

BEN AVON BOROUGH

Council Meeting

Minutes

May 18, 2021

The Borough of Ben Avon Council met in a regular voting session on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, virtually and at 7101 Church Avenue for the purpose of transacting General Business. President Jennifer Bett presided and opened the meeting at 7:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present:

Jennifer Bett

Megan Dolan

Henry Casale

Ken Opiery

Kara Roggenkamp

David Stoeckle (8:00 p.m.)

Richard Wagner

Others Present:

Solicitor Anne Sweeney

Chief Joe Hanny, Ohio Township Police

Assistant Chief Jim Rupert, Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Company

Catherine Houska, Joint Planning Commission

Terrie Patsch, Borough Secretary

Stephanie Conley, Administrative Assistant - Government Relations, Alcosan

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – *There was no public participation*

BOROUGH REPORTS

Mayor's Report – *there was no Mayor's Report*

Police Report – *See Attachment A*

Chief Hanny reported 56 calls in the month of April. He stated nothing out of the ordinary, and the investigation into the car chase episode last month continues.

Fire Department – *No report submitted, in violation of previous agreement*

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Sweeney submitted the draft EMS lease for Council's review prior to today's meeting. She also noted that she spoke with Councilman Wagner concerning documentation of fundraising efforts for the Building Centennial Fund.

Joint Planning Commission

Ms. Houska noted the approved minutes for March should have been distributed to Council prior to tonight's meeting. Of note, the Popeye's in Bellevue submitted their development plan, Bellevue appointed two new members to the Commission and they were approved, Avalon offered their engineer and solicitor for this year, and the Starbuck's in Avalon was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Casale; **Second:** Mr. Pipery; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes from the April 20, 2021, Council Meeting.

Motion: Mr. Casale; **Second:** Ms. Dolan; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes from the May 4, 2021 Council Work Session.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Revenue and Expense Report

Mr. Pipery noted on the report as there were no large expenditures last fiscal year due to the pandemic, a large sum of the account has been earmarked for road and sewer repair this year. The Borough Secretary was directed to transfer \$400,000 from Checking to Capital Reserve to cover those expenses. Council approved \$300,000 to repave and for sewer work and \$50,000 for storm sewer repair. What does not get used this fiscal year will apply to next year's plans and keep the Borough from incurring debt.

Mr. Pipery reminded those present that there is a balance in Capital Reserve currently, which was earmarked to cover outstanding liability payments to contractors from the past two years who have repairs to complete. In addition, he noted the expense of \$77,500 to replace the backhoe for Public Works and stated that the borough is on track with revenue. Mr. Pipery also reported an increase in salt deliveries, and a slight increase in Public Works expenses with the hiring of the new laborer. He reminded those participants that contrary to some reports, there is not a surplus of \$800,000 in the Borough accounts.

Motion: Mr. Pipery; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the financial reports as presented in the Statement of Revenue and Expense for the month of April, 2021.

Accounts Payable Report

Motion: Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Wagner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the bills presented in the Accounts Payable report in the amount of \$41,243.60 for the month of April, 2021.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration Committee

Mrs. Roggenkamp reported the Local Government Academy grant to help fund a summer intern in the Borough was approved, and the Jaclyn Karolski will begin her internship on June 1 continuing through August 20. She is scheduled to assist with the Centennial Building Program and the Climate Action Plan.

Motion: Mrs. Roggenkamp; **Second:** Mr. Wagner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the internship as presented.

Public Affairs/Communication Committee

Mrs. Bett reported there have been 126 reported cases of COVID-19 in the Borough with 1 reported death. As the Governor announced leaving the mask mandate in place until the state reaches 70% vaccination rate, all Borough buildings will continue to require visitors to wear masks when entering the buildings.

Public Safety/Code Enforcement Committee – *See Attachment B*

Public Works Committee – *No report given*

QV COG

Mr. Wagner reported the COG's new director has been hired and is in transition to the position. The delegates will not meet this month, and information has been disseminated to the municipalities on the glass recycling program.

Centennial Building Committee

Mr. Wagner reported there was no committee meeting this month, and several estimates were submitted for asbestos evaluation utilizing the Avon Club Grant money. He reports that community interest in the building renovation is strong.

Climate Action Plan

Ms. Roggenkamp reported the Climate Action Plan committee met early in May and they are working on finalizing the report. Ms. Roggenkamp offered to present the finished report at an upcoming Council work session.

NEW BUSINESS – *there was no new business this month*

OLD BUSINESS – *there was no old business this month*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Mr. Casale; **Second:** Ms. Dolan; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a contract matter at 7:24 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Pipery; **Second:** Mr. Wagner; **Motion Carried** by voice vote to resume regular voting session at 8:09 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Pipery; **Second:** Mr. Casale; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terrie Patsch
Borough Secretary

5/13/2021

Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes

OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE
4/01/2021 THROUGH 4/30/2021
For Municipality: 05

ATTACHMENT A

Page 1

<u>CODE</u>	<u>APR COUNT</u>	<u>YTD COUNT</u>
0501 - ALARM - RESIDENCE	0	1
0590 - BURGLARY - REPORTS	0	1
0619 - THEFT-\$200 & OVER-ALL OTHER	1	1
0810 - SIMPLE PHYSICAL ASSAULT	0	1
1100 - FRAUD	2	4
1440 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - ALL OTHERS	0	2
1511 - WEAPONS-USE-FIREARMS	1	1
1810 - DRUG VIOLATIONS	0	1
2020 - OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY-CHILD ABUSE	0	1
2112 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE-ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED	0	1
2300 - PUBLIC DRUNKENESS	0	1
2410 - HARASSMENT BY COMMUNICATION	2	2
2440 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT-DISTURBING THE PEACE	1	2
2626 - FALSE FIRE ALARM	2	5
2633 - DUMPING	0	1
2634 - FIRE CODE (ORDINANCE VIO.)	1	1
2640 - ORDINANCE VIOLATION	0	1
2647 - PFA-PROTECTIVE ORDERS	0	2
2656 - THREATS	0	1
2800 - TWP ORD-SOLICITING	1	3
2810 - TWP ORD-ABANDONED VEH (INCLUDING STATE)	1	2
2900 - LOST/MISSING PERSONS	0	1
3000 - FOUND/RECOVERED PROPERTY	0	1
3100 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	1	4
3310 - ATTEMPTED SUICIDES	0	1
3320 - DOA	0	1
3400 - MENTAL HEALTH	1	2
3502 - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	0	5
3600 - DISTURBANCES-DOMESTIC	2	7
3610 - DISTURBANCES-JUVENILE	0	3
3620 - DISTURBANCES-OTHER (FIGHTS, DISPUTES, ETC)	1	2
3820 - DISABLED VEHICLE	0	5
3840 - FIRES (INCLUDING ALARMS-FOUNDED/UNFOUNDED)	0	1
3850 - HAZARDOUS CONDITION/NOT SNOW RELATED	0	1
3855 - ROAD DEPARTMENT CALL OUT	0	12
3860 - LOCKOUTS (VEHICLE/BLDG)	0	2
3870 - MEDICAL EMERGENCY/ ASSIST AMBULANCE	6	28
3880 - OPEN DOORS/WINDOWS - DISCOVERED	3	12
3885 - POST NO PARKING SIGNS	2	2
3900 - TRAFFIC & PARKING PROBLEMS	2	8
4012 - GAS LEAKS & EXPLOSIONS	1	1
4020 - SUSPICIOUS AUTO	1	3
4022 - SUSPICIOUS PERSON	2	3
4026 - WIRES AND POLES DOWN	1	2
4027 - TREES DOWN	1	2
4091 - CIVIL DISPUTES	0	1
5002 - LOST & FOUND - FOUND ANIMAL	0	1
5012 - LOST & FOUND - MISSING JUVENILE MALE	0	1
5014 - LOST & FOUND - MISSING ADULT FEMALES	1	1
5504 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - DOG BITES	1	2
5506 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - STRAY ANIMALS	0	1

5/13/2021

Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes

OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE
4/01/2021 THROUGH 4/30/2021
For Municipality: 05

Page 2

<u>CODE</u>	<u>APR COUNT</u>	<u>YTD COUNT</u>
5590 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - REPORTS	1	3
6006 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING INJURY	1	2



May 14, 2021

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

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

Dear Council,

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT

New complaints being investigated:

7008 Church Avenue – Satellite Dish in Front Yard

05.14.21 Notice received 05.15.21 allowing 5 days to show proof of variance for location or relocation of satellite dish.

Ongoing investigations/Citations:

243 Dalzell Avenue – Home-Based Business

04.16.21 Notice of violation sent 04.13.21 for operation of a home-based business that does not meet the Ordinance requirements for No Impact.

05.14.21 Property owner contacted Code Enforcement to discuss the nature of the activity at the property. Will continue to monitor.

308 Spruce Run Road – Trash, Vehicles

09.11.20 Notice sent allowing for 30 days remediation for removal of trash and vehicle.

10.16.20 Reinspection scheduled for 10.26.20.

11.13.20 Reinspection took place on 10.26.20. Portions of property were cleaned, but not everything. Citation filed with Magistrate.

Engineering & Surveying

100 Courson Hill Road
Washington, PA 15301
T: 724-503-4125

www.HarshmanLLC.com

Office@HarshmanLLC.com

Codes & Zoning

2455 Park Ave
Washington, PA 15301
T: 724-993-4505

Permits@HarshmanLLC.com

12.11.20	Citations open; monitoring for scheduling
01.15.21	Magisterial Hearing scheduled for 02.02.21.
02.12.21	Magisterial Hearing rescheduled to 03.10.21.
03.12.21	Magisterial Hearing held on 03.10.21. Judge continued for 60 days to allow for remediation completion.
04.16.21	Magisterial Hearing continued until 05.11.21 to allow for remediation.
05.14.21	Magisterial Hearing moved until 06.08.21

54 Forest Ave – Retaining Wall

04.13.20	Notice sent 04.13.20 allowing for a period to remediate the deteriorating retaining wall.
05.12.20	Reinspection scheduled for 05.13.20
06.15.20	Property posted 05.13.20. Citation to be filed with Magistrate.
07.15.20	Citation filed with Magistrate.
08.12.20	Magisterial Hearing scheduled for 09.02.20
09.11.20	Magisterial Hearing held on 09.02.20. Property owner did not appear.
10.16.20	Appeal period of Magisterial Hearing ended 10.02.20.
11.13.20	Monitoring.
12.11.20	Daily Citations filed with the Magistrates office following the expired appeal period. Magisterial Hearing scheduled for February 2, 2021.
01.15.21	Property owner deceased. Citations cancelled by Magistrate. Had to refile under spouse.
02.12.21	Citations open. Legal representative of property owner contacted Code Enforcement to discuss remediation.
03.12.21	Magisterial Hearing held on 03.10.21. Judge continued for 90 days to allow for property owner council and Borough solicitor to discuss remediation.
04.16.21	Magisterial Hearing continued until 06.08.21 to allow for remediation.
05.14.21	Magisterial Hearing remains scheduled for 06.08.21.

Tallied new complaints investigated are as follows:

- Structures – 0
- Trash / Rubbish / Junk – 0
- Grass / Trees - 0
- Other – 1

MAGISTERIAL HEARINGS

207 Dalzell Avenue

Code Enforcement attended a Civil Hearing for 207 Dalzell Avenue on 04.27.21. The property owner did not appear and was found guilty by the Judge.

RENTAL INSPECTIONS

None



BUILDING & ZONING PERMITS

Building Permits:

1. 151 Irwin Avenue – Generator
2. 154 Irwin Avenue – Solar Panels

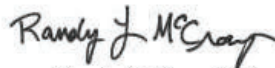
Zoning Permits:

1. 132 Dickson Road – Deck
2. 154 Irwin Avenue – Solar Panels
3. 7105 Woodland Avenue - Deck
4. 6806 Perrysville Avenue - Fence

Please contact our office at any time with questions.



Jarrod D'Amico, BCO
Director of Codes and Zoning



Randy McCray, CZO
Code & Zoning Technician

cc: File 19.159

