

Borough of Ben Avon
7101 Church Avenue, Ben Avon, Pennsylvania 15202
Pre-Council Work Meeting – October 2, 2018
Minutes

Call to Order

President, Jennifer Bett, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members Present

Jennifer Bett, Earl Bohn, Michele Boyd, Henry Casale, Megan Dolan

Council Members Absent

Ken Opiery, David Stoeckle

Others Present

Melanie Holcomb, Mayor

Theresa Patsch, Ben Avon Borough Secretary

Public Participation

Jesse Colaizzi, 7220 Church Avenue, voiced his concern with the Fall Fest trash remaining following the Avon Club's festival on September 29. Mr. Colaizzi not only is concerned with the debris being unsightly, but the food scraps would be enticing to rodents. While Mr. Colaizzi enjoys the sense of community that such an event brings to Ben Avon, he would like to see a better plan in place for the cleaning following the festival.

Administration Report – Report given by Earl Bohn

Mr. Bohn reported that following the Administration Committee meeting this afternoon, the 2019 budget numbers are ready to be included in the Dropbox budget worksheet.

Mr. Bohn also reported a recent letter from Mockenhaupt concerning pension information received in the office one day before a response from council was required. Mr. Bohn will discuss any questions he may have about the pension information with Ken Opiery.

Connolly Steele submitted a proposal for a three-year period beginning in 2019, with the figure coming in slightly higher than the current year charges. Also included in the letter was a proposal for Connolly Steele to process the borough payroll as opposed to our current provider, ADP.

Mr. Bohn stated that phone and internet service for both the borough office and public works garage are under review and could wield savings with a change to Comcast for all services.

Public Affairs / Communications Report – Report given by President Jennifer Bett

Jennifer Bett reported that updates will be made on the website as well as notifying Allegheny County of some updates to Ben Avon information on their directory.

Ms. Bett also stated that the Savvy Citizen ads recently submitted to Mayor Holcomb were approved, Savvy Citizen was notified and they will be run in the near future.

Public Safety/Code Enforcement Report–Report given by Earl Bohn

Earl Bohn reported that Chief Rupert submitted the Fire Department budget information to Ken Opiery for the 2019 worksheet.

Mr. Bohn also reported a new fence violation and some discussion took place in reference to getting more information to residents concerning the permit process. Council members would like to disseminate information via local realtors, the website, Facebook and Savvy Citizen.

Public Works Report

Jennifer Bett noted that the road project was completed as scheduled and prior to Fall Fest. Ms. Bett also noted that the Buckeye Pipeline work is continuing in Avon Park.

Quaker Valley COG Report –Report Given by Megan Dolan

Megan Dolan reported that the QV COG passed its 2019 budget with no increase in dues. The Rt. 65 corridor study of traffic and common intersections will be upcoming if the funding comes is approved. Ms. Dolan also stated that COG is forming a committee to look at establishing a bike path along the corridor.

New Business

Zoning Hearing Board Candidate

Jennifer Bett introduced Rachael Schwartz to council members as a candidate for the Zoning Hearing Board. Ms. Schwartz addressed council to review her qualifications and her desire to give back to the community.

Adjourned to Executive Session

Motion: Mr. Bohn; Second: Ms. Boyd ; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:52 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Casale; Second: Ms. Dolan ; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to begin to Executive Session at 7:52 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Bohn; Second: Mr. Casale; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene Regular Session at 8:53 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Bohn; Second: Ms. Boyd; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Patsch, Ben Avon Borough Secretary