

Borough of Ben Avon
7101 Church Avenue, Ben Avon, Pennsylvania 15202
Pre-Council Meeting – September 4, 2018
Minutes

Call to Order

President, Jennifer Bett, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members Present

Jennifer Bett
Earl Bohn
Michele Boyd
Henry Casale
Megan Dolan

Council Members Absent

David Stoeckle
Ken Opiery

Others Present

Melanie Holcomb, Mayor
Theresa Patsch, Borough Secretary

Financial

No report given.

Administration

Michele Boyd discussed an outstanding balance due from a Borough tenant and the steps taken to collect the delinquent funds. Pending recent payment and the September charges added, an updated invoice letter would be submitted showing total amount due as of September 5, 2018. Members of Council and the solicitor will schedule a meeting with the renter to discuss payment options and secure an updated rental addendum.

Earl Bohn reported that Cottrill Arbutina has agreed to revise the audit letter from the 2017. The final copy of the audit should be available soon.

Public Affairs / Communications

Savvy Citizen

Jennifer Bett reported registration and payment were completed and the borough account is active. Ms. Bett shared a copy of the advertising materials provided by Savvy Citizen to distribute to the community and encourage residents to register. The first texts went out this week announcing upcoming meetings and road construction updates. Mayor Melanie Holcomb will review the marketing materials and notify Savvy Citizen of any changes prior to their distribution.

Public Safety/Code Enforcement

Earl Bohn discussed his recent email outlining the ordinance in question concerning a fence variance. Jennifer Bett will confirm to Solicitor Anne Sweeney that she is to proceed with her suggestion to discuss the ordinance interpretation with Ron Mulcahy, BIU, in the hope of avoiding any further delay for the homeowners. Jennifer Bett also reported that after attending a recent Joint Planning Committee meeting, a fence ordinance is in the works that would perhaps assist with further fence applications.

Public Works

No report given.

Quaker Valley COG

No report given.

New Business

Zoning Hearing Board

Jennifer Bett reported that after some discussion of a position on the Zoning Hearing Board, council made recommendations as to the persons who would best fit that opening. Three-year rotating positions are required, and Ms. Bett suggested Mr. Herchenroether serve for three years, Mr. Shelton serve a two-year term with any new member, once confirmed, required to serve one year at this time. Board member the term lengths will be confirmed at the September 11 regular council meeting.

2019 Budget

Jennifer Bett, Council President, distributed a copy of the 2018 budget to enable council to begin the review process for planning a 2019 borough budget. A council work meeting advertisement notifying the public will be submitted this week to The Citizen for a retreat scheduled September 25, 2018 at the Borough Office at 7:00 p.m. to begin the budget discussion.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Patsch
Ben Avon Borough Secretary