

Borough of Beaver, PA  
Council Meeting  
December 9, 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, December 9, 2025, at 7:00 PM by Council President, Sean Snowden.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Alexander Andres, Bob Bickerton, Michael Deelo, Todd Hindman, Whitney Learn-Conjeski, Margaret McKean, Sean Snowden, and Amy Stettler.
- Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Thomas Hamilton, Chief of Police and Borough Manager Dan Madgar, Solicitor Garen Fedeles, Finance Manager Andy Kennedy (via phone), Sergeant Ken McCoy, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Sprecker, Debbie Hindman and Rebecca Phillips.
- Absent: Roberta Good.

**An Executive Session was held prior to the start of the meeting to discuss litigation.**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

***Motion by Mr. Hindman, to accept the November 25, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Ms. Learn-Conjeski. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

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

- The November Treasurer's report was provided in the Council packet for review.

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

***Motion by Ms. Stettler to authorize and pay submitted invoices for the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Hindman. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

#### **Promotion of Officer Robert Turyan**

***Motion by Mr. Bickerton, I move that Beaver Borough Council promote Robert Turyan of the Beaver Borough Police Department to the rank of Corporal, effective January 1, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Hindman. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

#### **Recognition of Mayor Tom Hamilton**

- A plaque was presented to Mayor Thomas Hamilton for 21 years of service as Mayor (2004-2025).
- Mayor Hamilton's leadership and commitment to Beaver Borough was recognized.

#### **Public Participation –**

- Midge Sefton, Ward 3
  - Proud to call Mayor Hamilton a friend and he will be missed as Mayor.
  - Thanked the Borough, Road Department, and Police Department for their help in this year's Veteran's Day Parade.
- Ron Nardick, Vanport Township Board President

- Thanked Mayor Hamilton and Chief Dan Madgar for their positive relationship. Mr. Nardick thanked Mayor Hamilton for the work he has done in Beaver Borough and Vanport Township over the years.
- Allison Hartley, Ward 3
  - Thanked the Borough and Road Department for their assistance with installing the new sign for the Shaw Park Project in Shaw Park.
  - Thanked Mr. Andres for his service as the Council liaison for the Shaw Park Project.
  - Expressed concerns with the line item in the proposed budget for the Borough Manager.
- Lincoln Kretchmar, Ward 1
  - Asked for more information on the Borough Manager's salary.
- Ellen Kretchmar, Ward 2
  - Stated that the Borough Manager has not followed Ordinance 577 in regards to a written report with the budget.
    - Solicitor Fedeles stated that this task has been delegated from the Borough Manager to the Finance Manager.
  - Asked for more information about the proposed Assistant Borough Manager position.
  - Asked that Council put more thought into Council President and the Committee chairs.
  - Commented that she is unable to thank Mayor Hamilton because she claims he never took action on her concerns and that he made a false comment about her.
  - Thanked Corporal Turyan for assisting her with two incidents and that he is well deserving of his promotion.

## **Council Committees**

### **Finance – Reported by Ms. Stettler**

- General review of the proposed budget.
  - A transfer will be made to the Capital Fund to replenish reserves.
- Ms. McKean stated that costs keep going up, asked for a tax break to be considered and wants to explore police regionalization.
  - Ms. Stettler commented that the contracts with Vanport and Industry provide benefits similar to regionalization but revenue doesn't have to be shared.
  - Mr. Snowden suggested regionalizing with bordering communities. We currently don't have a bordering community, outside of those we are contracted with, interested in police regionalization.
  - Officer McCoy stated it was brought to his attention that Ms. McKean has requested a meeting with the regional police without the knowledge of Council. As a result, the department is concerned that the new Mayor wants to get rid of the police. Ms. McKean denied the claims.
  - Officer McCoy stated that regionalization has been discussed for decades, and the other option is contracting, which Beaver has been doing since 2002. This gives Beaver control of the contracts and police department.
  - Ms. McKean stated she wishes to collect data to explore police regionalization as a budgetary model.

- Ms. Stettler addressed the questions regarding the Borough Manager’s salary:
  - 11 years ago, the Council at that time asked Mr. Madgar to take on the role of Borough Manager after thousands of dollars were spent on a nationwide search that did not work out.
  - The Borough Manager has taken a significant pay cut versus other boroughs.
  - The Borough is starting to build toward what it will cost as part of the succession plan. This could cost the borough up to \$50,000 to \$70,000 more a year than currently paid.
  - Over the course of the last 11 years, the Borough Manager has saved the Borough upwards of almost \$1 million.
- Mr. Andres stated that the intent was to keep employee matters as sensitive as possible. This was discussed and therefore reflected in the proposed budget in the spirit of transparency.

**General Government –**

- Mr. Andres reviewed the LGA elected officials training and encouraged Council members to consider attending.

