

Borough of Beaver, PA  
Council Meeting  
April 14, 2026  
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, April 14, 2026, at 7:00 PM by Council President, Roberta Good.
- Council Representatives in attendance: Bob Bickerton, Michael Deelo, Roberta Good, Tom Hamilton, Todd Hindman, Whitney Learn-Conjeski, Margaret McKean, Phil O'Shaughnessy, and Jarrod Thomas.
- Borough officials in attendance: Mayor Lincoln Kretchmar, Chief of Police and Borough Manager Dan Madgar, Solicitor Garen Fedeles, Sergeant Ken McCoy, Assistant Borough Manager Rebecca Phillips, Code Enforcement Officer Rick Sprecker, and Debbie Hindman.
- Absent: None.
- Visitors in attendance (signed in): Midge Sefton, Ron Nardick, Randy Morrow, Pam Learn, Randy Learn, Ron and Rosemary Stidmon, Amy Shay, Christine Cilli, Ellen Kretchmar, Loretta Fairley, Leo McGee, and Eric and Suzy Wuchina.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

***Motion by Mr. Hindman, to accept the March 10, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Ms. Learn-Conjeski. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

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

- The March Treasurer's report was provided in the Council packet for review.
  - Report indicated net income is currently above budget.
  - Funds for an unpurchased generator will be returned to the general fund.
  - A new line item will be added for police overtime reimbursement. In Q1, police overtime was \$10,000 over budget, but \$27,000 was reimbursed, creating a \$17,000 surplus.
  - Exploring investing in PLGIT to earn interest on Borough funds, with a motion expected next month.

***Motion by Mr. O'Shaughnessy to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

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

***Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski to authorize and pay submitted invoices for the Borough. Seconded by Mr. O'Shaughnessy. Voice vote passed unanimously.***

## **Public Participation –**

- Randy Morrow, Vanport Township Commissioner
  - Expressed support for the current Beaver Police force and contract with Vanport Township.
- Ron Nardick, Vanport Township Commissioner
  - Expressed support for Beaver Police force and requested clarification regarding Council's intentions concerning the future of the police department and services provided to Vanport Township.
    - Ms. Good responded that the motion to explore police regionalization presented at the last meeting failed unanimously and that Council is not pursuing regionalization at this time.
    - Mr. Deelo stated that, while he does not currently see a need for regionalization, he believes Council should remain informed and open to future discussion if warranted.
- Ellen Kretchmar, Ward 2
  - Commented on the recorded Council meetings and public availability to Council packet materials.
  - Encouraged community communication and public engagement regarding projects and initiatives.
    - Mr. Hindman commented that meeting minutes included in the Council packets are draft minutes until formally approved by Council and should not be circulated publicly prior to approval, as revisions or amendments may occur.
    - Mr. Fedeles confirmed that the meeting minutes are not official until approved by Council.

## **General Council Comments**

- DROP Update
  - Mr. Fedeles provided an update regarding the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), referencing the memorandum that was provided to Council in the Council packet. Mr. Fedeles stated that applicable state law and the Borough's DROP provisions both reference the possibility of reemployment following DROP participation, but neither outlines a specific reemployment process. Mr. Fedeles further stated that, in his professional opinion, reemployment would likely require Council action. Mr. Fedeles also reported that consultation with the Borough's pension actuary confirmed that reemployment following DROP participation is permissible.
    - Sergeant McCoy requested clarification regarding collective bargaining agreement provisions related to post-DROP employment, noting that bargaining unit officers are permitted to continue employment for up to 24 months following DROP participation and that the Chief of Police participates in the same pension plan.
    - Mayor Kretchmar stated that the collective bargaining agreement does not apply to the Chief of Police and that the Chief is governed by the Borough's DROP ordinance.

- Ms. Learn-Conjeski asked Chief Madgar if he intended to continue his employment following DROP participation, to which Chief Madgar responded affirmatively.

### **Amendment to Agenda**

***Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski, I move that Beaver Borough Council amend the agenda to add a motion that, when Chief Dan Madgar leaves the DROP, he stays on as an employee with the same wages and benefits package that he has at that time. Seconded by Mr. Bickerton. Voice vote passed. Ms. McKean opposed.***

- Ms. McKean stated that she believes Council should evaluate potential financial impacts, cost saving opportunities, and long-term budget consideration of police regionalization. She stated that she intends to continue reviewing the topic and sharing information with Council.
  - Mr. Madgar stated that, based on recent conversations, there does not appear to be interest from neighboring municipalities in pursuing police regionalization at this time.
- Ms. McKean suggested creating a 10-year projected budget and having Penn State Beaver provide AI consulting services.
- Ms. Learn-Conjeski provided an update on the potential Shaw Park Splash Pad project, stating that the project cost estimates were higher than anticipated and the that project is being reevaluated with the Shaw Park Project committee. A splash pad remains under consideration and that conceptual drawings are being pursued to assist with future fundraising and funding opportunities.
  - Mr. Madgar confirmed that the previously approved design funds were not expended, as the project costs came in significantly higher than anticipated and it was determined it was best to regroup with the Shaw Park Project committee regarding future planning and potential grant opportunities.

