



## **Borough of Ben Avon**

### **Council Meeting**

#### **Minutes**

**February 15, 2022**

The Borough of Ben Avon Council met in a regular voting session on Tuesday, February 15, 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 Chief Jim Kohl, JPC Representative Christen Cieslak and Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - *There was no public participation*

#### **BOROUGH REPORTS**

Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company Report – *See Attachment “A”*

Chief Kohl reported 27 calls, six of which were in Ben Avon this past month. He asked Council to consider adding a Knox Box to the Borough buildings to enable emergency access. Chief Kohl provided a sample ordinance and application for members to review and consider.

#### Mayor’s Report

Mayor Hughes-Holcomb stated the suggestion made by Councilman Thornton for a memorial in Avon Park to recognize a recent Ben Avon resident is in the planning stages. A letter was sent to the victim’s family to ask for permission and input.

Ohio Township Police Report – *See Attachment “B”*

Chief Hanny reported 69 calls in the month of February. He also reported the department received grant money to purchase body cameras, and the officers were trained in the use of them last Friday. A FAQ page will be forthcoming on their website. Mayor Holcomb asked for further information that can be provided to residents on the cameras. Mr. Opiery asked that the residents be reminded again not to shovel or blow snow onto the roadways and asked that the officers help to enforce that ordinance.

### Solicitor's Report

Mr. Pesillo reported that the remainder of the funds on the Kilbuck fire service contract were refunded to the township per their request. The Borough is awaiting the signed release from Kilbuck supervisors.

He stated that the Solicitors are in regular contact with Mr. Hauser, counsel for the fire department, and there are items remaining in the building. He requested an executive session this evening.

Mr. Pesillo also reported that the temporary license agreement for hall rental was reviewed and returned to the Borough for any further comments.

### Joint Planning Commission

Ms. Cieslak stated that the drafts of the ordinances for signage, fences/walls, and bars/taverns were circulated for comment. Two Boroughs have not yet responded. Plans to coordinate eCode continue with estimates of cost ranges. A meeting will be held with representatives of the three boroughs to review the options. Ms. Cieslak stated there may be grant money available to cover some of the costs associated with using eCode.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### January 18, 2022, Council Meeting

**Motion:** Ms. Roggenkamp; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2022, council meeting as presented.

### February 1, 2022, Work Session Meeting

**Motion:** Ms. Bett; **Second:** Ms. Washington; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2022, council work session.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

### Revenue & Expense Report

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the final revenue and expense report for 2021.

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Ms. Bett; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the financial statement for January.

### Accounts Payable

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve Accounts Payable in the amount of \$30,630.81. .

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Administration Report

Ms. Bett reported there is a meeting of the Administration Committee next week.

#### Public Affairs & Communications.

Ms. Bett reported Mr. Wagner composed a survey for residents requesting their recommendations for Avon Park improvements. The survey can be found on the Borough website. Sixty residents have responded thus far. She also reminded Council committees to submit their information for the upcoming newsletter, which should be sent out by the end of March/early April.

#### Public Safety – See Attachment “C”

Mr. Wagner reported that a recent meeting was held with Mr. Thornton, Mrs. Patsch and a representative from Harshman to improve communications and close gaps in the Borough records.

#### Public Works

Mr. Opiery stated that Mr. Regrut has had difficulty obtaining salt from Cargill and asked that the COG delegates approach the subject at their next meeting.

Ms. Roggenkamp stated that she reached out to PAT concerning the bridge in Ben Avon and received a report that the grade on the bridge was a 5, which was fair condition, and there were no structural concerns.

Mr. Wagner reported that the fire company has moved much of the property out of the building, however, there has also been evidence of vandalism. Mr. Thornton asked the Borough's recourse, and if changing the locks should be considered. Mr. Pesillo stated that the move was to be complete by February 14 and recommended a discussion on how to move forward. Mr. Opiery stated that he was concerned for the remaining tenants and their safety.

#### Council of Governments - See Attachment “D”

Mr. Wagner said the glass recycling through the COG will begin in March, with the first deposit site in Sewickley. He would like to see another bin closer to the Borough and is in discussions with Emsworth to see if they would consider hosting a location.

#### Sustainability

Ms. Roggenkamp stated a meeting of the committee will be held next week.

#### Special Projects

Mr. Wagner stated the recent grant of \$200,000 will be used to improve the envelope of the building and will be administered by the QV COG. The final details of the design are pending. Mr. Wagner noted that Ms. Cieslak was instrumental in the application for that grant. In addition, there are other grant funds available to improve the ADA compliance of the building, with the application deadline of March 1 approaching.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Resolution 2022-03**

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Bett; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adopt Resolution 2022-03, enabling the Borough to apply for a state gaming grant and designating Mr. Wagner and Mr. Opiery to execute all documents.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Resolution 2022-04 2022 Tax Rate**

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adopt Resolution 2022-04 2022 Tax Rate.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **Ray Winter, Perrysville Avenue**

Mr. Winter asked that consideration be given to controlling the speed throughout the Borough including the traffic traveling on Perrysville. In addition, he wanted to express his frustration with the communication from the Borough prior to the decertification of the fire company.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION - *for pending potential litigation***

**Motion:** Ms. Bett; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:42 p.m. to discuss potential litigation.

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner **Motion Carried** by voice vote to return to regular voting session at 9:24 p.m.

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Roggenkamp; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Patsch  
Borough Secretary

AT&amp;T 5G E

9:14 AM

68%

Done

6 of 6

## Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company



En  
Thi **1 of 2** 2/1/2022 9:13:58 AM  
Bas nt Type

Incident Type(s): All Incident Types | Start Date: 01/01/2022 | End Date: 01/31/2022

| Incident Date | Incident # | Dispatch Run Number | Address            | Narrative  | Station            | Zone |
|---------------|------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------|------|
| 01/03/2022    | 2022-01    | 220000453           | 8235 O.R.B.        | fire Alarm due someone pulling the pull station. rested the alarm Emsworth   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/07/2022    | 2022-2     | 220001621           | 10 Oxford RD       | Fire Alarm Due to workers working on the house Ben Avon Heights  | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/09/2022    | 2022-3     | 220002224           | 215 Forest Ave     | QRS call dispatched 108 for QRS Ben Avon   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/15/2022    | 2022-4     | 220003686           | 564 Lincoln Ave    | Possible fire nothing found inside the building Bellevue   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/16/2022    | 2022-5     | 220003908           | O.R.B.             | Car into the hill side helped with traffic control Emsworth  | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/16/2022    | 2022-6     | 220003911           | 223 Fisk Ave       | Microwave inside the house Burnt up Avalon   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/17/2022    | 2022-7     | 220004126           | 224 Center Ave     | QRS call cancelled dispatched 108 QRS Emsworth   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/19/2022    | 2022-8     | 220004582           | 825 California Ave | Fire Alarm bad cook Avalon   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/20/2022    | 2022-9     | 220004891           | 337 Camp Horne RD  | Poss. vehicle fire 148 C-1 on scene no need for fire Kilbuck   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/21/2022    | 2022-10    | 220004982           | 8325 O.R.B.        | two car accident helped with traffic and clean up Emsworth   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/21/2022    | 2022-11    | 220005043           | Deer Run RD        | 2 car accident helped with traffic and clean up Glenfield  | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/22/2022    | 2022-12    | 220005299           | 423 Lincoln Ave    | accident called for containment 108 on scene held it to 108 Bellevue   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/23/2022    | 2022-13    | 220005655           | 130 Irwin RD       | C.O. call inside the house furnace was broken no readings of C.O. inside the house Ben Avon  | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/24/2022    | 2022-14    | 220005814           | 673 I79 North      | 3 car accident with injuries helped with traffic / clean up and helped the EMS Ohio Twp.   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/26/2022    | 2022-15    | 220006463           | 7221 Church Ave    | Hanging light on fire PD on scene and put the fire out. Helped with Venting and turning the power off to the light Ben Avon  | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/27/2022    | 2022-16    | 220006757           | 735 O.R.B.         | water leak inside the building that leak on to the stove and made it smoke Avalon  | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/28/2022    | 2022-17    | 220007044           | 225 Park Ave       | Drain pipes where frozen. Workers tried to heat the pipe up with a heat gun catching the pipe and wall on fire. Extinguished the fire and vented the building. AFM was on scene Ben Avon | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/28/2022    | 2022-18    | 220006988           | 225 Park Ave       | Called for water inside the building. Found that the Drain pipes were frozen and backing up told the people living the to contact the owner of the building. Ben Avon                    | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/28/2022    | 2022-19    | 220007075           | 624 West Ave       | Fire alarm cancelled by 108 Bellevue   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |

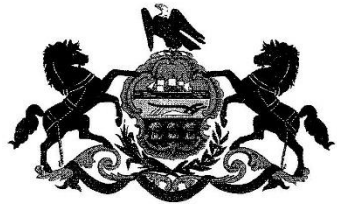
This report is limited to 500 pages. Incidents with more than one narrative will appear on multiple pages. Only REVIEWED incidents included.

| Incident Date | Incident # | Dispatch Run Number | Address          | Narrative   | Station            | Zone |
|---------------|------------|---------------------|------------------|---|--------------------|------|
| 01/29/2022    | 2022-20    | 220007102           | 241 Divison St   | accident 148 C-1 on scene no need for fire just police matter Ben Avon  | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/30/2022    | 2022-21    | 220007410           | 70 north         | Helped with traffic control till tow's came for the car Aleppo          | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/30/2022    | 2022-22    | 220007429           | 37 Grant Ave     | Pos. fire nothing found besides burnt food helped with venting Bellevue | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/30/2022    | 2022-23    | 220007455           | 1 windmere Rd    | Fire Alarm club called back with proper code Ben Avon Heights           | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/30/2022    | 2022-24    | 220007488           | 97 Lowry st      | Searched the building nothing found Emsworth                            | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/30/2022    | 2022-25    | 220007490           | 60 Summer ave    | Fire alarm due to bad cook Bellevue                                     | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/31/2022    | 2022-26    | 220007567           | 300 Union Ave    | Fire Alarm nothing found Avalon   | 148 - Emsworth VFC |      |
| 01/31/2022    | 2022-27    | 220007786           | 520 Roosevelt RD | Car and Garage fire Extinguished fire and overhaul Kilbuck              | 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.



CHIEF OF POLICE  
JOSEPH P. HANNY



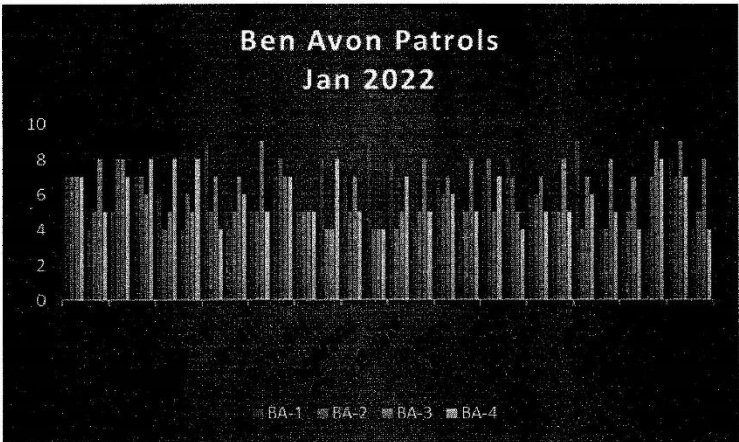
Office  
(412) 259-8304

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OHIO TOWNSHIP  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
*Established 1803*  
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania  
126 Lenzner Ct, Sewickley, Pa. 15143

BEN AVON PATROLS FOR  
JANUARY 2022



BA-1 169  
BA-2 156  
BA-3 190  
BA-4 165

2/10/2022

**Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes**  
**OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE**  
**1/01/2022 THROUGH 1/31/2022**  
**For Municipality: 05**

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| <u>CODE</u>                                     | <u>JAN<br/>COUNT</u> | <u>YTD<br/>COUNT</u> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| 0501 - ALARM - RESIDENCE                        | 2                    | 2                    |
| 0503 - ALARM - BUSINESS                         | 1                    | 1                    |
| 0841 - NARCOTICS-USE-MORPHINE, HEROIN, CODIENEC | 1                    | 1                    |
| 2112 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE-ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED   | 1                    | 1                    |
| 2450 - HARASSMENT                               | 1                    | 1                    |
| 2640 - ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS                     | 2                    | 2                    |
| 2647 - PFA-PROTECTIVE ORDERS                    | 1                    | 1                    |
| 3400 - MENTAL HEALTH                            | 2                    | 2                    |
| 3502 - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES                 | 1                    | 1                    |
| 3600 - DISTURBANCES-DOMESTIC                    | 2                    | 2                    |
| 3620 - DISTURBANCES-OTHER (FIGHTS,DISPUTES,ETC) | 1                    | 1                    |
| 3840 - FIRES (INCLUDING ALARMS-FOUNDED/UNFOUND) | 2                    | 2                    |
| 3855 - ROAD DEPARTMENT CALL OUT                 | 9                    | 9                    |
| 3860 - LOCKOUTS (VEHICLE/BLDG)                  | 1                    | 1                    |
| 3870 - MEDICAL EMERGENCY/ ASSIST AMBULANCE      | 4                    | 4                    |
| 3880 - OPEN DOORS/WINDOWS - DISCOVERED          | 1                    | 1                    |
| 3900 - TRAFFIC & PARKING PROBLEMS               | 4                    | 4                    |
| 4010 - TRAFFIC OFFENSES                         | 1                    | 1                    |
| 4012 - GAS LEAKS & EXPLOSIONS                   | 1                    | 1                    |
| 4016 - PEDESTRIAN CONTACTS                      | 1                    | 1                    |
| 4024 - WATER LEAKS,MAINS,ETC.                   | 1                    | 1                    |
| 4026 - WIRES AND POLES DOWN                     | 1                    | 1                    |
| 4091 - CIVIL DISPUTES                           | 1                    | 1                    |
| 5004 - LOST & FOUND - FOUND ARTICLES            | 1                    | 1                    |
| 5510 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - INJURED/SICK         | 2                    | 2                    |
| 6603 - TRAFFIC RELATED -ABANDONED VEHICLE       | 1                    | 1                    |
| 6610 - TRAFFIC RELATED - MOTORIST AID           | 2                    | 2                    |
| 6614 - TRAFFIC RELATED - CARELESS DRIVER        | 1                    | 1                    |
| 7010 - POLICE NOTIFICATIONS/INFO                | 1                    | 1                    |
| 7016 - FOLLOW UP INFORMATION                    | 1                    | 1                    |
| 7094 - FOOT PATROL                              | 3                    | 3                    |
| 9002 - ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES                    | 1                    | 1                    |
| 9008 - ADMINISTRATIVE - CLERICAL                | 2                    | 2                    |
| 911 - 911-HANG UP                               | 2                    | 2                    |
| CITT - TRAFFIC CITATION                         | 5                    | 5                    |
| CITW - WARNING                                  | 2                    | 2                    |
| CKWE - WELFARE CHECK                            | 2                    | 2                    |
| WARR - WARRANT                                  | 1                    | 1                    |
|   | <u>69</u>            | <u>69</u>            |





February 8, 2022

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

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

Dear Council,

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

#### CODE ENFORCEMENT

##### **NEW INVESTIGATIONS:**

**No new investigations this month.**

##### **ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS/CITATIONS:**

###### **7119 Church Avenue – Work without Permit**

Property was inspected due to the appearance of work without a permit. A Notice of Violation was received on 12.06.21 allowing for 10 days remediation. Property owner contacted Code Enforcement on 12.09.21 to discuss remediation.

