

Borough of Beaver, PA
Work Session Meeting
September 23, 2025
Minutes

- A regular scheduled work session meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held in the Community Room and called to order on Tuesday, September 23, 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, Debbie Hindman, and Rebecca Phillips.
- Absent: Whitney Learn-Conjeski
- Public in attendance (signed in): Cheryl Hansen, Amy Shay, Rebecca Beem, Ellen Kretchmar, and Robert Snider.

Public Participation –

- Ellen Kretchmar, Ward 2
 - Asked for the draft budget handout.
 - Ms. Stettler advised that a draft budget will be available to the public once advertised.
 - Asked if there will be a tax increase for 2026.
 - Ms. Stettler stated that there will be no tax increase.
 - Mr. Snowden stated that he is excited about the no tax increase in the upcoming year and a draft budget will not be provided until final numbers are received for accurate information.

Commissions/Authorities

Beaver County Regional Council of Governments (COG) – No report

Zoning Hearing Board – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- The variance request for a 2nd floor professional office at 250 College Avenue and the variance request for a 2nd floor business sign at 453 3rd Street were both approved at September 18th Zoning Hearing Board.

Planning Commission – No report

Shade Tree Commission – No report

Code Enforcement Officer –

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

Historical Architectural Review Board – No report

Municipal Authority – Reported by Mr. Deelo

- August 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes and August 2025 Engineer report included in the Council packet.
- Reviewed EPA initiative, “Get the Lead Out,” aimed to eliminate all lead water lines in the community within 10 years.
 - Inventory of about 2,000 customers was created to determine if they have lead water lines.
 - A letter was sent to homeowners about a year ago, but the criteria was vague, resulting in many “unknown” responses.
 - The criteria has since been revised, reducing the number of “unknown” letters to a couple hundred.
 - Meetings are being held with officials to seek funding for lead line replacement.
 - The EPA website has a fact sheet and details about the initiative.

Pool Committee – Reported by Mr. Andres

- September 8, 2025 meeting minutes were included in the Council packet.
- Trivia Night is planned for November 15th at the pool house. More information is available on the Shaw Park Project’s Facebook page.
- Flyers and door hangers have been distributed. A future site location signage is being planned. These items are funded through fundraising efforts.

Council Committee Reports

Finance –

- Reported by Mr. Hindman
 - Reviewed 2025 Budget status.
 - Pension numbers are higher than budgeted.
 - Property taxes received are down due to reassessment appeals.
 - Police overtime is expected to come in at or under budget after reimbursements are considered.
 - The year is expected to end within budget and with a transfer to the capital fund.
- Reported by Ms. Stettler
 - General review of first draft of 2026 budget.
 - Reviewed goal to continue building back capital fund and FNB loan repayment.
 - Highway income reduced due to Columbia Gas projects winding down.
 - Reviewed maintenance needs to Borough building, various equipment needs, and streetscape improvements.
 - Budgeting for priority needs in case grants are not received.
 - Rising costs for supplies, materials, and healthcare factored in based on economic forecasting.
 - Budgeting for playground upgrade
- General discussion
 - Ms. McKean suggested regionalizing police services, raising rates for Vanport and Industry, and conducting a financial analysis of regionalizing the police force.
 - Mr. Andres addressed concerns of the police overtime and suggested a summarized version of the budget.

General Government –

- Ms. Good thanked the Borough Road Department for their help with the Heritage Foundation's Beaver Tales event. Ms. Good stated that the employees always go above and beyond for the community.
- Mr. Andres asked when leaf pickup will begin.
 - Mr. Madgar stated that residents can start placing small piles of leaves out. Due to the weather, leaf pickup is likely to begin earlier this year.

Highways – No report

Public Safety / Code Enforcement – No report

Recreation –

- Mr. Hindman asked if there was an update on the low hanging lines reported at the last meeting.
 - Mr. Madgar stated that the Police Department was able to get the low hanging lines addressed.

Reports

Manager/Secretary Report – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Paving is expected to start the week of October 6th, pending weather.
- Beaver Volunteer Fire Department's annual Open House is this Saturday from 12PM – 4PM.
- Beaver Area Chamber of Commerce's Wine Festival is this Saturday from 3PM – 7PM. A free concert in the park will take place in Quay Park at 6PM.
- Scam Awareness Workshop will be held October 24th at the Pool House Civic Center from 10 AM – 12 PM.
- Liberty Tree Planting will be held on October 25th at the Fort McIntosh Site at 11 AM.
- Reviewed fallen tree limb at the Fort McIntosh site that was removed promptly by the Highway Department.
- The Beaver Area School District SRO 5-year contract has been finalized.
- The Western Beaver School District SRO contract is upcoming.
- Awaiting quotes from wildlife professional for skunk removal to bring to Council.

Mayor Hamilton –

- Thanked Ms. Stettler and Mr. Hindman for their time and effort on the draft budget.
- The town is fortunate to have so many events and Beaver has a lot to be proud of. The Road Department continues to do excellent work in town. Stated that the town has a good team of people.

Police Department – No report

Engineer – No report

President – No report

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips