



# Borough of Ben Avon

Council Work Session

May 2, 2023

The Borough of Ben Avon Council met in a work session meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, virtually and at 7101 Church Avenue. President Richard Wagner presided and opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL**

Council Members Present: Jennifer Bett, Russell Kuehner, Ken Opiery, Jim Thornton, Richard Wagner, Tavia Washington, Melanie Hughes-Holcomb

Council Members Absent: Kara Roggenkamp

Others Present: Solicitor Daniel Conlon, Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – *there was no public participation.*

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Administration Committee - there was no report this month.

Public Affairs – there was no report this month.

### Finance

Mr. Opiery reported that the Borough was the recipient of a sum of money as part of a settlement of a class action suit in California between the city of Long Beach and Monsanto relating the PCB's. Mr. Opiery stated that some of the planned sewer work will be a good use for these funds.

### Public Safety

Solicitor Conlon outlined several options for ongoing problems with properties in the Borough on both Park Avenue and Laurel. The Council discussed the next steps and will bring code enforcement into the discussion before deciding on an action plan.

### Public Works

Mr. Pipery noted that the planned paving project is projected to begin in early June. He also reported that the sewer lining on Forest Avenue will be started this Thursday. The next step in that process will be the County retesting again for leakage. Mele and Mele also won the bid for Avalon's road work, and Public Works will coordinate the repairs to the shared roads with them in this year's project.

Community of Governments – there was no report this month.

Sustainability – there was no report.

### Special Projects

Centennial Building Project – nothing new to report.

## **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

### JPC Request for Comments on the fence, walls and screening amendment

Mr. Wagner requested the Council members forward any questions or comments on the proposed changes directly to the JPC.

### Appointment of a President Pro Tempore

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Bett; **Motion Carried** to appoint Mr. Pipery as President Pro Tempore for the upcoming meeting on May 16 as the Council President and Vice President will be unavailable.

## **ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** Ms. Bett; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting to executive session at 7:55 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** Mr. Pipery; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting from executive session and return to the general meeting at 8:57 p.m.

## **ADMOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Bett; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Patsch  
Borough Secretary