

**Borough of Ben Avon**  
**7101 Church Avenue, Ben Avon, Pennsylvania 15202**  
**Regular Meeting of Council – December 15, 2015**  
**Minutes**

**Call to Order**

Council President Earl Bohn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Council Members Present**

Julian Wynnyckyj, Michael Wrbas, Richard White, Earl Bohn, Philip Brind'Amour, Michael Bett, Ken Opipery

**Council Members Absent - None**

**Others Present**

Anne Sweeney, Solicitor  
Dale Regrut, Public Works Foreman  
Carmella Hallstein, Secretary  
Jim Rupert, Chief; Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Department  
Norbert Micklos, Chief; Ohio Township Police Department

**Public Participation – None**

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion: Mr. Brind'Amour; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2015 council meeting.

**Financial Report - Report given by Richard White, Co-Chair and Ken Opipery, Co-Chair**

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the November 2015 financial reports as presented.

Motion: Mr. Opipery; Second: Mr. Wynnyckyj; Motion carried by voice vote to approve the December 2015 accounts payable reports as presented, with the addition of a payment to Caustelot Farms for \$650.00 for the horse & carriage at the Deck the Borough Hall event and a payment for \$1,518.00 for additional costs for the Joint Comprehensive Plan, authorizing payments of \$40,066.62 from the general account. Mr. Bett opposed the motion.

Mr. Opipery requested an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation and personnel issues.

**Administration Report – No Report**

**Public Works / Building and Property Report – Report given by Julian Wynnyckyj, Co-Chair and Ken Opipery, Co-Chair**

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

**Public Affairs Report** – *No Report*

**Mayor’s Report** – *No Report*

**Police Chief’s Report** – *No Report*

**Fire Chief’s Report** – *Report given by Jim Rupert, Chief; Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Department*

**Tri-Borough Joint Planning Commission Report** – *No Report*

**Solicitor’s Report** – *No Report*

**New Business**

**2016 Council Meeting Schedule**

Council meetings will remain on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. except for the December meeting, which will be on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to advertise the 2016 Council meeting schedule.

**Reorganization Meeting**

Council will hold a reorganization meeting on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the borough municipal building.

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Brind’Amour; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to advertise the reorganization meeting.

**Avonworth Municipal Authority Advisory Council Appointments**

Motion: Mr. Brind’Amour; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to reappoint Barbara Humphrey, Terry Hartnett, Bob Whalen and Richard L. White to the Avonworth Municipal Authority Advisory Council for one-year terms beginning January 31, 2016 and ending January 30, 2017.

**Tri-Borough Joint Planning Commission Appointment**

Motion: Mr. Wrbas; Second: Mr. Brind’Amour; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to reappoint Scott Keener to the Tri-Borough Joint Planning Commission for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December, 31, 2019.

**Resolution No. 2015-10**

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Wynnyckyj; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adopt Resolution 2015-10, which confirms that Ben Avon Borough has formally requested a grant, designates an official to perform the required duties between Ben Avon Borough and the Department of Economic Development and assures, where applicable, the provision of local matching funds.

**Ordinance No. 774**

Motion: Mr. Opipery; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to advertise Ordinance No. 774, which establishes the compensation for the office of tax collector for the

remainder to the term which commenced on January 1, 2014 and which has been rendered vacant/expired due to the resignation of the elected tax collector.

### **Old Business**

#### **2016 Budget**

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Wynnycky; Motion carried by voice vote to adopt the 2016 Budget as presented. Mr. Bett opposed the motion.

#### **Ordinance No. 773**

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adopt Ordinance No. 773, levying an ad valorem real estate tax for the fiscal year 2016.

#### **Executive Session**

Motion: Mr. Wynnycky; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss potential litigation and personnel issues.

Motion: Mr. Pipery; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene Regular Session at 8:15 p.m.

#### **Regular Session**

Motion: Mr. Pipery; Second: Mr. Brind'Amour; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve a four year street department contract between the Borough of Ben Avon and the street department employees of Ben Avon Borough effective January 1, 2016 for the years 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019, which includes a 2 ½ % annual increase for hourly wages and a stepped hourly premium for foreman wages, which is not retroactive and is effective January 1, 2016.

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve a \$1,000.00 performance bonus for Carmella Hallstein for her years of service to the borough.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion: Mr. Pipery; Second: Mr. Wrbas; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Richard J. White*

Council Vice President