



Council Meeting  
Minutes  
December 19, 2023

The Borough of Ben Avon Council met in a regular voting session on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, and at 7101 Church Avenue for the purpose of transacting General Business. Council President Rick Wagner opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Others Present: Mayor Melanie Holcomb-Hughes, Chief Joe Hanny, Chief Jim Kohl, Public Works Foreman Dale Regrut, Solicitor Weston Pesillo, Borough Secretary Terrie Patsch

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

**BOROUGH REPORTS**

Mayor's Report

Mayor Holcomb thanked the Avon Club for another successful house tour. She is also reviewing a handicapped parking permit request, and reviewing current handicapped spaces that may be no longer needed in the Borough.

Ohio Township Police Report – *See Attachment A*

Chief Hanny reported 52 calls in December for the Borough. He noted that fraud complaints are on the uprise and reported that one victim was defrauded for over \$50,000. He stated that communication and education is key in avoiding fraud.

Emsworth Volunteer Fire Company Report – *See Attachment B*

Chief Kohl reported 8 calls in Ben Avon this month. Mayor Holcomb thanked the Fire Company for the Santa stops in the Borough, and stated they are looking forward to next year's visit.

### Joint Planning Commission

Mr. Wagner stated Ms. Cieslak's term on the Commission will end December 2024. The three joint ordinances have gone through the public hearing and comment period and are up for vote this evening. There was a meeting of the Commission last week, and the minutes will be approved in January. Ms. Bett reported there is a new candidate for the representative from Ben Avon, Bruce Hall.

**Motion:** Ms. Bett; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion carried** by voice vote to appoint Mr. Hall to the JPC for a one-year term ending December 31, 2024.

### Solicitor's Report

Mr. Pesillo reported that they prepared tonight's ordinance updating the noise allowances for the Borough. He also presented the addendum for the coffee shop lease for Council's review and vote this evening.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### November 14, 2023, Council Meeting

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2023, meeting as presented.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

### Statement of Revenue & Expense

Mr. Opipery reviewed the Revenue and Expense report and noted that the overall status was good and in line with last year's numbers.

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

### Accounts Payable Report

Mr. Opipery reviewed the AP Report with no expenses out of the ordinary.

**Motion:** Mr. Opipery; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$43,003.68.

### 2024 Budget

**Motion:** Mr. Opipery; **Second:** Mr. Kuehner; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adopt the 2024 budget as advertised and presented.

#### Ordinance 794 – 2024 Tax Rate

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

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Administration Committee – no report.

Ms. Bett thanked Mr. Hall for volunteering to represent the Borough on the Joint Planning Commission.

#### Public Affairs & Communications – no report.

Ms. Bett stated the new website should go live after the first of the year.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Wagner reported there was a recent meeting concerning the police services contract. There is some discussion required in Executive Session this evening, and stated there may be a vote on a contract in January if an agreement can be reached. He noted the costs remain high and increase each year. Mr. Opiery stated that the Council needs to consider the optimum service to sustain safe neighborhoods at the best cost.

#### Public Works

Mr. Opiery commended the Public Works crew for their efforts this leaf season, and felt the Borough did a good job overall of communicating to the residents. Ohio River Boulevard continues to be a problem, with safe collection of leaves and all that would be required including permits, traffic control, etc. The council will continue to work for a solution for that specific area. The Public Works crew has now moved on to snow preparation and reports the dump truck needs repair. Ms. Roggenkamp asked about the status of the leaf loader following the discovery of a manufacturer defect, and Mr. Opiery stated it is in for repair.

#### Community of Governments - See Attachment C

Ms. Washington stated that the Waste Management contract allows for an annual fuel cost adjustment, and there is no increase slated for the new year.

The Redevelopment Assistance Program is open, and the funding round closes on January 12, 2024. The Franchise Fee Cooperative discussed using Cohen Law Group to renegotiate upcoming franchise contract negotiations.

