



Borough of Ben Avon
Council Meeting – March 17, 2021
Minutes
(Revised)

The Borough of Ben Avon Council met in a regular voting session on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, virtually and at 7101 Church Avenue for the purpose of transacting General Business. President Jennifer Bett presided and opened the meeting at 7:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present:

Jennifer Bett
Henry Casale
Ken Pipery
Kara Roggenkamp
Rick Wagner

Council Members Absent:

Megan Dolan
David Stoeckle

Others Present:

Mayor Melanie Holcomb
Solicitor Anne Sweeney
Chief Joe Hanny, OTP
Christen Cieslak, JPC
Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – *there was no public participation*

BOROUGH REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mrs. Bett recognized Mayor Hughes-Holcomb's efforts to coordinate with Local Government Academy and to schedule interviews for the summer intern candidates.

Mayor Hughes-Holcomb stated she plans to discuss guidelines with the Solicitor for food trucks parking in the Borough.

Police Report – *see Attachment A*

Chief Hanny reported 52 calls in the Borough for the month of February. Most calls are concerning theft from vehicles and he reminds residents to remove any valuables and lock their cars.

Fire Report – *no report given*

Solicitor's Report – *no report given*

Joint Planning Commission

Mrs. Cieslak reported the following:

Bellevue:

- Tom Hrynda has stepped down leaving another vacancy on JPC.
- Bellevue introduced Jeff Wissner as new Zoning Officer.
- Bellevue will advertise JPC openings in Citizen, website, and Facebook on 2/26.
- Bellevue reported that a tattoo parlor (8 South Fremont) and two parking pads (600 Means and 121 N. Balph) each received a special exception from the Zoning Hearing Board.
- Bonafide Bellevue is accepting applications for grants for business district signage this spring.
- JPC approved a Lot Consolidation for 196 Lincoln Ave

Ben Avon:

- Ben Avon has a volunteer intern helping to develop a Climate Action Plan.
- Ben Avon applied for a CITF grant to renovate the Borough Building.
- Ben Avon is considering modifying the fire station to accommodate a new fire truck.

Update on all present ordinance work

- Signage (Temporary Signs) – Kerry said he was satisfied with the final version. All agreed to hold on next steps until at least fences/walls and Bellevue alcohol ordinances are ready to go.
- Bicycle Parking – Houska and Tulley have formed small working group
- Fences and walls – Cieslak, Smith and Jackson will form small working group

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Casale; **Second:** Mr. Wagner; **Motion carried** to unanimously approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021, council meeting as presented.

Motion: Mr. Casale; **Second:** Mr. Wagner; **Motion carried** to unanimously approve the minutes of the March 2, 2021, council work session as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion: Mr. Pipery; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the 2020 final report submitted by the Borough accountant.

Motion: Mr. Pipery; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the financial statements for the month of February, 2021 as presented.

Motion: Mr. Pipery; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the bills presented for payment on the Accounts Payable Report in the amount of \$113,458.84 for the month of February, 2021.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration Committee

Mr. Wagner reported that he met with Mrs. Roggenkamp and a representative of Kilbuck Township in an initial meeting to review plans to improve Avon Park with the use of donated funds.

Mr. Wagner also reported a recent meeting of the Borough building Centennial Project Committee and noted the Borough webpage is now active with information and a brief survey. He is anticipating the results of the grant application should be available in the next few months and the next phase of fundraising can begin.

Mrs. Bett read the COVID-19 statistics for Ben Avon:

- 659 tests administered
- 98 confirmed cases
- 0 deaths

Mrs. Bett also reported she has been working on the page for the Centennial Project and adding a new page for the Climate Action Plan.

Public Safety and Code Enforcement Committee – See Attachment B

Public Works

Mr. Opiery reported that the Public Works Supervisor, Mr. Regrut, noticed a problem with a safety wall in the Borough showing severe cracking. Mr. Regrut notified the Borough Engineer, who inspected the wall and Mr. Regrut subsequently removed the wall using the backhoe. The area has been blocked off for temporarily, and will be on the project list for this year, however, there is no proposal on the cost of the repair.

Mr. Opiery also reported that State Pipe began sewer inspections via CCTV and no severe issues were encountered.

Mr. Opiery noted the specs and advertising for the upcoming road bids should be out soon, and he plans to present more information to Borough Council at the next council meeting in April.

Mrs. Roggenkamp met with two representatives from Duquesne Light concerning the upcoming tree removal and pruning that is planned in 2021. The contractor that has been hired by Duquesne Light is Hazlett, and a list of trees will be forwarded to the Borough prior to their removal.

