

Borough of Ben Avon
7101 Church Avenue, Ben Avon, Pennsylvania 15202
Regular Meeting of Council – June 20, 2017
Minutes

Call to Order

Council Vice President Richard White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members Present

Russell Kuehner, Richard White, Phil Brind'Amour, Brad Cole

Council Members Absent

Michael Wrbas
Major Bob Jones
Earl Bohn
Ken Opiery

Others Present

Anne Sweeney, Solicitor
Lisa Cronin, Secretary
James Rupert, Chief, Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Department
Norbert Micklos, Chief, Ohio Township Police Department

Public Participation

David Gobrecht of 246 Alder Drive asked if council could address the concern he has regarding the overgrowth on the property at 31 ½ Short Street. He told council that he addressed the concerns with the owner and owner's landscaper to no avail. Mr. Gobrecht wanted to know what the ordinances are on property maintenance. Mr. White thanked Mr. Gobrecht for coming and said that he would ask the borough's code enforcement office to look into this.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mr. Brind'Amour; Second: Mr. Kuehner; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2017 council meeting.

Financial Report - Report given by Richard White

Motion: Mr. Brind'Amour; Second: Mr. Cole; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the financials presented to council.

Motion: Mr. Cole; Second: Mr. Kuehner; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the May 2017 accounts payable reports as presented, authorizing payments of \$107,766.26 from the general account.

Administration Report – No Report given by Richard White, Chair

Public Works / Building and Property Report – Report given by Dale Regrut

Motion: Mr. Cole; Second: Mr. Kuehner; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the 2017 Ben Avon Borough Road Program Project and award the contract to Mele & Mele & Sons,

Inc. for \$97,899.28. The Gateway Engineering estimate was \$97,600.00. The roadwork for Juniper Avenue, Western Avenue and Perrysville Avenue does not have a start date. The lenthil work on the Fire Station will begin on Monday, June 26, 2017. The recent MS4 Audit from the Department of Environmental Protection went well. There were some recommendations but no citations made. The borough is currently working with a 17 year old tractor and the Public Works Department can replace it for \$6,000.00 – \$6,500.00. Motion: Mr. Brind'Amour; Second: Mr. Kuehner: Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the purchase of a tractor out of the Capital Reserve Fund.

Public Safety/Code Enforcement – *No Report*

Public Affairs – *No Report*

Mayor's Report – *No Report*

Police Chief's Report – *No Report*

Fire Chief's Report – *No Report*

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

Solicitor's Report – *Report given by Anne Sweeney*

The buyer of 6934 Church Avenue asked if the borough would allow a Lien Forgiveness. Council members asked for more information but generally felt that this would not be possible. Ms. Sweeney said she would get more information and let council know.

New Business

Anchor & Anvil Lease Addendum was approved effective July 1, 2017 for 2 years with the option to renew. The new rental amount has increased by \$50.00 a month to \$750.00 per month for the year 2017-2018 and then an additional \$50.00 per month increase to \$800.00 per month for the year 2018-2019. Motion: Mr. Brind'Amour; Second: Mr. Cole: Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the Anchor & Anvil Coffee Shop Lease.

The Pennsylvania Municipal League Membership (PML) - Council requested that the Borough Secretary obtain more information as to the benefits and costs and present that information at the next regular council meeting.

Motion: Mr. Brind'Amour; Second: Mr. Cole: Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the Tri-Borough Joint Planning Commission – Solicitor and Engineer Rotation Amendment 2017-003 where Avalon's Solicitor and Engineer would be substituted for Ben Avon Borough.

Resident Mathew Rind and member of the Allegheny County Clean Air Now, asked council to pass a Resolution to urge DTE Energy, parent company of Shenango Coke Works on Neville Island, which shut down in January 2016, to ensure the site stays pollution free, remediate the site, forfeit all emission reduction credits and replace the site with a solar farm to provide clean energy and replace some of the jobs lost. Motion: Mr. Cole; Second: Mr. Kuehner: Motion

carried by unanimous voice vote to approve a non-binding Resolution in support of the Allegheny county Clean Air Now initiative.

Old Business

Adjournment

Vice President Richard White adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Cronin,

Borough Secretary