#### Sustainability

Ms. Roggenkamp attended the meeting at the end of November. One item for Get Solar was the number of municipalities joint power purchase agreement to fund larger projects and allow

installation and then pay over time. She was not sure that was the optimum choice for Ben Avon but plans to learn more about the program. Ms. Roggenkamp stated that folks from Connect hope to attend an upcoming council meeting.

### Special Projects

#### Centennial Building Committee

Mr. Wagner reported that Phase 1 was completed, with all but two windows replaced, and a new roof and insulation. The planning and design phase for the elevator project is underway and a team was in the building last week. There is a meeting scheduled on Thursday.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 2024 Avon Club Lease Addendum

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Bett; **Motion Carried** by unanimous vote to approve the 2024 Lease Addendum for the Avon Club.

#### Anchor & Anvil Lease Addendum

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by voice vote to approve a lease addendum for the next three years for the Anchor & Anvil Coffee Shop.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Ordinance 795 – Excessive Noise

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Mr. Opiery; **Motion Carried** by voice vote, with Ms. Bett abstaining, to adopt the ordinance to update the noise standard decibel levels in the Borough.

#### Ordinance 796 – JPC Fences

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Bett; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adopt the joint fence ordinance.

#### Ordinance 797 – JPC Signs

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adopt the joint sign ordinance.

#### Ordinance 798 – JPC Taverns

**Motion:** Ms. Bett; **Second:** Mr. Opiery; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adopt the Joint Planning Commission tavern ordinance.

### 2024 Meeting Schedule

**Motion:** Ms. Bett; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; Motion Carried by unanimous voice vote to advertise the 2024 Council meeting schedule as presented.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – *executive session to discuss contracts.*

**Motion:** Mr. Opiery; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session at 8:13 p.m.

**Motion:** Ms. Bett; **Second:** Mr. Thornton; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting to Regular Session at 10:18 p.m.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### Dickson Avenue Traffic Concerns

Mr. Thornton asked if there was any report on the request by residents for a traffic study following a recent accident. Mr. Opiery reported that Public Works suggested some changes and Gateway will inspect the area without the need for a full study at this time.

### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**Motion:** Mr. Thornton; **Second:** Ms. Bett; **Motion Carried** by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Terrie Patsch*

Borough Secretary

12/14/2023

## Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes

OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE  
11/01/2023 THROUGH 11/30/2023  
For Municipality: 05

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<u>CODE</u>	<u>NOV COUNT</u>	<u>YTD COUNT</u>
0490 - ASSAULT - REPORTS	0	1
0501 - ALARM - RESIDENCE	0	10
0503 - ALARM - BUSINESS	0	4
0534 - ATTEMPTED FORCIBLE ENTRY-NONRES.-NIGHT	0	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	2	4
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	0	1
2112 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE-ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED	0	6
2122 - DRIVE UNDER INFLUENCE DRUGS-IMPAIRED	1	1
2300 - PUBLIC DRUNKENESS	0	1
2410 - HARASSMENT BY COMMUNICATION	0	4
2440 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT-DISTURBING THE PEACE	1	7
2450 - HARASSMENT	1	7
2460 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT-OBSCENE LANGUAGE	0	1
2626 - FALSE FIRE ALARM	4	8
2634 - FIRE CODE (ORDINANCE VIO.)	0	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	0	1
2910 - LOST/MISSING PROPERTY	1	1
2911 - RUNAWAY - INCORRIGIBLE -MALE (JUVENILE)	0	1
3100 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	0	4
3400 - MENTAL HEALTH	0	14
3500 - SUSPICIOUS PERSONS	0	1
3502 - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	1	13
3600 - DISTURBANCES-DOMESTIC	1	11
3610 - DISTURBANCES-JUVENILE	1	5
3620 - DISTURBANCES-OTHER (FIGHTS, DEPUTES, ETC)	1	3
3800 - SERVICE CALL-MISCELLANEOUS	1	2
3820 - DISABLED VEHICLE	0	19
3840 - FIRES (INCLUDING ALARMS-FOUNDED/UNFOUNDED)	0	2
3850 - HAZARDOUS CONDITION/NOT SNOW RELATED	1	13

