgeted for and cannot be passed on to the requestor.

**Mayor Hamilton** – No report

**President** – No report

**Police Department** – No report

**Borough Engineer** –

- December 2024 Engineer report included in the Council packet.

**Solicitor Report** – Reported by Mr. Fedeles

- Addressed a comment made from the public at the December Council Meeting that referenced “stealing from the Capital Fund.” Mr. Fedeles ensured the public and Council that there is no theft or stealing from

the Capital Fund. The Borough's books are checked by multiple people internally and audited by a third party. Mr. Fedeles clarified that money in the Capital account is not strictly allocated to the Capital account, it can be moved to different line items in the General Fund Budget. This does not indicate theft, but that the money is being reallocated.

## **Motions**

### **Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Beaver Police Association**

*Motion by Ms. Good, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Beaver Police Association and the Borough of Beaver effective January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027. Seconded by Mr. Hindman. Voice vote passed. Ms. McKean opposed.*

### **Civil Service Promotional Testing**

*Motion by Mr. Bickerton, I move that Beaver Borough Council authorize the Civil Service Commission to start the promotional testing process to create an eligibility list for the position of Corporal within the Police Department. Seconded by Ms. Good. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **605 College Avenue Lien**

*Motion by Ms. Good, I move that Beaver Borough Council settle the lien on tax parcel # 15-005-0314.000 for \$1,500.00. Seconded by Ms. McKean. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **Authorization to Dispose of Tax Collector Records**

*Motion by Ms. Good, in accordance set forth in the Municipal Records Manual, I move to dispose and properly destroy the attached list of Beaver Borough Tax Collector records. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

- Records to include:
  - Paid bills from 2021 and prior
  - Duplicates from 2017 and prior
  - Certifications and correspondence from 2022 and prior
  - Tax Collectors reports, including settlement records from 2014 and prior
  - Tax Collector reports submitted to tax claim 2023 and prior

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

Adjourned 7:39 PM

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips