

Borough of Ben Avon Heights
December 15, 2009 Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Ben Avon Heights Council was held at the Mayernick Center at 7:30 pm

Present: Council Members Berardi, Cuneo, Davis, Grubbs, Isherwood, Solicitor Vogel, Police Officer Adams, and Fire Rep. Rupert

Council President Davis called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

November 2009 Minutes

- A motion was made to approve the November 2009 Minutes. They were approved as distributed.

November 2009 Treasurer's Report

- A motion was made to approve the November 2009 Treasurer's Report which was approved unanimously. The 2009 Year-To-Date Budget Overview Report was reviewed.

2010 Budget

- Council reviewed the advertised 2010 budget with \$354,045 in Revenue/Expenses. A motion was made to approve the 2010 budget. The motion was approved. A motion was made to pass Ordinance 301 setting the 2010 millage rate at 6.5 mills. The motion passed.

Police Report: Officer Adams

- A quiet month was reported in Ben Avon Heights with only a few routine calls. The written police report was provided to Council. He also provided Council with a radar report from an 8 day period of monitoring along Wilson Drive. The monitoring was done in response to a resident complaint of speeding along Wilson Drive. The report showed that out of 1716 vehicles one car was going 20 mph over the speed limit and 247 were going 10 mph over the speed limit. The report will be posted on our website.

Fire Report: Fire Rep. Rupert

- A quiet month was reported and the written report was provided

Public Comment

- Numerous emails to Council were received from resident John Barranger requesting a fiscally responsible approach to street resurfacing. Council read and discussed the emails. Mr. Barranger was invited to attend the meeting to participate in the discussions but was unable to attend.

Authority for Improvements in Municipalities (AIM) Loan – 1.79%: Mrs. Phelps

- Mrs. Phelps submitted an AIM Loan application in the amount of \$158,500 for the 2010 Street Repaving Program. She attended the AIM Board of Directors Meeting and learned that the loan request was approved for \$158,500 with a payback period of 5 years. Paperwork will be forthcoming from the Department of Economic Development.

Street Repaving: Mr. Davis

- Council discussed the final and full payment to Folino in the amount of \$90,637.74 for the Penhurst Road paving project. The one punch list item should be completed as soon as the weather permits. It includes fixing the damaged cement next to Dickson's driveway apron. Mr. Davis asked Mrs. Phelps to contact Gateway to ask them to get something in writing from Folino agreeing to fix the one item once the weather permits. Once we have that we can send them the payment.

- The 2010 Street Repaving Program as developed by Engineer Gaus will include milling, base repairs, drainage and resurfacing along Wilson Drive and Clovelly Road since these two roads were determined to be in the poorest condition.

- Last month Mr. Dismukes said that we owe the community the following information: 1). Overall road paving plan, 2). A prioritized road paving plan, 3). The projected cost associated with the road paving plan.

Consent Decree: Mr. Grubbs

- Mr. Grubbs reported that Gateway will put together a bid package in January to install one manhole on Banbury Lane and one manhole on Briar Cliff Road. The estimate for the manhole installation is \$8,000. Then this spring another bid opening will occur for the final round of camera work. The estimate is \$5,000. Mr. Grubbs budgeted both expenses in the 2010 Consent Decree budget.
- Council discussed Gateway Engineers' 2010 engineering rates which will be going up 1.5%
- Mrs. Phelps reported that she attended the ALCOSAN Public Forum Meeting in November on behalf of Council. There were only 4 other people in attendance at the meeting besides the ALCOSAN and 3RWW Representatives. The meeting took an elementary approach to explaining the Allegheny County Consent Order.

Committee Reports

- Mrs. Cuneo reported that Dan Scrabis is interested in serving on the ACORD board. He has talked to Mr. Gould. Council will appoint him next month when they make the appointments for 2010.
- Mr. Berardi discussed the renewal of the Borough's Insurance Package and the possibility of switching to a new carrier due to lower premiums with similar coverage. He will review both proposals. Council authorized him to move forward with the best package for the Borough.
- Council discussed the possibility of sending one council member to the PSAB Newly Elected Officials Training but decided to revisit this item next month

Ben Avon Heights Reappointments and Council Committees for 2010

- Last month Mr. Davis asked Mrs. Phelps if she could provide a complete listing of our proposed reappointments and Council Committees for 2010. The listing was provided to Council and discussed. Next month during the Reorganizational Meeting Council will decide upon the reappointments and Council Committee Members.
- Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood L.L.P. sent a service agreement for years 2010, 2011, and 2012. They are asking for a signature of acceptance. Council asked Mrs. Phelps to let them know that they are not interested in signing a 3 year agreement in light of the current economic times. Council would prefer a one year contract.

**Council entered into Executive Session to discuss legal matters at 8:40 pm.
Executive Session concluded at 8:55 pm at which time the meeting resumed.**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Phelps, Secretary/Treasurer