### **Reports**

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

- Reviewed the motion on the agenda to advertise the 2026 paving project, noting that alternate bids were included to provide flexibility based on material and fuel costs. Roads not completed in 2026 will be prioritized for 2027 if necessary.
- The Beaver Borough Police Department secured a Norfolk Southern Safety Grant in the amount of \$9,185 for the purchase of five AEDs for police vehicles.
- Provided update on the crosswalk project, stating that the Borough Engineer is finalizing documentation or PennDOT approval prior to ordering the equipment.
- Playground improvements at Linn Park are nearing completion, pending mulch installation.
- Advised Council that a motion will be presented at the next meeting to amend the 2027 Pool House fee schedule to increase the large event rental rate.
- Borough staff identified a storm infrastructure repair at Fifth Street and Market Street that can be completed in-house, resulting in significant cost savings compared to contractor estimates.

- Obtaining bids for replacement of aging carpet in the Municipal Building due to safety concerns.
- The Pool House Civic Center website is now live.
- Mr. Hamilton raised discussion regarding potential zoning regulation of vape shops, marijuana dispensaries, and tattoo establishments. Mr. Hamilton requested that the Planning Commission review the Borough's current zoning ordinance and consider possible amendments. Council agreed to refer the matter to the Planning Commission for review.
- Mr. Hindman asked for an update on the brick sidewalks in the business district.
  - Mr. Madgar and the Road Foreman recently reviewed conditions and identified areas requiring tree box replacements and sidewalk repairs. The Road Department plans to complete small repairs in-house as staffing and project schedules allow, with ADA ramp repairs currently remaining a priority. The Borough will continue evaluating long-term repair solutions for the brick sidewalks.

**Mayor** – Reported by Mr. Kretchmar

- Reported potential grant funding for electric vehicle charging infrastructure and suggested that the Planning Commission review.
- Requests more detailed monthly reporting from the Police Chief for Council oversight purposes and clarified that this request applies only to the Police Chief.
  - Mr. Madgar responded that, as a salaried employee serving dual roles, his responsibilities extend beyond normal business hours and frequently overlap. Mr. Madgar remains willing to discuss reporting expectations and provided additional information as requested.
  - General Council discussion followed regarding the Chief's dual role responsibilities, historical Council support for the combined positions, and value provided to the Borough through the current arrangement.

**President** – Reported by Ms. Good

- The next meeting will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup> and the work session will be held on May 26<sup>th</sup>. At the work session meeting, Council will talk about the Planning Commission's signage ordinance update and a review of the budget.

**Police Department** – Reported by Sergeant McCoy

- Police Memorial services will begin May 14<sup>th</sup>, which will involve street closures that evening. Services will continue May 15<sup>th</sup>, which will involve Third Street closures from College Avenue to Dravo Street.
- The Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>
- The end of April is range week for police officers to do their qualifications

**Borough Engineer** –

- The Engineer's report for March 2026 and the 2026 paving project review was provided to Council.

**Solicitor Report** – No report

## **Motions**

### **Advertisement of 2026 Road Paving Project**

*Motion by Mr. Thomas, I move that Beaver Borough Council authorize the advertisement of bids for the 2026 Road Paving Project, in accordance with the Borough Engineer's letter dated April 10, 2026. Seconded by Ms. McKean.*

*Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **Beaver Area Chamber of Commerce Wine Festival**

*Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the request from the Beaver Area Chamber of Commerce for the organization to host the annual Wine Festival in the Borough's Business District on September 26, 2026. The event is to be coordinated with the Borough Manager who will involve the Police Department as needed. Seconded by Mr. O'Shaughnessy.*

*Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **2026 Beaver County Boom Sponsorship**

*Motion by Mr. Hamilton, I move that Beaver Borough Council approve the Gold Sponsorship at the rate of \$2,500 in support of the 2026 Beaver County Boom annual fireworks display. Seconded by Mr. Hindman.*

*Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **Appointment to the Zoning Hearing Board**

*Motion by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, I move that Beaver Borough Council appoint Amy Shay to the Zoning Hearing Board effective immediately for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2028. Seconded by Ms. Learn-Conjeski.*

*Voice vote passed unanimously.*

### **Chief of Police Post-DROP Employment**

*Motion by Ms. Learn-Conjeski, I move that Beaver Borough Council motion to keep Dan Madgar as Police Chief after he leaves the job at a salary and benefits he has at the time he exits the DROP. He will be an at-will employee and his employment and benefits can be changed by Council at any time moving forward. Seconded by Mr. Hindman. Voice vote passed. Ms. McKean opposed.*

Discussion occurred regarding Mr. Madgar's employment terms. Mr. Fedeles advised that any further discussion should occur in executive session.

**Motion to adjourn by Ms. Learn-Conjeski. Seconded by Mr. Hamilton. Voice vote passed unanimously.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM**

Submitted by Rebecca Phillips