**02.08.22** Item to be closed. Work on the premises will continue to be monitored to ensure proper permitting is acquired, as necessary.

###### **7008 Church Avenue – Satellite Dish in Front Yard**

Property was inspected for a satellite dish in the front yard. A Notice of violation was received on 05.15.21 requesting proof of approval. Property owner has been in contact with Code Enforcement to discuss history of property and location of satellite dish. Documents were provided to Code Enforcement to review. Property owner has had ongoing communication with Code Enforcement.

**02.08.22** Property owner provided documentation for the dish on 01.31.22

##### **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

Tallied new complaints investigated are as follows:

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

#### **MAGISTERIAL HEARINGS**

**No hearings this month.**

#### **RENTAL INSPECTIONS**

##### **225 Park Avenue**

Property scheduled for an inspection on 02.11.22. The units are to be reinspected for rental compliance. The area of the premises that had a fire will also be inspected.

##### **PASS**

1. None

##### **FAIL**

1. None

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


##### **Building Permits**

1. No new Building Permits

##### **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  
Code & Zoning Technician

cc: File 19.159



QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
343 Eicher Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
412-766-7458 | [www.qvcog.org](http://www.qvcog.org)



**Executive Director's Report – February 2022**

**GIS Roundtable** - On February 23rd at 11:00 a.m. (immediately following the Managers and Secretaries Meeting) Mr. Matt Mercurio of Civic Mapper will be presenting in partnership with Mr. Aaron Brouse of ESRI on the topic of ready built "GIS Solutions" available through the ESRI platform. Additionally, guests will have the opportunity to engage with the presenters concerning the GIS technical assistance program available through the QVCOG. Anyone interested in this increasingly essential technology is encouraged to attend either in person or virtually.

**GEDTF Grant Award Announcement - Ben Avon Borough Building Renovation** - On January 28, 2022 the QVCOG was awarded a \$200,000 Gaming Economic Development and Tourism Fund Grant by the Commonwealth Finance Authority to assist in the renovation of the Ben Avon Borough Building. The project includes the abatement of asbestos and lead-based paint, replacing the slate roof, replacing the overhead door, and replacing 15 windows to improve energy efficiency, thermal comfort, and security. Member communities may apply through the QVCOG for this annual funding source (deadline typically within the month of October). This Grant has no income requirement.

**Route 65 Presentation** - On January 26, 2022 the QVCOG hosted a presentation conducted by Michael Baker International & the Remaking Cities Institute on the topic of the Route 65 corridor. The presentation was based on a 5-year study and report generated by the aforementioned organizations. A recording of the presentation and ensuing Q&A session as well as a copy of the final report can be accessed by visiting [qvcog.org](http://qvcog.org).

**Proactive Code Enforcement and Zoning Technical Assistance Programs** - During the QVCOG's February Managers and Secretaries meeting (February 23, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.) Mr. Anthony Ascioia & Mr. Chris Rearick will be discussing the Proactive Code Enforcement and Zoning Technical Assistance Programs available through the COG. These programs are currently being used by Emsworth Borough and may provide a solution for any QVCOG member community facing zoning or code enforcement challenges. Those interested in these programs are encouraged to reach out to Executive Director Connors for further information.

**Glass Recycling Update** - The QVCOG is continuing to seek a volunteer municipality to serve as its first host site for a shared 20-yard glass recycling receptacle. The prospective host community can offer its residents convenient access to recycle their glass and will serve as a flag bearer leading our region towards the ever-growing goal of sustainability. The host community will be asked to periodically monitor the dumpster to ensure that the stated rules are being followed and must notify the QVCOG when the vessel needs serviced. Communities interested in hosting this resource are asked to highlight a viable location (central access, lighting, and periodic supervision required) within a letter of interest to the QVCOG no later than March 1, 2022.

**QVCOG Police Chiefs Tour** – On Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> QVCOG area Police Chiefs and other departmental representatives will be touring the new Allegheny County Emergency Services Facility (150 Hookstown Grade Road Coraopolis, PA 15208) from 10:00 a.m. – noon.