

Borough of Ben Avon
7101 Church Avenue, Ben Avon, Pennsylvania, 15202
Minutes – Regular Council Meeting – May 18, 2010

Council Members Present

Rob Galbraith, Dan Herchenroether, Judy Konitsney, Lloyd Corder, Rich White, Brian Tokar

Council Members Absent

Sue Weiss

Others Present

Bob Jones, Mayor

Chuck Means, Solicitor

Carmella Hallstein, Borough Secretary

Call to Order

Council President Lloyd Corder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Participation

Jane Angelini of 7008 Church Avenue addressed council about the Air Toxic Guidelines used by the Allegheny County Health Department, which are over twenty years old. She stated that the guidelines had not been updated even though several municipalities, including Ben Avon, adopted resolutions in 2009 supporting revisions. Mrs. Angelini asked council to send a letter to the Allegheny County Health Department urging them to expedite this process.

Celia Hermankavich of 525 Union Avenue, Avalon, PA addressed council about a summer work program for school age children age 14 or older from Holy Family Institute. The children would be supervised by Holy Family Institute staff members with a minimum required ratio of one staff person for every six children. The program would be funded with a Workforce Investment Act grant so the only cost to the borough would be for materials used.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Herchenroether; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2010 and May 4, 2010 council meetings.

Engineer's Report - report by Ed McGee, Borough Engineer

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to charge Columbia Gas Company \$3,500 in lieu of the street opening permit fee to cover costs to the borough for coordination and inspection of waterline replacement work for the Perrysville Avenue reconstruction project.

Financial Report – report by Judy Konitsney

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the April 2010 financial reports as presented.

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. Tokar; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the May 2010 accounts payable reports as presented with the exception of the Easton Telecom Services invoice in the amount of \$493.16. Mr. White abstained from the vote.

Motion: Mrs. Konitsney; Second: Mr. White; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to release \$5,000 of the money received from Kilbuck Township for fire protection to the Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Company, with stipulations as specified in the Agreement for Fire Service Capital Expenditure Funding.

Intergovernmental Cooperation Report

No Report

Administration Report

No Report

Public Works / Building and Property Report

No Report

Public Safety Report – *report by Mike Dufresne, Emergency Management Coordinator*

Property Maintenance and Code Enforcement

No Report

Public Affairs – *report by Rich White*

Mayor’s Report – *report by Bob Jones, Mayor*

Police Chief’s Report

No Report

Solicitor’s Report – *report by Chuck Means, Borough Solicitor*

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mrs. Konitsney; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to urge Port Authority to eliminate idling and dwell time of buses, while in Ben Avon Borough, that are using the bridge detour routing and to further urge Port Authority to reimburse the borough for any damage caused to the detour streets by Port Authority buses.

Fire Chief’s Report – *Report by Gary Buckman, Fire Chief*

New Business

Handicap Parking Space

A request for a handicap parking space at 105 Monitor Avenue was discussed and referred to Mr. Herchenroether for review.

Crosswalk

Mr. Regrut will paint a crosswalk on Church Avenue at Perrysville.

Old Business

Ordinance 746

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Herchenroether; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adopt Ordinance 746, amending Ordinance No. 692, Article I, Section 9, regulating intersections to add a stop sign for southbound traffic on Ridge Avenue at the Intersection of Ridge Avenue and Brighton Road.

Ordinance 742

Mr. Herchenroether stated that he had some comments that should be on record. He stated that he regretted voting to adopt Ordinance 742 because it is unenforceable. Mr. Herchenroether stated that he did not believe the ordinance, which requires prompt notification to authorities of lost or stolen firearms, would prevent crimes and that the punishments were rather severe and perhaps unconstitutional. Mr. Galbraith stated that he felt the ordinance should be repealed based on information provided by the solicitor. Mr. White stated that he wanted it on record that he urged the repeal of Ordinance 742. Further discussion was tabled until next month.

Executive Session

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mr. Herchenroether; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. to discuss legal issues.

Motion: Mr. Herchenroether; Second: Mr. Galbraith; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene to Regular Session at 9:15 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. White; Second: Mrs. Konitsney; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmella Hallstein

Borough Secretary