12/14/2023

**Call Service Report Grouped by Urcodes**  
**OHIO TOWNSHIP POLICE**  
**11/01/2023 THROUGH 11/30/2023**  
**For Municipality: 05**

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<u>CODE</u>	<u>NOV COUNT</u>	<u>YTD COUNT</u>
3855 - ROAD DEPARTMENT CALL OUT	0	5
3860 - LOCKOUTS (VEHICLE/BLDG)	0	2
3870 - MEDICAL EMERGENCY/ ASSIST AMBULANCE	8	83
3880 - OPEN DOORS/WINDOWS - DISCOVERED	0	11
3885 - POST NO PARKING SIGNS	0	7
3900 - TRAFFIC & PARKING PROBLEMS	4	34
4010 - TRAFFIC OFFENSES	0	2
4012 - GAS LEAKS & EXPLOSIONS	0	4
4020 - SUSPICIOUS AUTO	0	8
4022 - SUSPICIOUS PERSON	2	20
4024 - WATER LEAKS, MAINS, ETC.	2	5
4026 - WIRES AND POLES DOWN	0	9
4027 - TREES DOWN	0	7
4091 - CIVIL DISPUTES	0	5
5002 - LOST & FOUND - FOUND ANIMAL	1	2
5004 - LOST & FOUND - FOUND ARTICLES	0	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	8
5510 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - INJURED/SICK	0	6
5590 - ANIMAL COMPLAINTS - REPORTS	0	12
6004 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING PROPERTY DAMA	1	5
6006 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING INJURY	0	3
6008 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING NONINJURY	2	12
6090 - TRAFFIC ACCIDENT - HIT AND RUN	2	2
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	1	7
6605 - DIRTBKES/OFF ROAD VEHICLES	0	1
6612 - TRAFFIC RELATED - SIGNALS-SIGNS OUT	0	5
6614 - TRAFFIC RELATED - CARELESS DRIVER	1	13
6690 - TRAFFIC RELATED SERVICES - REPORTS	0	1
7010 - POLICE NOTIFICATIONS/INFO	1	42
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	55
CITW - WARNING	4	47
CKWE - WELFARE CHECK	0	10
WARR - WARRANT	0	1
	52	727

## Emergency Reporting Fire Company

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2 of 3

3:50:50 PM



### Basic incident info for incident type

Incident Type(s): All Incident Types | Start Date: 11/01/2023 | End Date: 11/30/2023

Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
11/01/2023	2023-402	230092853	7501 Church AVE	Searched the church nothing found. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/01/2023	2023-403	230092881	104 Fisk ave	fire alarm basement smoke head. alarm company called back with proper code. Dispatched and cancelled. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/03/2023	2023-404	230093544	Camp home rd	2 car accident PD on scene called FD to help with traffic and clean up. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/03/2023	2023-405	230093715	400 BLK Woodward	House fire. 277 on scene nothing showing. searched inside the house out burnt food. Dispatched cancelled. McKees Rocks	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/04/2023	2023-406	230093845	300 union Ave		148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/04/2023	2023-407	230093873	300 union Ave	caller reporting smell of electrical burning in the ceiling. Electrical heat panel shorted out in the ceiling turned breaker off to the heater. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/05/2023	2023-408	230094427	322 Camp home rd	accident 148-C1 on scene no need for fire Dispatched and cancelled. Kilbuck	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/06/2023	2023-409	230094691	841 California Ave	Natural gas smell inside the kitchen owner left the stove on. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/07/2023	2023-410	230095013	225 Park Ave	Natural gas smell in the basement of the apartment building. Checked the basement put a fan in the basement to air it out. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/08/2023	2023-411	230095372	342 Olivia St	caller driving by reporting smoke coming from the building. 277 on scene nothing showing holding to 277. Dispatched and cancelled. McKees Rocks	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/10/2023	2023-412	230095921	920 O.R.B.	2 car accident with injuries. one car blocking the middle of the road way one in the parking lot of burger king. Helped with traffic control and clean up. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/10/2023	2023-413	230095976	435 Lincoln Ave	Elevator rescue. 108 on scene no need for fire. Dispatched and cancelled. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/11/2023	2023-414	230096210	364 Spruce run rd	Female fell through the kitchen floor. 108 and 148-C1 pulled her out of the floor. no need for fire dispatch and cancelled. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/11/2023	2023-415	230096250	49 S. Bryant ave	accident 108 on scene holding to 108 dispatched and cancelled. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/12/2023	2023-416	230096336	179 North	1 car accident. 220 on scene one car into the hill holding to 220 for traffic control. dispatched and cancelled. Aleppo	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/12/2023	2023-417	230096463	W. Riverview Ave	2 car accident with injuries. Helped with traffic control. And clean up. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/12/2023	2023-418	230096532	300 union Ave	fire alarm from steam table was dry. helped with setting fans up to clear the smoke out. 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.



Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
11/14/2023	2023-419	230096903	7001 O.R.B.	Fire Alarm Dispatched and cancelled. Homeowner called in with proper code Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/15/2023	2023-420	230097288	21 Avon Drive	C.O. Alarm checked house found a bad C.O. head. told homeowner to replace. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/15/2023	2023-421	230097430	444 Orchard ave	Natural gas smell inside building helped with searching the building. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/16/2023	2023-422	230097773	Chester ave	car accident helped with traffic and clean up. Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/17/2023	2023-423	230098088	1015 O.R.B.	Accident helped with traffic control and clean up Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/18/2023	2023-424	230098338	7151 O.R.B.	car into a pole helped EMS with the guy and did traffic control and clean up. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/19/2023	2023-425	230098731	7008 O.R.B.	Fire Alarm. Homeowner called back with proper code. Dispatched and cancelled. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/19/2023	2023-426	230098649	School st	Large tree across the road helped with cutting the tree up and moving it off the road. Glenfield	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/19/2023	2023-427	230098689	1659 Blackburn Heights Dr	Poss. house fire. 220 on scene nothing showing. Talked with the homeowner no fire. Holding to 220 dispatched and cancelled. OT	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/20/2023	2023-428	230098831	300 union Ave	Fire alarm checked the building and found nothing. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/21/2023	2023-429	230099201	65 South	one car accident into guardrail. one person checked out by EMS. Helped with traffic control until PSP arrived/ clean up. Glenfield	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/22/2023	2023-430	230099603	79 south	accident 220 on scene holding to 220 for traffic control. Dispatched and cancelled. Sewickley Heights	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/23/2023	2023-431	230099651	1001 New Brighton RD	Fire alarm due to burnt food on the stove. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/23/2023	2023-432	230099676	171 Dickson Ave	fire alarm due to homeowner working on the smoke heads. Alarm company called back with proper code. dispatched and canceled. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/23/2023	2023-433	230099695	11 Best Dr.	Tree across the road cut the tree up and reopened the road. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/23/2023	2023-434	230099813	398 Mccoy rd.	Poss. house on fire. 275 on scene no fire or smoke holding to 275. Dispatched and cancelled. Stowe	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/25/2023	2023-435	2300100238	7501 Church AVE	fire alarm checked the church nothing found. reset the alarm. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/26/2023	2023-436	230100563	200 Cliffside MNR	smell of chemical inside the building. Checked the building and found someone using nail polish. Emsworth	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/26/2023	2023-437	230100449	6545 O.R.B.	Water condition from a water main break. Dispatched and cancelled due to no need for fire only the water company. Ben Avon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/26/2023	2023-438	230100575	917 2nd st	Outlet smoking inside the house. 277 on scene no fire holding to 277. Dispatched and cancelled. McKees rocks	148 - Emsworth VFC	

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Incident Date	Incident #	Dispatch Run Number	Address	Narrative	Station	Zone
11/27/2023	2023-439	230100870	1015 Church ave	sparks and fire coming from the stove. 275 on scene no fire or smoke. holding to 275/277. Dispatched and cancelled. McKees Rocks	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/27/2023	2023-440	230100905	19 Locust ST.	Outlet smoking inside the wall. 277 on scene no fire or smoke holding to 277 and the truck. Dispatched and cancelled. McKees rocks	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/28/2023	2023-441	230101088	74 S. Harrison Ave	smell of gas in the basement of the house. 108 on scene holding to 108. Dispatched and cancelled Bellevue	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/28/2023	2023-442	230101174	841 California Ave	Natural gas smell inside the building 103 C-1 on scene holding to 103/108 Dispatched and cancelled. Avalon	148 - Emsworth VFC	
11/29/2023	2023-443	230101267	760 o.R.B.	Possible house on fire. 258 on scene nothing showing. holding to 258. Dispatched and cancelled. Sewickley	148 - Emsworth VFC	

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 – December 2023**

**2024 Fuel Cost Adjustment** – Per the current waste and recycling contract specifications, participating QVCOG member municipalities will permit an annual diesel fuel cost adjustment for garbage and recyclable collection throughout the length of the contract. After conducting the specified calculation and confirming with the WM team, a calculation for the 2024 Fuel Cost Adjustment was conducted with **no increase** being slated for the new year. Please note, the following communities participate in the aforementioned agreement: Aleppo Township, Avalon Borough, Bellevue Borough, Ben Avon Borough, Edgeworth Borough, Emsworth Borough, Glen Osborne Borough, Glenfield Borough, Kilbuck Township, Leet Township, and Sewickley Borough.

**Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program** – The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) is a Commonwealth grant program administered by the Office of the Budget for the design, acquisition, and construction of a regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational, and historical improvement project. RACP projects are authorized in the Redevelopment Assistance section of a Capital Budget Itemization Act, have a regional or multi-jurisdictional impact, and generate substantial increases or maintain current levels of employment, tax revenues, or other measures of economic activity. RACP projects are state-funded projects that cannot obtain primary funding under other state programs. The RACP funding round will open Friday, December 8, 2023. The window will close Friday, January 12, 2024. More information regarding this funding opportunity can be found at [qvcog.org](http://qvcog.org).

**Franchise Fee Cooperative** – In the recent past the Cohen Law Group has represented and worked on behalf of many QVCOG member communities when their franchise fee agreements were near expiration. A major advantage provided by this cooperative is reduced rates charged by the aforementioned firm. The current proposal as outlined commits a 20% discount if 7 or more QVCOG members participate. The proposal also includes a franchise fee audit to determine whether Comcast has paid each of the municipalities all the franchise fee revenue to which they may be entitled. Per the Cohen Law Group, between 2021-23, their firm conducted over 120 franchise fee audits (most of them of Comcast) and found underpayments approximately 65% of the time. Should an underpayment be identified during an audit, the franchise renewal is the best time to collect such underpayments (plus penalties and interest). Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the proposal, etc. please contact Mr. Daniel Cohen via email [dcohen@cohenlawgroup.org](mailto:dcohen@cohenlawgroup.org) or by phone at (412) 447-0130, ext. 110.

**2024 Board of Delegates Meeting Dates and Locations** – In keeping with the current procedure, the QVCOG's Board of Delegates will continue hybrid meetings (both in-person and virtual attendance). Proposed 2024 meeting dates and host locations can be found below (all meetings are set to commence at 7:00 p.m.).

**January 17th** - Sewickley Public Library

**March 20th** - Sewickley Public Library

**May 15th** - Sewickley Public Library

**July 17th** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**September 18th** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**November 20th** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**February 21st** - Sewickley Public Library

**April 17th** - Sewickley Public Library

**June 19th** - Sewickley Public Library

**August 21st** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**October 16th** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**December 18th** - Leetsdale Borough Building

Aleppo Township, Avalon Borough, Bell Acres Borough, Bellevue Borough, Ben Avon Borough, Edgeworth Borough, Emsworth Borough, Glenfield Borough, Glen Osborne Borough, Haysville Borough, Kilbuck Township, Leet Township, Leetsdale Borough, Sewickley Borough, Sewickley Heights Borough