



Council Meeting
Minutes
November 14, 2023

The Borough of Ben Avon Council met in a regular voting session on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, and at 7101 Church Avenue for the purpose of transacting General Business. Council President Pro Tempore Kenneth Opipery opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Russell Kuehner, Kenneth Opipery, Jim Thornton, Tavia Washington (7:15 PM)

Council Members Absent: Jennifer Bett, Kara Roggenkamp, Rick Wagner

Others Present: Mayor Melanie Holcomb, Ohio Township Police Sargent Beck, Solicitor Daniel Conlon, and Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – *there was no public participation.*

BOROUGH REPORTS

Borough Engineer Report

Gateway Engineers Ashley Neptune and Ryan Berner shared information pertaining to the increasing requirements of MS4 and the recommended options for the Borough to comply with those guidelines.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that the local Girl Scout troop set up a booth to sell cookies on election night in front of the EMS station. She also reported an increase in phishing emails to the Council's email accounts and reminded everyone to be aware.

Mayor Holcomb attended Representative Venkat's recent open house. She asked for volunteers to help decorate the Borough hall on the Sunday after Thanksgiving for the upcoming holiday season.

Ohio Township Police Report – See Attachment A

Sargent Beck reported forty-four calls in the Borough for the month.

Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company Report – See Attachment B

Chief Kohl reported thirty-two calls answered by the volunteer company this month, with three in Ben Avon.

Joint Planning Commission – No report this month.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Conlon had an update for the Council in executive session this evening.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 17, 2023, Council Meeting

Motion: Mr. Kuehner; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2023, Council Meeting as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Revenue & Expense Report

Mr. Opipery reviewed the Revenue and Expense report and noted that the overall status was good and in line with what was earlier predicted.

Motion: Mr. Kuehner; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the financial statement as presented for the month of October 2023.

Accounts Payable Report

Mr. Opipery reviewed the AP Report with nothing out of the ordinary. The funds for the paving payment were withdrawn from the Capital Reserve account, and there was a purchase of a salt spreader and plow for Public Works.

Motion: Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Washington; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$410,117.32.

2024 Proposed Budget

Mr. Opipery reviewed the spreadsheet with the proposed 2024 budget numbers and noted there were no substantial changes to any of the line items.

Motion: Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to advertise the 2024 budget as proposed.

Ordinance 794 – 2024 Tax Rate

Motion: Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Washington; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to advertise Ordinance 794 setting the formula for the 2024 tax rate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration Committee – *no report.*

Public Affairs & Communications – *no report.*

Public Safety – *See Attachment C*

Mr. Opipery stated that data was received for the traffic on Dickson not related to the recent request by a resident for a traffic study. Discussion continued around ideas to address this problem internally, and request the engineers attend an upcoming meeting to discuss their suggestions and improved enforcement prior to a full traffic study.

Public Works

Mr. Opipery stated that the leaf collection has concluded. Mr. Tom Kachinko was called back to assist the crew. He also noted the new leaf loader was a significant improvement in efficiency. They will be reviewing applicants for the Public Works opening soon.

Community of Governments - *See Attachment D*

Ms. Washington noted that flagger certification is being offered to members of the COG, and there will be a Christmas light collection, site yet to be determined.

Sustainability – *no report given.*

Special Projects

Centennial Building Committee – *no report given.*

NEW BUSINESS

2024 Meeting Schedule

The discussion is tabled until next month.

Proposed Noise Ordinance

The Borough Solicitor provided the Council with a proposed noise ordinance. The review of the old ordinance found it to be outdated compared to other municipalities. The updated ordinance was presented for discussion, however there will be no vote at this time. Any action once the ordinance is finalized will follow the process of publishing, and public comment. Mr. Thornton noted that seventy decibels is the level where impairment begins. Ms. Roggenkamp would like to review other municipality ordinances prior to next month's meeting. Mr. Opiery stated the ordinance will be under review.

OLD BUSINESS – *there was no old business to discuss.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION – *executive session to discuss contracts.*

Motion: Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Washington; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session at 8:53 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Kuehner; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting to Regular Session at 9:22 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Washington noted the upcoming Avon Club house tour and expressed concerns about the safety of visitors walking along Route 65 during the event.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Washington; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Putsch

Borough Secretary

Attachment A

11/9/2023

Call Service Report Grouped by Ucr codes

OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE
10/01/2023 THROUGH 10/31/2023
For Municipality: 05

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CODE	OCT COUNT	YTD COUNT
0490 - ASSAULT - REPORTS	0	1
0501 - ALARM - RESIDENCE	1	10
0503 - ALARM - BUSINESS	0	3
0534 - ATTEMPTED FORCIBLE ENTRY-NONRES.-NIGHT	1	1
0617 - THEFT-\$200 & OVER-FROM BUILDINGS	0	1
0619 - THEFT-\$200 & OVER-ALL OTHER	0	1
0624 - THEFT-\$50 TO \$200-FROM AUTO (EXCPT 0625)	0	1
0637 - THEFT - UNDER \$50 - FROM BUILDINGS	0	1
0644 - THEFT-ATTEMPTED-FROM AUTO (EXCEPT 0645)	0	2
0710 - MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT-AUTO	0	1
0810 - SIMPLE PHYSICAL ASSAULT	0	1
1100 - FRAUD	0	2
1150 - FRAUD - CREDIT CARDS, ATM	0	4
1410 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF TO AUTOMOBILES .	0	3
1490 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - REPORTS	0	2
1810 - DRUG VIOLATIONS	0	3
1841 - NARCOTICS-USE-MORPHINE, HEROIN, CODIENEC	0	1
1890 - NARCOTICS - REPORTS	0	1
2000 - OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY & CHILDREN	0	1
2020 - OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY-CHILD ABUSE	0	2
2110 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE ALCOHOL/DRUG	1	1
2112 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE-ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED	0	6
2300 - PUBLIC DRUNKENESS	0	1
2410 - HARASSMENT BY COMMUNICATION	0	4
2440 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT-DISTURBING THE PEACE	1	6
2450 - HARASSMENT	0	6
2460 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT-OBSCENE LANGUAGE	0	1
2626 - FALSE FIRE ALARM	0	4
2634 - FIRE CODE (ORDINANCE VIO.)	1	1
2640 - ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS	0	6
2647 - PFA-PROTECTIVE ORDERS	0	8
2656 - THREATS	0	5
2660 - TRESPASSING OF REAL PROPERTY	0	1
2720 - DOG LAW (1ST OFF. & STATE CIT)	0	3
2800 - TWP ORD-SOLICITING	1	1
2911 - RUNAWAY - INCORRIGIBLE -MALE (JUVENILE)	0	1
3100 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	2	4
3400 - MENTAL HEALTH	1	14
3500 - SUSPICIOUS PERSONS	0	1
3502 - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	1	12
3600 - DISTURBANCES-DOMESTIC	1	10
3610 - DISTURBANCES-JUVENILE	0	4
3620 - DISTURBANCES-OTHER (FIGHTS, DEPUTES, ETC)	0	2
3800 - SERVICE CALL-MISCELLANEOUS	1	1
3820 - DISABLED VEHICLE	1	19
3840 - FIRES (INCLUDING ALARMS-FOUNDED/UNFOUNDED)	0	2
3850 - HAZARDOUS CONDITION/NOT SNOW RELATED	1	12
3855 - ROAD DEPARTMENT CALL OUT	0	5
3860 - LOCKOUTS (VEHICLE/BLDG)	1	2

11/9/2023

Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes

OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE
10/01/2023 THROUGH 10/31/2023
For Municipality: 05

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CODE	OCT COUNT	YTD COUNT
3870 - MEDICAL EMERGENCY/ ASSIST AMBULANCE	3	75
3880 - OPEN DOORS/WINDOWS - DISCOVERED	0	11
3885 - POST NO PARKING SIGNS	1	7
3900 - TRAFFIC & PARKING PROBLEMS	3	30
4010 - TRAFFIC OFFENSES	1	2
4012 - GAS LEAKS & EXPLOSIONS	0	4
4020 - SUSPICIOUS AUTO	1	8
4022 - SUSPICIOUS PERSON	1	18
4024 - WATER LEAKS, MAINS, ETC.	0	3
4026 - WIRES AND POLES DOWN	0	9
4027 - TREES DOWN	0	7
4091 - CIVIL DISPUTES	0	5
5002 - LOST & FOUND - FOUND ANIMAL	0	1
5004 - LOST & FOUND - FOUND ARTICLES	1	2
5008 - LOST & FOUND - LOST ARTICLES	0	3
5012 - LOST & FOUND - MISSING JUVENILE MALE	0	2
5502 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - BARKING DOGS	0	1
5506 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - STRAY ANIMALS	1	7
5510 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - INJURED/SICK	3	6
5590 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - REPORTS	2	12
6004 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING PROPERTY DAMA	0	4
6006 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING INJURY	0	3
6008 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING NONINJURY	1	10
6310 - TRAFFIC POST	0	8
6312 - TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT - WARNINGS	0	3
6390 - TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT - REPORTS	0	1
6602 - TRAFFIC RELATED -IMPOUNDED VEHICLE	0	3
6603 - TRAFFIC RELATED - ABANDONED VEHICLE	0	6
6605 - DIRTBIKES/OFF ROAD VEHICLES	0	1
6612 - TRAFFIC RELATED - SIGNALS-SIGNS OUT	0	5
6614 - TRAFFIC RELATED - CARELESS DRIVER	2	12
6690 - TRAFFIC RELATED SERVICES - REPORTS	0	1
7010 - POLICE NOTIFICATIONS/INFO	1	40
7016 - FOLLOW UP INFORMATION	0	1
7090 - PUBLIC SERVICE - REPORTS	0	1
7092 - ROUTINE PATROL COMPLETED	0	68
7504 - ASSIST OTHER AGENCIES - OTHER POLICE	0	2
7506 - ASSIST OTHER AGENCIES - ALL OTHERS	0	1
9008 - ADMINISTRATION - CLERICAL	0	1
911 - 911-HANG UP	0	1
CITT - TRAFFIC CITATION	6	48
CITW - WARNING	2	43
CKWE - WELFARE CHECK	0	10
WARR - WARRANT	0	1
	44	672

8:02



FILE_1193



Done

Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company

Emsworth, PA

This report was generated on 11/13/2023 8:01:48 PM



Basic Incident Info for Incident Type

Incident Type(s): All Incident Types | Start Date: 10/01/2023 | End Date: 10/31/2023

Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
10/01/2023	2023-370	230083171	8315 Ohio river blvd.	car into the pole helped with traffic and clean up. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/01/2023	2023-371	230083360	300 union Ave	fire alarm. 103 on scene holding to 103/108. dispatched and cancelled. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/02/2023	2023-372	230083733	1206 Broadway ave	Poss house on fire. 275 on scene no need for fire. dispatched and cancelled. Stowe	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/04/2023	2023-373	230084399	146 Gass Rd.	Fire Alarm home owner called in alarm going off from cooking. Dispatched and cancelled. ROSS	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/04/2023	2023-374	230084396	100 S. Jackson Ave	Person stuck in the elevator. Helped with getting the person out of the elevator. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/04/2023	2023-375	230084343	O.R.B.	2 car accident helped ems and traffic control and clean up. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/05/2023	2023-376	230084771	323 S. Home Ave	person stuck inside a elevator 103 on scene with the person out of the elevator no need for fire. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/05/2023	2023-377	230084614	8228 Ohio river blvd.	two car accident. Helped with clean up and traffic control. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/07/2023	2023-378	230085317	148 Davis Ave	Natural gas smell inside the house. Helped with checking the house found a leak on the hot water heater. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/07/2023	2023-379	230085179	904 Gray st	Poss. house commercial fire. 277 on scene nothing showing holding to 277. Dispatched and cancelled. McKees Rocks	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/10/2023	2023-380	230086258	111 S. ohio st	smell of gas inside the house. checked the house nothing was found. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/11/2023	2023-381	230086456	N. Fremont Ave	Accident 108 on scene holding to 108. Dispatched and cancelled. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/12/2023	2023-382	230086769	156 East Beaver St	fire alarm due to bad smoke head. talked to the owner no need for fire. Dispatched and cancelled. Glenfield	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/12/2023	2023-383	230086816	1015 O.R.B.	accident in front of the Wendys. PD on scene no need for fire dispatched and cancelled. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/15/2023	2023-384	230087660	6605 Virginia ave	CO alarm inside the house. checked the house and found a bad CO head told homeowner to get a new one. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/15/2023	2023-385	230087676	1216 Vine St	poss. commercial fire. alarm company called back saying set off by burnt food. Dispatched and cancelled. McKees Rocks	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/17/2023	2023-386	230088100	216 S. Home Ave	2 car accident helped with clean up and traffic control. Avalon	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.



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Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
10/17/2023	2023-387	230088121	Kendalle Ave	car accident 108 on scene holding to 108. Dispatched and cancelled. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/17/2023	2023-388	230088311	715 Broadway ave	House fire helped with searching the house and putting the fire out. Stowe	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/18/2023	2023-389	230088451	O.R.B	car accident searched the area nothing found. dispatched and cancelled. Glenfield	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/18/2023	2023-390	230088644	4501 O.R.B.	3 car accident helped with clean up and traffic control. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/20/2023	2023-391	23009159	O.R.B.	2 car accident PD on scene no fire needed. Dispatched and cancelled. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/23/2023	2023-392	230089953	79 North	Automatic vehicle crash notification. 148-L searched the area nothing was found. Dispatched and cancelled. Glenfield.	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/23/2023	2023-393	230090102	1 Forest Ave	caller reporting 2 boats free floating heading towards the emsworth dam. 205 found the boats in the back channel. Helped with searching for the boats on the land. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/23/2023	2023-394	230090184	841 California Ave	CO alarm inside one of the apartments checked the building found a bad co alarm told the owner to buy a new alarm. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/24/2023	2023-395	230090250	841 California Ave	Natural gas smell inside the apartment building. found natural gas inside the building cleared the building out and called for the gas company. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/25/2023	2023-396	230090789	4575 O.R.B.	Accident into a pole 108 on scene holding to 108 until EMS arrived on scene. Dispatched and cancelled. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/25/2023	2023-397	230090796	460 Lincoln Ave	Fire alarm 108 on scene nothing showing holding to 108. Dispatched and cancelled. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/26/2023	2023-398	230091206	631 Taylor Ave	Fire Alarm. alarm company called back with proper code. Dispatched and cancelled. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/30/2023	2023-399	230092413	O.R.B.	2 car accident with entrapment helped with cutting one person out of the car also helped with clean up and traffic control. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/31/2023	2023-400	230092716	205 Harrison ave	Fire alarm inside the house. Alarm company called back with proper code. Dispatched and cancelled. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
10/31/2023	2023-401	230092771	W. Riverview Ave	2 car accident helped with traffic control and clean up. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	

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November 13, 2023

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:

7098 Church Ave- Rental Inspection

A notice was sent certified and noncertified on September 18, 2023. The property owners did schedule an inspection. All units passed. Violations appear to be remediated.

401 Walnut Rd- No Permits

A stop work order was sent on September 9th. Citations are being filed as no applications have been submitted as of 11/13/23.

ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS/CITATIONS:

McCurdy PI (Parcel ID 213-D-118) – Overgrown grass

The property was inspected on 05.16.23 for overgrown grass. A notice of violation was sent on 05.18.23 allowing for 10 days of remediation. The notice has not yet been delivered or returned to code enforcement.

07.11.23 Property was posted on 05.24.23. Citations were filed on 07.10.23. Awaiting plea. No update

11 Laurel Village – Overgrown grass

The property was inspected on 05.18.23 for overgrown grass. A notice of violation was sent on 05.18.23 allowing for 10 days of remediation. The property was posted on 05.22.23.

07.11.23 Citations were filed on 07.10.23. Awaiting plea.

09.27.23 Updated pictures, no remediation has taken place.- No update

225 Park Ave – Prop Maintenance

A notice of violation was written requesting an interior inspection per IPMC section 104.3 of the 2009

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

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.

07.11.23 Code Enforcement was sent an application for an administrative search warrant, which is in process.

07.18.23 - Conducted an interior inspection of the general areas and unit 6 following a search warrant. a notice of violation will follow. The notice was sent on July 21, 2023. The violations remain and no contact has been made since the delivery of the NOV on July 24, 2023. Citations are being filed. 09.27.23 – Filed citations on 9.13.23- the new hearing is scheduled for 1/10/23.

221 Alder Dr – Rental Inspection

A Citation was filed for failure to schedule a rental inspection. Code Enforcement attended a magisterial hearing on 04.26.23. The property owner did not appear and was found guilty of failure to submit to a rental inspection. The property failed a rental inspection on 05.17.23 for rubbish and interior surface repair. 07.11.23 Monitoring remediation progress. The hearing is scheduled for 11/21/23.

7219 Perrysville Ave – Overgrown weeds

The notice was sent certified and noncertified to the property owners on 7.12.23. The notice was delivered on 7/19/23. Citations have been filed on 8.3.23 as violations remain. Awaiting plea. The property owner pleaded guilty on 11/6/23. The 30-day reinspection is scheduled for 12/8/23 for daily citations.

RENTAL INSPECTIONS

PASS

1. 118 Monitor
2. 7098 Church Ave

FAIL

1. 118 Monitor
2. 221 Alder Ave

BUILDING & ZONING PERMITS

BUILDING PERMITS

1. 6937 Prospect Ave – Deck and Interior Renovations – Approved
2. 221 Ridge Ave – EV Charger - Approved

ZONING PERMITS

1. 106 Dickson Ave- Replacement of the existing fence- Approved
2. 7219 Perrysville Ave - Internal and External Remodeling- Approved
3. 7501 Church Ave- Illuminated Digital Monument Sign- Zoning response sent 11/3/23.

Please contact our office at any time with questions.



Jarrod D'Amico, BCO
Director of Codes and Zoning



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



Executive Director's Report – November 2023

Flagger Certification Training - The QVCOG would like to remind member communities and their Public Works Departments that the organization will again be partnering with Optimus Risk Services to provide a flagger certification training. This year's event will take place on December 14, 2023 at **8:00 a.m.** at the Aleppo Township Public Works Garage (100 North Drive Sewickley, PA 15143). Please note, the previously announced start time was 10:00 a.m. Attendees will receive a 3-year flagger certification upon completion of the course. Interested participants may receive a registration form by contacting Executive Director Conners via email (pconners@qvcog.org).

Act 152 Award – The QVCOG is proud to announce that it was selected for an Act 152 grant for its application on behalf of Bell Acres Borough. The Act 152 Program provides funding for demolition and blight remediation planning. The selected project involves the demolition and site restoration of 109 North Avenue. The total grant award is \$29,500.00.

Christmas Light Recycling – Michael Brothers Hauling has invited QVCOG member communities to participate in their "Christmas Light Recycling Program". This initiative not only helps keep countless stands of lights out of landfills, but also supports WTAE-TV and Salvation Army's Project Bundle Up. All proceeds raised from Michael Brothers' recycling efforts go directly to Project Bundle Up, making a meaningful impact during the holiday season. Communities interested in hosting one of the collection bins (approximate measurements are 42" x 24") should send an email to pconners@qvcog.org no later than Friday, November 10th. Michael Brothers Hauling will collect the bins when full.

Managers and Secretaries Holiday Lunch – On December 6th the annual QVCOG managers and secretaries luncheon will take place at **11:00 a.m.** at the Aleppo Township Municipal Building. At its most recent meeting the group selected Chick-fil-A as the food option. The anticipated menu is set to include a chicken nugget tray, a mac and cheese tray, and their "famous" lemonade & iced tea. Anyone planning to attend with dietary restrictions should send an email to pconners@qvcog.org. This gathering will take place of the November and December meetings.

LGA Newly Elected Officials Course – In an effort to prepare the incoming group of elected leaders in our region, Local Government Academy is again offering its Newly Elected Officials Course. The Newly Elected Officials Course is the most comprehensive training program offered to local government officials – it covers the basics, elevates best practices, and builds relationships. This offering has become a trusted resource for training public officials in the practice of good governance and typically sells out quickly. Registration for the Course begins on November 8th at localgovernmentacademy.org.