

Borough of Ben Avon
7101 Church Avenue, Ben Avon, Pennsylvania, 15202
Regular Meeting of Council
August 17, 2010
Minutes

Council Members Present

Rob Galbraith, Judy Konitsney, Lloyd Corder, Rich White, Sue Weiss

Council Members Absent

Dan Herchenroether

Brian Tokar

Others Present

Megan Ott, Esquire

Ed McGee, Borough Engineer

Dale Regrut, Borough Public Works Foreman

Carmella Hallstein, Borough Secretary

Adam Beck, Sergeant; Ohio Township Police Department

Gary Buckman, Chief; Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Department

Call to Order

Council President Lloyd Corder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Sue Weiss entered council chambers at 7:02 p.m.

Public Participation

Ted Popovich of 6606 Virginia Avenue addressed council about a proposal that is being considered by Shannopin Country Club to drill for Marcellus Shale on their property. He stated that the drilling pad would probably be located in either Ross Township or Kilbuck Township, adding that property values decrease for houses located next to a drilling pad. Mr. Popovich stated that he was also concerned about water contamination and air pollution. He stated that there is a lot of truck traffic associated with the drilling process, which could destroy local roadways. He asked council to consider adopting a resolution that would ban Marcellus Shale drilling in the borough.

Frank Meacci of 315 Walnut Road stated that there are 3,100 Marcellus Shale drilling leases in Allegheny County. He stated that some of the sites are near highly populated neighborhoods. Mr. Meacci stated that he was concerned about air, water and soil pollution.

Victoria Haynes of 239 Park Avenue thanked council for their continued efforts to resolve the issues with the vacant row houses on Park Avenue.

Michael Cozza of 7409 Perrysville Avenue addressed council about the current roadwork on Perrysville. He stated that it has been very tough on the Perrysville Avenue residents the past two month, noting that there is a lot of noise and dirt. Mr. Cozza asked if anything could be done to wrap up the work more quickly. Mr. Regrut stated that currently, Columbia Gas and

West View Water are replacing their lines on Perrysville, adding that West View Water still needs a couple more weeks to complete their work. Mr. Regrut stated that the contractor hired by the borough would start construction upon completion of the utility line replacements. Mr. Cozza stated that Waste Management has done a terrible job working around the construction. He stated that sometimes both the trash and recycling are picked up, sometimes one or the other is picked up and sometimes nothing is picked up. Mrs. Hallstein stated that she would talk to the route manager at Waste Management about this matter and told Mr. Cozza to call the borough office if the problem continues.

Mr. Cozza stated that there is a property adjacent to his that is also adjacent to an alley that has a couple of big trees on it that he thinks are in danger of falling down. He stated that one tree is completely dead and the other tree is slowly moving down toward the alley. Mr. Cozza asked if council could do anything to get the trees removed. Building Inspection Underwriters will inspect the property to determine if there are any code violations.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mr. Galbraith; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2010 council meeting.

Engineer's Report - *report given by Ed McGee, Borough Engineer*

Financial Report – *report given by Judy Konitsney, Chair*

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the July 2010 financial reports as presented.

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the August 2010 accounts payable reports as presented.

Intergovernmental Cooperation Report

No Report

Administration Report

No Report

Public Works / Building and Property Report – *report given by Rob Galbraith, Chair*

Public Safety Report

No Report

Property Maintenance and Code Enforcement – *report given by Sue Weiss, Chair*

Public Affairs – *report given by Rich White, Chair*

Mayor's Report

No Report

Mike Dufresne, Emergency Management Coordinator, provided an update on the borough's emergency management plan.

Police Chief's Report – *report given by Sergeant Adam Beck, Ohio Township Police*

Solicitor's Report

No Report

Mrs. Ott requested an executive session to discuss legal matters.

Fire Chief's Report – *report given by Gary Buckman, Fire Chief*

New Business

Addendum to Fire Escape Lease Agreement

Action deferred until the September 21 council meeting.

Addendum to Avon Club Lease Agreement

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mrs. Konitsney; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve an Addendum to the Commercial Lease by and between the Borough of Ben Avon and the Avon Club Foundation, which extends the terms of the lease for a period of one year commencing September 1, 2010 and ending on August 31, 2011.

Rock Salt Agreement

Motion: Mr. Galbraith; Second: Mr. White Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to accept the bid of \$51.40 per ton for rock salt from Morton International, Inc. as submitted to the SHACOG Purchasing Alliance.

Resolution 2010-06

Motion: Mrs. Weiss; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adopt Resolution 2010-06, which sets fees for verification of approvals under Act 46.

Joint Planning Commission Term Limits

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mrs. Konitsney; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to reappoint Scott Keener, John Busse and Thomas Mrozinski to the Joint Planning Commission for terms beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively and to reappoint Catherine Houska as an alternate for a term beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2014.

Old Business

Ordinance 749

Motion: Mrs. Weiss; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adopt Ordinance 749, which amends Ordinance 692, Article II, Section 7, regulating parking to add a parking restriction on the south side of Church Avenue near the fire station on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Executive Session

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mrs. Konitsney; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss legal issues.

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene to Regular Session at 8:20 p.m.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,
Carmella Hallstein
Borough Secretary