**Highways –** Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Columbia Gas reimbursement should be received soon and will then issue final payment to Youngblood Paving Inc.
- Streets and alleyways are already being considered for paving in 2026.

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

**Recreation –** No report

**Reports**

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

- Reviewed addition to the draft fee schedule. Based on the recommendation of the Solicitor, legal fees and court costs were added under liens.
- The generator at the fire department is no longer working. A natural gas generator was being considered but will be more expensive due to new piping, etc. needed. Will continue to keep Council updated as costs are obtained.
- The furnace at Georgetown went down. A COSTARS vendor is being used to install a new one.
- The Reorganization Meeting is going to be Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.
- Right to Know requests continue to come in and the Borough continues to process.

**Mayor Hamilton –**

- Thanked everyone for their kind words.
- Commented on Corporal Turyan’s promotion, saying that it is long deserving. Mayor Hamilton is proud to serve the community since he has been hired and proud to be part of his promotion.
- Thanked Ms. Stettler and Mr. Andres for their service on Council.

**President –** No report

**Police Department** – Reported by Mr. Madgar

- Nighttime parking enforcement will be suspended as of Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> and will start back up at the beginning of March.

**Borough Engineer** – No report.

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

- The Borough has received a request from the property owner of 223 Beaver Street who has requested to remove a sugar maple tree at their own expense and seeks Council authorization to do so. The Shade Tree Commission has recommended pruning the tree instead of removal.

## **Motions**

### **Motion to Add to the Agenda**

*Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski, I move that Beaver Borough Council add a motion to the agenda to allow the property owner at 223 Beaver Street to remove the Sugar Maple Tree and to require the property owner to work with the Shade Tree Commission to replace the tree with a tree approved by the Shade Tree Commission. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **Authorization to Remove Tree at 223 Beaver Street**

*Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski, I move that Beaver Borough Council allow the property owner at 223 Beaver Street to remove the Sugar Maple Tree and require the property owner to work with the Shade Tree Commission to replace the tree with a tree approved by the Shade Tree Commission. Seconded by Mr. Hindman. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **Civil Service Commission Resignation**

*Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski, I move that Beaver Borough Council accept the resignation of Ryan Doran from the Civil Service Commission, effective immediately. Seconded by Mr. Hindman. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **Civil Service Commission Member Appointment**

*Motion by Mr. Bicketerton, based on the recommendation of the Civil Service Commission, I move that Beaver Borough Council appoint Amy Shaddick to the Civil Service Commission to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2030. Seconded by Ms. Stettler. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **2026 Fee Schedule**

*Motion by Mr. Hindman, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve and adopt the attached Beaver Borough fee schedule for 2026. Seconded by Ms. Learn-Conjeski. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **2026 Schedule of Beaver Borough Meetings**

*Motion by Mr. Andres, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve and adopt the attached 2026 schedule of Beaver Borough meetings and authorize advertisement. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **Resolution to Fix the 2026 Tax Rate**

*Motion by Mr. Hindman, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the attached Resolution 2025-05, fixing the tax on real property for the fiscal year of 2026 at a rate of 5.58 (no change from 2025). Seconded by Ms. Stettler. Voice vote passed unanimously. Ms. McKean opposed.*

### **2026 General Fund Budget**

*Motion by Ms. Stettler, I move that Beaver Borough Council adopt the 2026 Beaver Borough General Fund Budget as advertised, including the approval of non-union employee wages, the Borough Manager's compensation, and the Police Chief's compensation as listed in the budget. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Motion passed 5-1 on roll call vote: Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. Bickerton – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes, Mr. Hindman – abstained, Ms. Learn-Conjeski abstained, Ms. McKean – No, Mr. Snowden – Yes, and Ms. Stettler – Yes.*

### **Creation of Assistant Borough Manager Position and Appointment**

*Motion by Ms. Stettler, I move that Beaver Borough Council create the position of Assistant Borough Manager with an annual salary of \$70,720, and appoint Rebecca Phillips to this position effective January 1, 2026. Seconded by Ms. Learn-Conjeski. Motion passed 6-1 on roll call vote: Mr. Andres – Yes, Mr. Bickerton – Yes, Mr. Deelo – Yes, Mr. Hindman – abstained, Ms. Learn-Conjeski – Yes, Ms. McKean – No, Mr. Snowden – Yes, Ms. Stettler – Yes.*

Mr. Sean Snowden announced his resignation, effective at the Reorganization Meeting. Mr. Snowden expressed hope that their replacement will have the same passion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward. Mr. Snowden thanked and recognized various council members, employees, and residents he has worked alongside.

The December 23, 2025 Council Meeting has been canceled.

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

**Executive Session ended at 8:31 PM**

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips