

Borough of Beaver, PA
Work Session Meeting
March 25, 2025
Minutes

- A regular scheduled work session meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 7:00PM by Council President, Sean Snowden.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres, Robert Bickerton, Michael Deelo, Roberta Good, Todd Hindman, Margaret McKean, Sean Snowden, and Amy Stettler.
- Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Tom Hamilton, Chief of Police and Borough Manager Dan Madgar, Sergeant Ken McCoy, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Sprecker, Debbie Hindman and Rebecca Phillips.
- Absent: Whitney Learn-Conjeski.
- Public in attendance (signed in): Rick Patterson, Patrice Dull, Ron and Rosemary Stidmon, Rebecca Beem, Jim Woolley, Ellen Kretchmar, Robert Snider, and Lincoln Kretchmar.

Public Participation –

- Ron Stidmon, Taylor Ave
 - Asked if Council handles FOIA requests directly, if the Solicitor bills extra for FOIA requests, and if he could see the hours of work done for FOIA requests.
 - Mr. Madgar stated that the Open Records Officer handles all requests and forwards on to the Solicitor as needed for review. The Solicitor bills per hour for work he does for the Borough. Office staff handles FOIA requests above and beyond their daily work.

Commissions/Authorities

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

- Reviewed February 2025 COG report included in the Council Packet.

Civil Service Commission –

- Mr. Madgar reported that the promotional testing is currently in progress.

Zoning Hearing Board – No report

Planning Commission –

- January 27, 2025 meeting minutes and February 27, 2025 draft meeting minutes included in the Council packet.
- The Planning Commission is getting close to finalizing their recommendations to update the current signage ordinance and invited Council to attend their next three meetings.

Shade Tree Commission –

- February and March meeting minutes, and April meeting agenda included in the Council packet.

Code Enforcement Officer –

- February-March 2025 Code Enforcement Officer report included in the Council packet.

Historical Architectural Review Board –

- February 20, 2025 HARB meeting minutes included in the Council packet.

Municipal Authority – Reported by Mr. Deelo

- February 19, 2025 and March 4, 2025 meeting minutes, and February 2025 Engineer report included in the Council packet.
- Gave update regarding litigation.
- Gave update on new line for sewage treatment plant. Bids for the project will be going out soon.

Pool Committee –

- February meeting minutes included in the Council packet.

Council Committee Reports

Finance – Reported by Ms. Stettler

- Mr. Snowden reported that the Police overtime costs are decreasing like we expected with the new full-time hire. The Borough is typically working a deficit at this point in the year but this year with the tax increase we are not working at a deficit.
- Sergeant McCoy reviewed the police schedule changes being made in an effort to help reduce overtime costs.
- Five-year plan discussion
 - Ms. Stettler asked for Council feedback and suggestions to align priorities through 2030.
 - Mr. Andres reviewed suggestions to potentially reduce spending, oversee expenditures, and generate new revenue. Topics included overtime costs, property reevaluation, Borough and Fire Department building renovations, office personnel, Council committee involvement and structure, creation of a stand-alone Recreation Committee, grant applications, electronic signage, and the repeal of prohibition.
 - Ms. Stettler reviewed the need for long term personnel budgeting, development of new revenue streams (such as parking meters), and growth of the capital fund. By identifying priorities and planning, small incremental tax creases could be made instead of one large increase.

General Government –

- Ms. McKean observed dumped tires on the hill side of River Road.
 - Mr. Madgar stated he would look at the area with the Road Department and remove.

Highways – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Continuing to work with Engineer and Code Enforcement Officer to identify areas that need paved. Engineer to put together a list of areas that could use attention.

- 2026 paving will depend on what work Columbia Gas does and budget.

Public Safety / Code Enforcement – No report

Recreation – No report

Reports

Manager/Secretary Report – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- The Fire Department's annual race will be Saturday, May 31, 2025 and registration is now open.
- Continuing to work with EMC on the Emergency Management Plant
- Motion to be presented to add the Fire Department to the life insurance policy.
- Gave update on continuous Right to Know requests from same requestor:
 - In 2025, there have been 14 submitted requests requesting 66 types of records.

Mayor Hamilton – No report

Police Chief Madgar – No report

Engineer – No report

President – No report

Solicitor – No report

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Deelo. Second by Ms. Stettler. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips