



## **Borough of Ben Avon**

### **Council Meeting**

#### **Minutes**

**October 18, 2022**

The Borough of Ben Avon Council met in a regular voting session on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 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**

Council Members Present: Richard Wagner, Jennifer Bett, Russell Kuehner, Ken Opiery, Kara Roggenkamp, Jim Thornton, Tavia Washington

Others Present: Mayor Melanie Hughes-Holcomb, Solicitor Weston Pesillo, Ohio Township Police Chief Joe Hanny, Emsworth Fire Company Chief Jim Kohl, JPC Representative Christen Cieslak, Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

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

#### **BOROUGH REPORTS**

##### Mayor's Report

Mayor Holcomb thanked the Emsworth Fire Company for a job well done at their recent fire awareness event.

In planning for Halloween, the Mayor reported that she was not able to secure the Avonworth marching band this year due to scheduling conflicts but hopes to work something out for next years' event. She asked council members for volunteers to fill candy bags and asked both the police and fire chief for their assistance with the parade. Emsworth Fire Company will head up the parade and Ohio Township police will follow participants at the end of the parade.

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

Chief Hanny reported 49 calls in Ben Avon this month. He noted there would be another road closure on I79 northbound this evening.

Mr. Wagner asked Chief Hanny to clarify what, if any, involvement Ohio Township Police have had in the past of complaints of roaming cats. Chief Hanny stated that officers had passed out flyers and copies of the domestic animal ordinance and spoke to residents concerning these complaints. He stated that many of the stray cats are being fed by a resident. Mr. Wagner stated

there are not a lot of options for the Borough to address this problem, and Mayor Holcomb said she would forward information on a TNR (tag, neuter, release) program to President Wagner.

Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company Report – See Attachment “B”

Chief Kohl reported three calls in the Borough this month. He stated that their participation in the Fall Festival seemed to go well.

Solicitor’s Report – Executive Session requested to discuss potential litigation

Joint Planning Commission

Ms. Cieslak stated there will be an informational session on October 26 via zoom with representatives from General Code. In addition, she noted:

- The proposal to codify zoning estimate is around \$8,000.
- JPC shared all estimated expenses for 2023 budget planning.
- JPC received municipalities’ comments on the pending ordinances, with the next step to go to Allegheny County before they open to public comments.
- One Avalon representative stepped down from serving on the commission.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

September 20, 2022, Council Meeting

**Motion:** Ms. Bett; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the September, 20, 2022, council meeting.

October 4, 2022, Council Work Session Meeting

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2022, council work session as presented.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Revenue & Expense Report

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the financial statement for the month of September, 2022, as presented.

Accounts Payable

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the Accounts Payable report and the paying of invoices in the amount of \$73,296.90.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Administration Report

Ms. Bett thanked Council members for their assistance during the Fall Festival. Mayor Holcomb reported that several residents stated they did not receive a copy of the most recent newsletter, but upon review, she cannot identify any problem with the mailing list. Mr. Kuehner stated he will meet with the Borough Secretary this coming week to review questions on the proposed fee schedule.

### Public Affairs & Communications

Ms. Bett reported she is awaiting a proposal from a web development company. She also recently reached out to the Pitt graduate program for web assistance, however, has not yet received a response.

### Public Safety – See Attachment “C”

Mr. Wagner referred to the code enforcement report received from Harshman this month. Ongoing efforts to improve communications and record keeping with Harshman appear to show improvement. Mr. Wagner continues to work with the property owner of the temporary fence on Church and Breeding to reach a resolution.

### Public Works

Mr. Opiery reported that the paving project scheduled for this Fall has been postponed until Spring of 2023. He asked the Borough Secretary to mail letters to those residents affected by the change, and the Borough will again notify them when the project is rescheduled. In the meantime, sewer work will take place on Walnut Road, and patching of some of the roads will be done soon. Mele will assist with those repairs that will ensure the roads to be in good repair for the winter months.

The wall repair on Brighton Road is awaiting utility pole relocation in the coming week.

Mr. Opiery also stated the Public Works crew has started leaf collection for the year. He said they had a limited number of responses for the full-time Public Works position and would like to explore other avenues to search for potential candidates.

### Community of Governments

Mr. Wagner reported the annual COG dinner was well attended, and donations were accepted for a local food bank. He stated there was a budget meeting last week, and the delegate meeting will be tomorrow.

### Sustainability

Ms. Roggenkamp stated the committee has not recently met; however, she continues to work on the Borough Hall energy information. Mr. Thornton asked the Council to please respond to the request to sign Act 101 letter to the state in a request to renew and standardize recycling laws.

### Special Projects

#### Building Project

Mr. Wagner reported two bids were received for Phase I of the building renovations. Each bidder provided several options. At this point they are unsure if the roof needs repairs or replaced and it will have to be evaluated. Ms. Roggenkamp would like to have the Council consider upgrading the insulation as budget permits.

### Avon Park Enhancements

Mr. Wagner referenced a list generated by the park survey which was available on the Borough website. He would like to have input from the Public Works perspective. Mr. Wagner hopes to send a list and letter to Kilbuck Township supervisors with the ideas for proposed enhancements and request a meeting to begin the process of using the money donated by the pipeline company and earmarked for those park improvements.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Verizon Cell Tower

Mr. Wagner reported he recently received contact through a third party that Verizon is interested in placing a 5G tower in the Borough. He suggested that the representative may want to attend an upcoming work session meeting to discuss plans and answer questions.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Ordinance 792 – Tax Act 57

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Washington; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to advertise the upcoming vote on Ordinance 792 in *The Citizen*.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### The Citizen

Ms. Connie Rankin addressed the Council and shared that at the end of 2022, *The Citizen* will no longer have a printed copy format and will be strictly digital. With the requirement by the state that legal advertising must be in a printed copy of record, she will not be able to provide legal advertising for the municipalities. As we are approaching budget season, she wanted to alert the Council that the cost of legal advertising for the Boroughs will increase substantially and will need to be factored into the budgeting process. She thanked Council for their continued support of the paper.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - *pending litigation*

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss potential litigation.

**Motion:** Mr. Kuehner; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by voice vote to return to regular session at 8:45 p.m.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Ms. Bett; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Terrie Patsch*

Borough Secretary

ATTACHMENT A



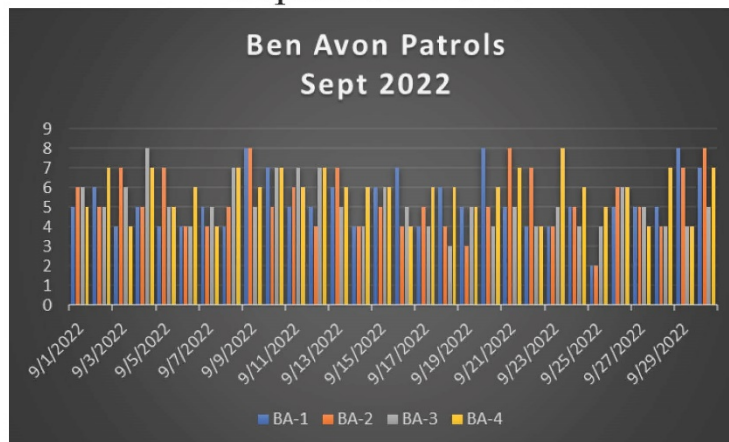
## OHIO TOWNSHIP

POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Established 1803*

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania  
126 Lenzner Ct, Sewickley, Pa. 15143

### BEN AVON PATROLS FOR September 2022



BA-1 158  
BA-2 159  
BA-3 154  
BA-4 174

TOTAL 645

10/13/2022

## Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes

OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE  
9/01/2022 THROUGH 9/30/2022  
For Municipality: 05

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<u>CODE</u>	<u>SEPT COUNT</u>	<u>YTD COUNT</u>
0501 - ALARM - RESIDENCE	0	12
0503 - ALARM - BUSINESS	0	7
0614 - THEFT-\$200 & OVER-FROM AUTO (EXCPT 0615)	0	2
0624 - THEFT-\$50 TO \$200-FROM AUTO (EXCPT 0625)	0	1
0644 - THEFT-ATTEMPTED-FROM AUTO (EXCEPT 0645)	0	3
1100 - FRAUD	0	6
1150 - FRAUD - CREDIT CARDS, ATM	1	1
1190 - FRAUD-ALL OTHER(FLIM FLAM, CONFIDENCE	0	1
1410 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF TO AUTOMOBILES	0	1
1430 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - PUBLIC BUILDINGS	0	1
1490 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - REPORTS	0	1
1531 - WEAPONS - POSSESSION - FIREARMS	0	1
1810 - DRUG VIOLATIONS	0	1
1841 - NARCOTICS-USE-MORPHINE, HEROIN, CODIENEC	0	1
2020 - OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY-CHILD ABUSE	0	2
2112 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE-ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED	1	3
2122 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE - DRUGS-IMPAIRED	0	1
2300 - PUBLIC DRUNKENESS	1	2
2400 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT	0	3
2440 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT-DISTURBING THE PEACE	1	4
2450 - HARASSMENT	0	3
2626 - FALSE FIRE ALARM	1	8
2633 - DUMPING	0	1
2634 - FIRE CODE (ORDINANCE VIO.)	0	1
2640 - ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS	0	8
2647 - PFA-PROTECTIVE ORDERS	0	2
2656 - THREATS	0	1
2720 - DOG LAW (1ST OFF. & STATE CIT)	0	2
2810 - TWP ORD-ABANDONED VEH (INCLUDING STATE)	1	1
2811 - CURFEW LAW (JUVENILE) - MALE	0	1
2812 - CURFEW LAW (JUVENILE) - FEMALE	0	1
2910 - LOST/MISSING PROPERTY	0	1
3100 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	0	1
3400 - MENTAL HEALTH	0	5
3502 - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	0	5
3600 - DISTURBANCES-DOMESTIC	2	11
3800 - SERVICE CALL-MISCELLANEOUS	0	1
3820 - DISABLED VEHICLE	3	14
3840 - FIRES (INCLUDING ALARMS-FOUNDED/UNFOUND)	0	6
3850 - HAZARDOUS CONDITION/NOT SNOW RELATED	1	3
3855 - ROAD DEPARTMENT CALL OUT	0	16
3860 - LOCKOUTS (VEHICLE/BLDG)	0	9
3870 - MEDICAL EMERGENCY/ ASSIST AMBULANCE	9	60
3880 - OPEN DOORS/WINDOWS - DISCOVERED	4	22
3885 - POST NO PARKING SIGNS	2	4
3900 - TRAFFIC & PARKING PROBLEMS	1	26
4010 - TRAFFIC OFFENSES	0	1
4012 - GAS LEAKS & EXPLOSIONS	0	6
4016 - PEDESTRIAN CONTACTS	0	1



10/13/2022

## Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes

OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE  
9/01/2022 THROUGH 9/30/2022  
For Municipality: 05

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<u>CODE</u>	<u>SEPT COUNT</u>	<u>YTD COUNT</u>
4020 - SUSPICIOUS AUTO	3	14
4022 - SUSPICIOUS PERSON	1	8
4024 - WATER LEAKS, MAINS, ETC.	0	10
4026 - WIRES AND POLES DOWN	1	9
4027 - TREES DOWN	0	13
4090 - OTHER REPORTS	0	1
4091 - CIVIL DISPUTES	0	4
5002 - LOST & FOUND - FOUND ANIMAL	0	1
5004 - LOST & FOUND - FOUND ARTICLES	0	2
5006 - LOST & FOUND - LOST ANIMAL	1	4
5008 - LOST & FOUND - LOST ARTICLES	0	1
5014 - LOST & FOUND - MISSING ADULT FEMALES	1	2
5504 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - DOG BITES	0	1
5506 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - STRAY ANIMALS	0	4
5510 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - INJURED/SICK	0	6
5590 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - REPORTS	1	10
6004 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING PROPERTY DAMA	0	1
6006 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING INJURY	0	2
6008 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING NONINJURY	2	14
6310 - TRAFFIC POST	0	1
6312 - TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT - WARNINGS	0	2
6390 - TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT-REPORTS	0	2
6602 - TRAFFIC RELATED-IMPOUNDED VEHICLE	0	2
6603 - TRAFFIC RELATED -ABANDONED VEHICLE	0	4
6610 - TRAFFIC RELATED - MOTORIST AID	0	4
6612 - TRAFFIC RELATED-SIGNALS-SIGNS OUT	1	4
6614 - TRAFFIC RELATED - CARELESS DRIVER	2	15
7010 - POLICE NOTIFICATIONS/INFO	6	16
7016 - FOLLOW UP INFORMATION	0	4
7090 - PUBLIC SERVICES-REPORTS	0	2
7094 - FOOT PATROL	0	7
7504 - ASSIST OTHER AGENCIES - OTHER POLICE	0	7
9002 - ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES	0	1
9008 - ADMINISTRATIVE - CLERICAL	0	3
911 - 911-HANG UP	0	2
CITT - TRAFFIC CITATION	2	52
CITW - WARNING	0	32
CKWE - WELFARE CHECK	0	11
WARR - WARRANT	0	1
	<hr/> 49	<hr/> 554

AT&amp;T LTE

7:37 AM

96%

Done

3 of 3



## Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company



Er  
Th 1 of 2 10/1/2022 7:37:16 AM

Bas Incident Type

Incident Type(s): All Incident Types | Start Date: 09/01/2022 | End Date: 09/30/2022

Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
09/01/2022	2022-237	220064193	I 79 north	Accident PD on scene no need for fire. Glenfield	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/04/2022	2022-238	220065144	Memorial DR	containment detail from an accident. And helped with traffic control Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/05/2022	2022-239	220065419	6830 Prospect Ave	Tree and wires down onto the house. And some structure collapse from the tree. Blocked the area Off. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/07/2022	2022-240	220065935	I 79 South	Semi roll over. Helped with traffic control. Aleppo	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/09/2022	2022-241	220066375	304 S. Birmingham Ave	C.O. alarm helped checked the house out and with venting. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/11/2022	2022-242		75 N. Jackson Ave	Residential Fire. 108 on scene holding to 108 only. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/12/2022	2022-243	220067014	841 California ave		148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/13/2022	2022-244	220067379	Lincoln Ave	Crash with no injuries. 108 on scene no need for fire. Dispatched and cancelled Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/14/2022	2022-245	220067544	206 Fisk Ave	Fire alarm. homeowner called back with proper code dispatched and cancelled. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/15/2022	2022-246	220067919	7 Laurel Village	Fire alarm. bad smoke head inside the house. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/16/2022	2022-247	220068330	28 Banbury Ln	Natural gas smell inside the house helped with venting and turning the stove off. Ben Avon Heights	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/18/2022	2022-248	220068791	737 California Ave	Fire alarm. no reason for the alarm going off. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/19/2022	2022-249	220069007	8238 Ohio River Blvd	Fire on the 3rd floor of the house. Helped with putting the fire out and venting fire was contained to the bedroom on the 3rd floor. ACFM was called in for investigation on how the fire started. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/19/2022	2022-250	220069065	8200 O.R.B.	Dispatched for smoke in the area. Searched the area nothing found. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/20/2022	2022-251	220069149	1 Windmere Rd	Fire alarm. owner called back with proper code dispatched & Cancelled. Ben Avon Heights	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/21/2022	2022-252	220069637	171 Center Ave	Stand By Station to cover 108. 108 was on a working house fire in westview. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/22/2022	2022-253	220069831	7600 Brighton rd	Tracker trailer hit a pole making the bend on the road. 148 helped PD with traffic and getting the road reopened. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/22/2022	2022-254	220069718	79 North	one car accident. Helped with EMS and traffic. Glenfield	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.

Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
09/23/2022	2022-255	220070136	O.R.B	Two car accident helped with traffic and containment. One person taken by EMS Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/24/2022	2022-256	220070321	802 Center Ave	Oven fire. fire was out when fire units got on scene. used fans to vent the house. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/25/2022	2022-257	220070731	156 Straw Ave	Accident car into a pole. 108 on scene holding to 108 only. Dispatched & Cancelled Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/27/2022	2022-258	220071149	300 Union Ave	Fire Alarm. 103 on scene no need for fire set off by people working inside the building. Dispatched & Cancelled Avlon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/27/2022	2022-259	220071194	79 North	Dispatched & Cancelled accident on the wrong side of the bridge. Neville	148 - Emsworth VFC	
09/30/2022	2022-260	220072039	65 Mckinnie ave	2 Houses on fire. Helped with overhaul and putting out hot spots. Stowe	148 - Emsworth VFC	

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October 10, 2022

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:

###### **221 Alder Drive – Property Maintenance**

Property was inspected for property maintenance violations on 09.21.22. A notice of violation was sent on 09.23.22 allowing for 10 days remediation. Notice was received on 09.26.22. Reinspection scheduled for 10.11.22

##### ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS/CITATIONS:

###### **100 Laurel Avenue – Overgrown Tree**

Property was inspected for an overgrown tree violation on 08.25.22. A notice of violation was sent on 08.26.22 allowing for 10 days remediation. Notice was received on 08.29.22.

**10.10.22** The property was reinspected on 09.14.22. The violations are remediated, and the item will be closed.

###### **249 Division Street – Property Maintenance**

Property was inspected for property maintenance violations on 08.30.22. A notice of violation was sent on 08.09.01.22 allowing for 10 days remediation. Notice was received on 09.07.22.

**10.10.22** The property was reinspected on 09.20.22. The violations are remediated, and the item will be closed.

##### 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

**243 Alder Drive – Property Maintenance**

Property was inspected for property maintenance violations on 07.12.22. A notice of violation was sent on 07.18.22 allowing for 30 days remediation. Property posted on 08.29.22 allowing for 30-days remediation after certified notice returned to code enforcement.

**10.10.22** A Citation was filed on 10.07.22. Further action requires a plea to be entered.

**11 Laurel Village - Grass**

Property was inspected for overgrown grass. Notice received on 06.07.22 allowing for 10 days remediation. Property to be reinspected after 06.17.22. A Citation was filed on 07.13.22 for the open violations.

**10.10.22** Citation remains open with the magistrate.

**MAGISTERIAL HEARINGS**

No hearings this month.

**RENTAL INSPECTIONS****PASS**

1. 113-115 Monitor Avenue
2. 7404-7406 Perrysville Avenue
3. 206 Courtney Way
4. 121 Ridge Avenue
5. 7183 Ohio River Boulevard
6. 215 Berringer Place
7. 6830 Ricker Court

**FAIL**

1. None

**BUILDING & ZONING PERMITS****BUILDING PERMITS**

1. No new permits this month.

**ZONING PERMITS**

1. Zoning review for Building Permits.

Please contact our office at any time with questions.



Jarrod D'Amico, BCO  
Director of Codes and Zoning



Randy McCray, CZO  
Lead Code Technician

cc: File 19.159

