



# Borough of Ben Avon

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May 19, 2020  
Council Meeting Minutes

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of Ben Avon Borough Council was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Council President Jennifer Bett.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## ROLL CALL

Council Members Present:

Jennifer Bett, Henry Casale, Megan Dolan, Ken Opiery, Kara Roggenkamp, David Stoeckle, Richard Wagner

Others Present:

Mayor Melanie Holcomb, Chief Joe Hanny, Solicitor Anne Sweeney, Public Works Supervisor Dale Regrut, Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – *there was no public participation*

## BOROUGH REPORTS

Mayors Report – report given by Mayor Melanie Holcomb

Mayor Holcomb reported that she spoke to the Allegheny County Board of Elections and the voting machines will be delivered tomorrow to the Fire Hall.

Mayor Holcomb also reported an incident with a child on a bike who was not obeying the safety laws and was injured by an oncoming car. While the youngster was taken to the hospital, the injuries were not considered to be life-threatening.

The Administration committee met to work out the job responsibilities and advertisement for the borough secretary's replacement.

Police Report – report given by Chief Joe Hanny

Chief Hanny reported the month of April had few calls – 48 in all – and nothing of great concern.

Fire Report – no report given

Solicitor's Report – no report given

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Ms. Roggenkamp; Second: Mr. Opiery; Motion Carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2020 council meeting as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – report given by Ken Opiery

Statement of Revenue & Expense

Mr. Opiery reported nothing exceptional on the statements reviewed by council.

Motion: Mr. Opiery; Second: Mr. Casale; Motion Carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the statements as presented for the month of April.

Accounts Payable

Motion: Mr. Opiery; Second: Mr. Casale; Motion Carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the payment of the bills shown on the accounts payable list in the amount of \$62,155.68 for the month of April.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration Report - report given by Jennifer Bett

Mrs. Bett reported that although Allegheny County was working to consolidate polling locations for the June 2 primary election, Ben Avon's polling location will not change.

Mrs. Bett reminded all that the borough office remains closed to the public and work continues remotely until further notice. Anyone wishing to contact the borough may do so through email or a phone call.

Public Affairs/Communications Committee – report given by Jennifer Bett

Mrs. Bett stated she continues to monitor the developments of COVID-19 as the health and well-being of the residents and staff are of the utmost priority. As of this date, there have been 29 tests known to be conducted with 0 confirmed cases in the borough.

Public Safety/Code Enforcement – report given by David Stoeckle

Mr. Stoeckle reported two new complaints to the borough, which were forwarded to Harshman CE Group to follow. Violation notices have been issued to those out of compliance. Mr. Stoeckle also noted that he and Mr. Casale met with Jarrod D'Amico from Harshman on a conference call to discuss and reinforce protocols going forward.

#### Public Works - report given by Ken Opiery

Mr. Opiery reported Dale Regrut, PW Supervisor, has returned under light duty. The PW crew is keeping up with all maintenance issues, and Dale is in contact with them. Mr. Opiery also noted he is available for them if they cannot reach Dale.

#### QV COG Report – report given by Rick Wagner

Mr. Wagner reported on the visioning session with the COG concerning the impacts of COVID-19 on municipal finances, COG sustainability, and responses to the survey sent out to local government officials. One area of concern was the upcoming contract negotiations with Waste Management. Mr. Wagner also stated there was discussion of other ways the COG can be of service to the members.

Mr. Wagner forwarded information to council members regarding the meeting on May 20 that would center around greenspace connectivity – connecting trails in Allegheny County.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Memorial Day Observance

Mayor Holcomb reported the American Legion contacted the borough concerning a very small recognition ceremony to be held at the war memorial that they wished to perform on the morning of Memorial Day. Mrs. Holcomb asked that residents decorate and participate from a distance to show respect and gratitude.

##### Annual Fireworks Donation

Mrs. Bett reported the borough office was contacted by Mr. Lee Nelson inquiring about the annual donation for the cancelled July 4 fireworks display. Mr. Nelson asked if the borough would consider keeping the donation in place if they postponed until Labor Day. Some discussion followed, with most members asking for more information concerning the type and size of celebration being planned.

##### Avonworth High School Seniors

Mayor Holcomb reported plans for the upcoming Avonworth Seniors parade would be reviewed by Chief Hanny and any concerns addressed. The parade was scheduled June 5, with a rain date of June 6.

##### Primary Election Day

Mrs. Bett reminded all that the primary election is June 2 and folks have until next Monday to register for a mail-in ballot.

OLD BUSINESS – *there was no old business*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Mr. Pipery; Second: Mr. Wagner; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to executive session at 7:56 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Pipery; Second: Mr. Wagner; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Terrie Patsch*

Borough Secretary