QV COG

Mr. Wagner reported the COG has advertised for the position of Executive Director, with no response at this time. Also, a final workshop on the 65 Corridor Study is scheduled tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Mr. Wagner also stated the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee should be forwarding a resolution to each municipality for their solicitor's review before the next council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – *there was no New Business*

OLD BUSINESS

Avon Park Pavilion

Mrs. Bett reported the Administration Committee and Borough Secretary are reviewing procedures to allow Borough residents to reserve the park pavilion. The Committee will work to compose a list of rules for the use of the facility, and Chief Hanny said that OTP would be happy to check the site for adherence if given the reservation information in advance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Mr. Casale; **Second:** Mr. Wagner; **Motion carried** to adjourn the meeting to an executive session to discuss contracts and a lease matter at 7:41 p.m.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Motion: Mr. Wagner; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion carried** by unanimous voice vote to return to the regular session council meeting at 8:05 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS – *there was no other business to discuss*

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Pipery; **Second:** Ms. Roggenkamp; **Motion carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Patsch
Borough Secretary

CHIEF OF POLICE
JOSEPH P. HANNY



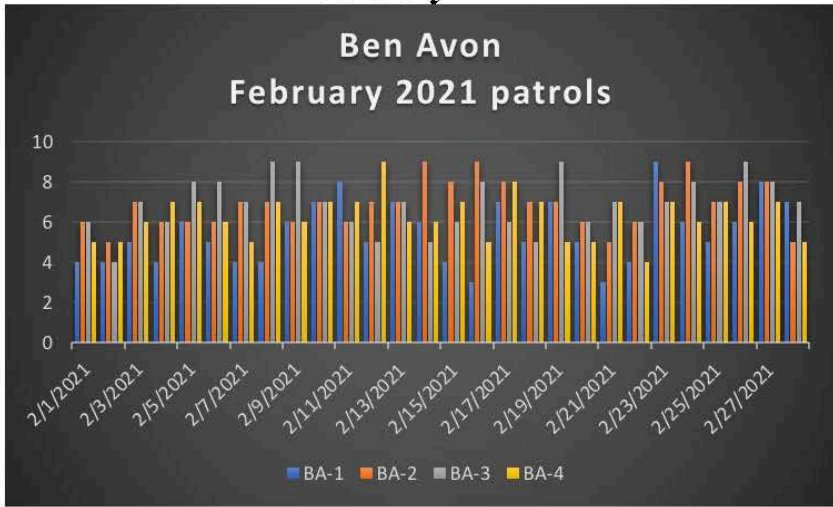
Office
(412) 259-8304

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(412) 473-3056

OHIO TOWNSHIP
POLICE DEPARTMENT
Established 1803
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania
126 Lenzner Ct, Sewickley, Pa. 15143

**Ben Avon Patrols
February 2021**



BA-1 154
BA-2 193
BA-3 193
BA-4 175

TOTAL = 715



March 12, 2021

Ben Avon Council
Ben Avon Borough
7101 Church Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15202

Subject: Monthly Code Enforcement, Zoning, and Building Permit Report.

Dear Council,

The following are updates on action items since the previous Council meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

New complaints being investigated:

None

Ongoing investigations/Citations:

308 Spruce Run Road – Trash, Vehicles

09.11.20	Notice sent allowing for 30 days remediation for removal of trash and vehicle.
10.16.20	Reinspection scheduled for 10.26.20.
11.13.20	Reinspection took place on 10.26.20. Portions of property were cleaned, but not everything. Citation filed with Magistrate.
12.11.20	Citations open; monitoring for scheduling
01.15.21	Magisterial Hearing scheduled for 02.02.21.
02.12.21	Magisterial Hearing rescheduled to 03.10.21.
03.12.21	Magisterial Hearing held on 03.10.21. Judge continued for 60 days to allow for remediation completion.

Engineering & Surveying

100 Courson Hill Road
Washington, PA 15301
T: 724-503-4125

Office@HarshmanLLC.com

www.HarshmanLLC.com

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Codes & Zoning

2455 Park Ave
Washington, PA 15301
T: 724-993-4505

Permits@HarshmanLLC.com

135 Laurel Avenue

Property was inspected on 03.11.21. The property failed due to a missing smoke detector.

225 Park Avenue

Property was inspected on 03.11.21. Three (3) Units passed. Three (3) Units failed due to an improper washer/dryer hookup, missing smoke detectors, and missing/non-functioning bedroom fixture.

BUILDING & ZONING PERMITS

Building Permits:

1. 8625 Church Avenue – Interior Renovations

Zoning Permits:

None

Please contact our office at any time with questions.



Jarrod D'Amico, BCO
Director of Codes and Zoning



Randy McCray, CZO
Code & Zoning Technician

cc: File 19.159

