

Borough of Ben Avon
7101 Church Avenue, Ben Avon, Pennsylvania, 15202
Regular Meeting of Council
May 17, 2011
Minutes

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members Present

Rob Galbraith, Michael Bett, Judy Konitsney, Lloyd Corder, Richard White, Sue Weiss

Mrs. Weiss entered Council Chambers at 7:45 p.m.

Council Members Absent

Brian Tokar

Others Present

Chuck Means, Solicitor

Dale Regrut, Public Works Foreman

Carmella Hallstein, Borough Secretary

Mike Dufresne, Emergency Management Coordinator

Gary Buckman, Chief; Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Department

Norbert Micklos, Chief; Ohio Township Police Department

Public Participation

None

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Galbraith; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2011 council meeting.

Engineer's Report - *Report submitted by Ed McGee, Engineer; presented by Mr. Galbraith*

Motion: Mr. Galbraith; Second: Mr. Bett; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to hire Zell Engineers to perform core-sampling tests on Perrysville Avenue at a cost of \$325.00.

Motion: Mr. Galbraith; Second: Mrs. Konitsney; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to authorize Ed McGee to prepare specifications and advertise for bids for bituminous pavement crack sealing.

Financial Report - *Report given by Judy Konitsney, Chair*

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the April 2011 financial reports as presented.

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the May 2011 accounts payable reports as presented, authorizing payments of \$26,538.65 from the general fund account.

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to transfer \$50,000.00 from the general fund account to the capital improvement account.

Intergovernmental Cooperation Report – *Report given by Lloyd Corder, Chair*

Administration Report – *No Report*

Public Works / Building and Property Report – *No Report*

Public Safety Report – *Report given by Michael Bett, Chair*

Property Maintenance and Code Enforcement Report - *Report given by Sue Weiss, Chair*

Public Affairs Report – *Report given by Richard White, Chair*

Mayor's Report – *No Report*

Emergency Management Report – *Report given by Mike Dufresne, EMC*

Police Chief's Report – *No Report*

Fire Chief's Report – *Report submitted by Gary Buckman, Chief; BAVFD*

Solicitor's Report – *Report given by Chuck Means, Solicitor*

Resolution 2011-05

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Galbraith; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adopt Resolution 2011-05, which declares the borough's intent to follow the schedules and procedures for disposition of records as set forth in the Municipal Records Manual approved on December 16, 2008.

Commercial Lease Agreement

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Galbraith; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve a Commercial Lease Agreement between the Borough of Ben Avon and the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh (North Borough Branch) for a term of four months commencing August 1, 2011.

New Business

None

Old Business

One Call Now

Chief Micklos stated that four of the Avonworth School District communities, Ben Avon, Ben Avon Heights, Kilbuck and Ohio Township are interested in the One Call Now notification system, adding that Emsworth still has some questions about the service. He stated that commitments from the four communities ensure at least 3,000 participants, which will bring the cost down. Chief Micklos stated that Emsworth and any other interested community could be added to the agreement later. He stated that Ohio Township would enter into an agreement with

One Call Now, pay for the service and bill each community for their prorated share of the cost. Chief Micklos stated that each municipality would be issued three licenses (access accounts) for assignment to three municipal officials. He stated that these officials would be able to access the service and send notifications to residents in their municipality. Mr. Dufresne stated that the licenses would go to the mayor, council president and emergency management coordinator. Mr. Bett stated that Ben Avon's cost for the one-year contract would be \$972.00 for telephone, email and text message notifications. Mr. White noted that the initial cost for a one-year contract for Ben Avon only was \$2,500.00.

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Bett; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to authorize Chief Micklos to enter into an agreement with One Call Now on behalf of Ben Avon Borough.

Fire Station Mural

Mrs. Siddoway of 7502 Church Avenue stated that she and Mrs. Wynnyckyj had received images of murals to use as examples on a petition supporting the project, noting that nothing else had been done, including fund raising. She stated that there would be a public meeting scheduled so residents could choose an artist and decide on the subject matter for the mural. Mrs. Konitsney stated that she was opposed to having a mural painted on a government building. Mr. Galbraith agreed with Mrs. Konitsney, adding that on a private building, it would be fine but on a government building, it would be difficult to please the residents of Ben Avon across the board. Mrs. Siddoway asked if the mural would be a non-issue if the building were privately owned. Mr. Means stated that the mural would be governed by the sign provisions in the zoning ordinance. Mrs. Weiss stated that she did not oppose the idea and that she supports the arts. Mr. White stated that he had heard from many residents who are opposed to the project. Mrs. Siddoway asked if she and Mrs. Wynnyckyj should spend any more time pursuing the project. Mrs. Konitsney expressed her concern about maintaining the mural and the associated costs and recommended that council vote on the issue.

Mrs. Weiss made a motion to endorse the concept of a community approved mural on the Dalzell Avenue side of the fire station building; there was no second and the motion died. Mrs. Weiss made the motion again and Mr. Galbraith made the second so council could vote on the issue.

Motion: Mrs. Weiss; Second: Mr. Galbraith; Motion failed by roll call vote: three-aye; three-nay to endorse the concept of a community approved mural on the Dalzell Avenue side of the fire station building.

Rob Galbraith-nay; Michael Bett- aye; Judy Konitsney-nay; Lloyd Corder-aye; Richard White-nay; Sue Weiss-aye

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Galbraith; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carmella Hallstein
Borough Secretary