



Borough of Ben Avon

Council Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2023

The Ben Avon Borough Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, virtually and at 7101 Church Avenue for the purpose of transacting General Business. President Richard Wagner presided and opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Richard Wagner, Vice President Jennifer Bett, Russell Kuehner, Ken Opiery, Kara Roggenkamp, Jim Thornton, Mayor Melanie Holcomb

Absent: Tavia Washington

Others Present: Solicitor Weston Pesillo, Ohio Township Police Chief Hanny, Emsworth Fire Chief Jim Kohl, JPC (Joint Planning Commission) Representative Chris Cieslak, Public Works Foreman Dale Regrut, Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – *there was no public participation.*

BOROUGH REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Following a request from Representative Venkat at his recent open house event, Mayor Holcomb stated she is gathering items to be displayed at the new Representative's local office. She also reported that she has been in contact with the County Controller, and he has been invited to attend a future meeting to discuss grant opportunities.

Mayor Holcomb stated she continues to work with the Communication Committee to consider website providers and options for presentation to the Council and is assisting with the completion of the latest edition of the Ben Avon Bulletin.

Ohio Township Police – see attachment A

Chief Hanny reported 65 calls this month, including several vehicle accidents and several citations. He reviewed the information on the upcoming road work on 79 and the planned traffic rerouting.

Emsworth VFC – see attachment B.

Chief Kohl reported 38 calls in the month, with two in Ben Avon.

Solicitor's Report

Atty. Pesillo forwarded the draft lease to Northwest EMS. He provided a resolution to the Borough for the sale of the fire rescue truck, which will be voted on this evening. As of this time, there has been no feedback from the Bellevue Fire Company concerning the recently signed agreement. Ms. Patsch will reach out to the Bellevue Fire Chief to see where the process stands.

Joint Planning Commission (JPC)

Ms. Cieslak reported the newly elected officers of the JCP; Michael Kurela, Chair; Chris Cieslak, Vice Chair; Elizabeth Kelly, Secretary. She also reported the one vacancy representing Avalon has been filled. The next meeting is February 27.

MINUTES

Council Meeting January 17, 2023

MOTION: Ms. Bett; **SECOND:** Mr. Thornton; **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes as presented of January 17, 2023.

Council Work Session February 7, 2023

MOTION: Ms. Roggenkamp; **SECOND:** Mr. Kuehner; **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes as presented of February 7, 2023.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Revenue & Expenditure Reports

Mr. Opiery stated that there is no revenue & expenditure report to vote on as the December report is currently in draft form until the closing of the 2022 books and the final accruals of the previous year's expenses that were booked in 2023.

Resolution 2023-01 – 2023 Tax Rate

Motion: Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by voice vote to approve Resolution 2023-01 setting the tax rate for the Borough for 2023 at 4.92 mils.

Accounts Payable

Mr. Opiery noted a payment to Gateway for inspection services on the Brighton Road retaining wall. He reported the initial payment for the wall contract has been made as reflected on the Accounts Payable report, with a balance of \$19,000 due once all items are complete. Mr. Regrut is waiting for a price on the fence installation, which was not included in the original agreement, but discussed at the last meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Opiery; **SECOND:** Mr. Thornton; **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote to approve the accounts payable report for Ben Avon Borough authorizing payments for January 2023 in the amount of \$247,230.44 .

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration Committee

Ms. Bett stated the Administration Committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow, February 22.

Public Affairs/Communications

Ms. Bett reported the newsletter is in the final stages prior to going to print and requested that everyone get any additional information submitted as soon as possible.

She also stated the Committee has narrowed the web design proposals down to two companies, and the committee will review the cost with each. She hopes to have the final recommendation at next month's meeting.

Public Safety – see attachment D.

Mr. Wagner reported that approval was given to Harshman to cite property owners that have not responded to several requests for rental inspections as required by ordinance every three years. He noted that Harshman continues to work with the property owner at 225 Park to gain access for inspection based on recent complaints. He also responded to the Emsworth Fire Marshall who recently inquired about offering his services in the Borough, and suggested he attend an upcoming meeting to answer questions of the Council.

Public Works

Mr. Opiery reported that Mr. Regrut finalized the sale of the fire rescue truck with a winning bid on Municibid of \$10,001.00.

MOTION: Mr. Opiery; **SECOND:** Mr. Thornton; **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote to sell the fire rescue vehicle to the highest bidder at \$10,001.00, Mr. David Nyce.

Mr. Pipery then reviewed the recent request by Allegheny County for the Borough to pass several resolutions regarding the transfer of three sewers. As there were questions concerning the references in the provided examples, this vote will be tabled at next month's meeting.

Mr. Pipery then presented information to the Council on a street sweeper that has been the subject of recent discussions in council meetings. After exploring other alternatives, outsourcing, renting, etc., Mr. Pipery recommended the purchase of the Borough's own equipment. This would enable staff to sweep when needed at any time and be on a regular schedule to maintain the roads and sewer system.

MOTION: Mr. Thornton; **SECOND:** Mr. Kuehner; **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote to authorize purchase of a street sweeper, Tymco 025-E22-402, for the COSTARS price of \$215,330.00.

QV Council of Governments - see attachment E.

Mr. Wagner reported that Waste Management has resumed glass recycling in the weekly pickup and at this time the COG sponsored centers will remain open for residents.

Sustainability – *no report this given.*

Ms. Roggenkamp was pleased to report that she had a reply from Nick Bibby from Duquesne Light and the future bills should be adjusted to reflect the recent street lighting upgrades and energy savings.

Special Projects

Centennial Building Project

Ms. Cieslak reported Phase I of the project, the roof and window replacement, is on track to begin in June and continue into July of 2023. Phase II of the project, which is the elevator shaft, would be financed through other grants. One of these required another estimate which was submitted several weeks ago.

NEW BUSINESS – *there was no new business*

OLD BUSINESS – *there was no old business*

EXECUTIVE SESSION – *there was no executive session.*

OTHER BUSINESS

Avon Club Meeting

Ms. Cieslak noted the upcoming Avon Club New Member meeting is on March 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:; Mr. Pipery; **SECOND:** Mr. Thornton; **MOTION CARRIED** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Patsch
Borough Secretary

ATTACHMENT A

2/08/2023

Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes

OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE
1/01/2023 THROUGH 1/31/2023
For Municipality: 05

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<u>CODE</u>	<u>JAN COUNT</u>	<u>YTD COUNT</u>
0501 - ALARM - RESIDENCE	1	1
0637 - THEFT - UNDER \$50 - FROM BUILDINGS	1	1
1150 - FRAUD - CREDIT CARDS, ATM	2	2
2112 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE-ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED	1	1
2450 - HARASSMENT	2	2
2647 - PFA-PROTECTIVE ORDERS	6	6
3100 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	1	1
3400 - MENTAL HEALTH	3	3
3502 - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	1	1
3820 - DISABLED VEHICLE	2	2
3840 - FIRES (INCLUDING ALARMS-FOUNDED/UNFOUND)	1	1
3850 - HAZARDOUS CONDITION/NOT SNOW RELATED	1	1
3855 - ROAD DEPARTMENT CALL OUT	4	4
3870 - MEDICAL EMERGENCY/ ASSIST AMBULANCE	8	8
3880 - OPEN DOORS/WINDOWS - DISCOVERED	2	2
3900 - TRAFFIC & PARKING PROBLEMS	3	3
4022 - SUSPICIOUS PERSON	3	3
5008 - LOST & FOUND - LOST ARTICLES	1	1
5506 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - STRAY ANIMALS	2	2
6006 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING INJURY	1	1
6008 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING NONINJURY	2	2
7010 - POLICE NOTIFICATIONS/INFO	8	8
7504 - ASSIST OTHER AGENCIES - OTHER POLICE	1	1
CITT - TRAFFIC CITATION	5	5
CITW - WARNING	2	2
CKWE - WELFARE CHECK	1	1
	<u>65</u>	<u>65</u>

ATTACHMENT B

7:28


FILE_8181

Done

Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company

Emsworth, PA


This report was generated on 2/6/2023 7:27:49 PM



Basic Incident Info for Incident Type
Incident Type(s): All Incident Types | Start Date: 01/01/2023 | End Date: 01/31/2023

Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
01/01/2023	2023-1	230000132	4306 O.R.B.	Car accident into a wall helped with clean up and traffic control. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/01/2023	2023-2	230000192	224 Hazelwood Ave	Assist EMS. Dispatched & Cancelled PD on scene with EMS no need for fire. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/01/2023	2023-3	230000289	65 north	car into a building helped with traffic and clean up. Also helped with making sure the building was safe for the owner of the building. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/03/2023	2023-4	230000903	213 Allegheny Ave	Fire Alarm due to a bad de	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/03/2023	2023-5	230000961	249 Lincoln Ave	Fire Alarm. Dispatched & Cancelled Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/04/2023	2023-6	230001292	646 Grandview Ave	Natural Gas smell inside the building. Gas stove was left on helped with venting Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/04/2023	2023-7	230001083	633 Orchard ave	Fire Alarm. 108 on scene with a small fire in the basement apartment. Helped with putting out the fire and venting the building. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/04/2023	2023-8	230001297	17 Herron Ave	Fire Alarm due to water line breaking inside the building. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/08/2023	2023-9	230002229	400 Cliffside Manor	Car accident. PD on scene no need for fire just a guy sleeping in his car in the middle of the road. Dispatched & Cancelled. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/10/2023	2023-10	230003020	1841 California Ave	Fire Alarm due to bad cook Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/10/2023	2023-11	230003032	176 N. Balph ave	Poss. Fire nothing found Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/11/2023	2023-12	230003140	28 Pittsburgh St	Fire alarm due to people working on the alarm. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/12/2023	2023-13	230003544	Old Camp Horne rd	Tree across the road helped cut the tree up and reopened the road Kilbuck	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/13/2023	2023-14	230003764	179 North	Tree down nothing found Aleppo	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/15/2023	2023-15	230004374	7219 Church AVE	smell of smoke inside the building nothing found Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/15/2023	2023-16	230004213	613 Ravenswood	House fire called for RIT. Ross.	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/15/2023	2023-17	230004406	186 Allegheny Ave	PD called for a car leaking gas Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/16/2023	2023-18	230004643	549 Marie Ave	Smell of natural gas inside the building. call for the gas company Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/16/2023	2023-19	230004686	30 S. Starr Ave	POSS building fire nothing found Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	

This report is limited to 500 pages. Incidents with more than one narrative will appear on multiple pages. Only REVIEWED incidents included.

**EMERGENCY REPORTING**
emergencyreporting.com
Doc Id: 830
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Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
01/17/2023	2023-20	230004872	1 Windmere DR	Fire alarm company called back with the alarm code. Dispatched and Cancelled Ben Avon Heights	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/17/2023	2023-21	230004909	Dickson Ave	2 car accident helped with traffic and clean up. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/17/2023	2023-22	230004856	Kilbuck St	Passer by saw smoke coming from a house. 101 Chief checked the area. found a house using a wood burner inside the house. Dispatched & Cancelled Glenfield	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/18/2023	2023-23	230005083	201 Gibb St	C.O. Alarm strong smell inside the house. waited for the gas company. Kilbuck	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/18/2023	2023-24	230005297	150 S. Euclid Ave	Crash unknown injuries. 108 on scene no need for fire just EMS. Dispatched & Cancelled	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/22/2023	2023-25	230006337	4200 O.R.B.	one car Accident Rollover Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/23/2023	2023-26	230006384	79 South	one car accident with injuries helped with traffic control. Aleppo	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/24/2023	2023-27	230006645	320 Cliffside MNR	hot water line broke in the basement setting off the alarm turned off the main water and turned over to the building Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/24/2023	2023-28	230006805	668 I 79 south	Accident 101 search 79 nothing found. Dispatched & Cancelled	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/25/2023	2023-29	230006986	16 N. Fremont Ave	Poss. dryer fire 108 on scene no fire holding to 108. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/25/2023	2023-30	230006991	670 I 79 South	Accident rollover 220 on scene holding to 220. Dispatched and Cancelled OT	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/26/2023	2023-31	230007465	53 Center Ave	Fire alarm set off by steam from the shower. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/26/2023	2023-32	230007261	281 Plummer ave	Strong smell of co inside the house. Called for the gas company and they found the furnace leaking gas and red tagged the furnace. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/28/2023	2023-33	230007884	225 Camp home rd	two car accident PD on scene no need for fire only EMS Dispatched & Cancelled Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/28/2023	2023-34	230007980	500 Straw Ave	dispatched for glass on the roadway. Helped with cleaning the road Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/28/2023	2023-35	23007972	Lincoln Ave	two car accident no injuries. Helped with traffic and clean up. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/29/2023	2023-36	23008053	646 Grandview Ave	Fire alarm due someone pulling a pull station. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/30/2023	2023-37	230008506	4276 O.R.B.	Accident Helped with clean up and traffic control. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
01/31/2023	2023-38	230008589	Deer Run RD	Poss. accident with injuries PD on scene no need for fire the truck has been sitting on the side of the road all day. Dispatched and cancelled Glenfield	148 - Emsworth VFC	

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February 13, 2023

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

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

Dear Council,

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT

NEW INVESTIGATIONS:

225 Park Ave – Prop Maintenance

A notice of violation was written requesting an interior inspection per IPMC section 104.3 of the 2009 International Property Maintenance Code, which the Borough adopted on March 17, 2010. On 02.09.23 apartments 3 and 4 were inspected, as permitted by the tenants.

231 Dalzell Ave – Rental Inspection

A Citation was filed for failure to schedule a rental inspection.

6702 Shaffer Pl – Rental Inspection

A Citation was filed for failure to schedule a rental inspection.

237 Park Ave – Rental Inspection

A Citation was filed for failure to schedule a rental inspection.

241 Alder Dr – Rental Inspection

A Citation was filed for failure to schedule a rental inspection.

7408-7410 Perrysville Ave – Rental Inspection

A Citation was filed for failure to schedule a rental inspection.

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

QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
343 Eicher Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
412-766-7458 | www.qvcog.org



Executive Director's Report – February 2023

GIS Workshop – On Thursday, February 16th at 11:00 a.m. the QVCOG in partnership with Civic Mapper will be conducting a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) workshop which will be open to all who are interested in learning more about this increasingly helpful tool. A newly generated map focusing on road ownership will be demonstrated along with helpful GIS training opportunities on the ESRI platform. The in-person workshop will take place at the Sewickley Public Library (500 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143).

Mobile Fingerprint Scanner Agreement - The QVCOG was recently awarded a shared mobile fingerprint scanner by the PA Chiefs of Police Association. A requirement of the program is approval of an intergovernmental agreement outlining the device usage and sharing policy. Through the program, the device must be hosted by a specific site. In this case, the Edgeworth Borough Police Department has agreed to host the device and has completed the associated paperwork required by the PA Chiefs of Police Association. In the coming weeks participating departments and municipalities will be provided with a draft agreement for review/approval. The mobile fingerprint scanner requires a cellular connection and software maintenance package totaling \$1,025 annually. The QVCOG has budgeted accordingly and will pay for the required services in 2023.

Glass Recycling Update – Residents within QVCOG member communities participating in the Waste Management (WM) waste and recycling contract may now recycle glass within their curbside recycling programs. This change implemented by WM is effective immediately. A WM illustration offering further guidance regarding the single stream recycling program is available upon request. As a reminder, QVCOG residents may still utilize the two glass recycling dumpsters located in Sewickley Borough and Avalon Borough.

Important Dates

February 15, 2023 – LGA Municipal Intern Program Application Deadline

February 15, 2023 – QVCOG Board of Delegates Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Aleppo Township Building

February 16, 2023 – GIS Workshop – 11:00 a.m. – Sewickley Public Library

February 16, 2023 – QVCOG Board of Delegates Social Hour – 6:00 p.m. – Lincoln Ave. Brewery

February 22, 2023 – QVCOG Managers and Secretaries Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m. Aleppo Township Building