



# Borough of Ben Avon

## Council Meeting

Minutes

July 20, 2021

The Borough of Ben Avon Council met in a regular voting session on Tuesday, July 20, 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, Megan Dolan, Ken Opiery, Kara Roggenkamp, David Stoeckle, Rick Wagner

Others Present: Solicitor Anne Sweeney, Ohio Township Police Chief Hanny, Intern Jaclyn Karolski, Joint Planning Commission Representatives Christen Cieslak and Catherine Houska, and Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*There was no public participation.*

### **BOROUGH REPORTS**

Mayor's Report – *there was no report*

Ohio Township Police Report – *See Attachment "A"*

Chief Hanny reported 50 calls this month, nothing of note. He recently received notification of the second of four shutdowns on Interstate 79, which will occur August 13-16. More information of detour routes will be forthcoming.

Ben Avon Fire Company Report

*No report was submitted this month and no representative present, in violation of previous agreement*

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Anne Sweeney requested an Executive Session to discuss contract matters.

Joint Planning Commission – *See attachment "B"*

Mrs. Cieslak reported Avalon presented their SALDO at the last Joint Planning Commission meeting, and it was approved. West Penn Hospital had a Conditional Use application that was approved as well. Following a recent inquiry by Ben Avon Council, she reported the JPC does

not have jurisdiction over the current domestic pet ordinance, however, Ms. Sweeney will submit a draft ordinance for their review once it is complete.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** Mr. Casale; **Second:** Mrs. Roggenkamp; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2021, council meeting.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

#### Revenue & Expense Report

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the Revenue & Expense report as presented for the month of June.

#### Accounts Payable

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve Accounts Payable in the amount of \$34,722.13 with the addition of the recent invoice from State Pipe for sewer repairs.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Administration Report/Public Affairs & Communication

Mrs. Bett asked Ms. Karolski to update council with a report.

Ms. Karolski reported she continues to work on the newsletter and hopes to have it complete for distribution by late this month or early August. She is working on the Climate Action plan and renewable energy source recommendations for the Borough, along with educational materials for public distribution. Ms. Karolski stated she is also exploring grant opportunities for the Centennial Building Project. She recently submitted a draft Food Truck ordinance to Ms. Sweeney for her review.

#### Public Safety & Code Enforcement – See attachment C

#### Public Works

Mr. Opiery reported the utilities are finishing their recent work and their contractors will be coming in to restore the roads prior to the beginning of the 2021 paving project. Once restoration is complete, notification can be given to the paving contractor to begin this year's project, which will hopefully fall mid-to-late August. He will ask for a more specific date as things unfold to keep Council and the residents informed.

Mr. Opiery also reported a sanitary sewer issue on lower Forest Avenue, with minor discharge leaking on private property. Borough Public Works are working with Gateway and Alcosan to pinpoint the leak and repair.

Three storm water inlets were reported to Public Works in need of repair. Mr. Opiery stated that Public Works is working on the inlets; two are complete and one remains to be addressed. This drain repair will be completed as weather permits.

Mr. Opiery also stated that West View Water continues to refuse to recognize the Borough ordinance on street reparations. Mr. Regrut refused a subcontractor ready to repair a spot on Church Avenue as they were not following the guidelines in the ordinance.

#### Quaker Valley COG

Mr. Wagner referenced the executive report from COG Executive Director Patrick Conner, received for both June and July and included in this month's packet. *See attachment D*

He noted that the five-year refuse and recycling bids are due this week, the traveling glass dumpster is available for residents and the regularly scheduled meeting with delegates is tomorrow, July 21.

#### Centennial Building Committee

Mr. Wagner stated Ms. Karolski continues to explore grant opportunities. The committee is working on ways to collect and document donations for the project. He further reported the two surveys are complete on lead paint and asbestos, and a general survey of the property. Mr. Connor, Executive Director QV COG, had some input on CBDG grant opportunities for next summer.

#### Climate Action Plan

Mrs. Roggenkamp stated that a complete draft of the Climate Action Plan was sent to all members of Council. As the Plan is quite lengthy, she suggested they review the summary section and Chapter 4 and respond with any comments. Mrs. Roggenkamp hopes to give an in-depth presentation at the next working meeting, which would be August 8. She would like to have Council members staff a table at the Fall festival to meet with residents and answer any questions including those on the CAP. Ms. Karolski forwarded some information to Council today on renewable energy and she contacted PSAB for more information on their program that provides energy resources.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Fall Festival

Mrs. Bett reiterated that she would like to see the table at the Fall Festival and hopes members of Council would be willing to man the table and meet with residents.

**OLD BUSINESS** – *There was no old business.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** Mr. Wagner; **Second:** Mr. Stoeckle; **Motion Carried** to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session at 7:57 p.m.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** Mr. Wagner; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion Carried** to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the regular Council meeting at 8:29 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Mr. Wagner; **Second:** Mr. Opiery; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Patsch  
Borough Secretary

