

Borough of Ben Avon Heights
October 12, 2010 Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Ben Avon Heights Council was held at the Shannopin Country Club at 7:30 pm

Present: Council Members Berardi, Cuneo, Cuteri, Davis, Dickson, Isherwood, Kolenda, Mayor Dismukes, Solicitor Vogel, Police Chief Micklos, and Fire Chief Buckman.

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

September 2010 Minutes

- A motion was made to approve the September 2010 Minutes. They were approved with the following change: Paving Program - French drains are to be installed under the curbs.

September 2010 Treasurer's Report

- A motion was made to approve the September 2010 Treasurer's Report which was approved unanimously. The 2010 Year-To-Date Budget Overview Report was reviewed for informational purposes only.

Public Comment: None

Police Report: Police Chief Micklos

- The written police report was provided to Council and Chief Micklos provided Council with information regarding the daytime break-in within the community. He has two officers dedicated to the case and they are working with other agencies to assist with catching the thieves. Extra patrols have been and will continue to be in place.

Fire Report: Fire Chief Buckman

- A written fire report was provided to Council and Fire Chief Buckman mentioned two gas leaks along Clovelly Road where the paving contractor hit the gas line. Columbia Gas repaired the lines.
- Ben Avon fire trucks will be in the neighborhood on Halloween night to patrol the area during trick-or-treat hours.

Consent Decree: Mr. Isherwood

- The sewer committee met with Gateway Engineers earlier in the day to go over the following items: review preliminary flow estimates which are based on flow metering from two years ago, 2010 budget estimates, 2011 expectations, and the completion of the remaining camera work by the end of 2010.
- The Briar Cliff/Banbury televising revealed the need to line the whole stretch along Banbury Road which is estimated at \$50,000.
- Two other items, which were identified from the televising and need to be corrected, include: elevating a sunken manhole along Banbury up to street level and excavation work along Briar Cliff. Both of those items have an estimated cost of \$12,000.
- Smoke testing is set to begin any day along Stratford Road in an effort to locate the sewer lines. The smoke testing cost is \$2,000. The residents have been alerted. Mayor Dismukes said that he knows where the lines are located near his home, the Blakes, Martins and Wards; therefore we do not need to pay anyone to locate those lines.
- Council discussed the need to get as much done as possible, this year, while staying within the 2010 consent decree budget.
- Gateway committed to providing us with the remaining costs for 2010 and their 2011 estimated budget figures by the end of this month.

Clovelly Road Paving Program

- T.A. Robinson started the Clovelly Road paving project last month, had excavated the old curb and poured the majority of the new curbs, when Columbia Gas agreed to replace the main along Clovelly Road. Columbia Gas will be done with replacing the main in about a week. T.A. Robinson should get back to work as soon as Columbia Gas has finished.

Banbury Sidewalk

-Three bids were received for the removal of 315 lineal feet of sidewalk along Banbury Lane which all came in under \$10,000. They included: \$5,828 from W.A. Hoy Construction, Inc., \$7,500 from Kishmo, and \$9,150 from Mihalko Construction, Inc.

– After much discussion, a motion was made to award the project to the lowest bidder, W.A. Hoy Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$5,828. The motion passed.

- Another motion was made to install safety fencing around the area where the sidewalk will be removed. The motion passed. A wedge curb will be installed along the area where the sidewalk will be removed.

– While on the subject of sidewalks, Mr. Davis asked Council to consider passing a new Ordinance banning parking on the sidewalk side of all roads in the Borough.

Long Term Road Repair & Paving Plan

- Council discussed the Long Term Road Repair & Paving Plan in preparation for the Community Meeting on October 20, 2010. Mr. Davis provided Council with a new 20 year timetable for paving the roads which follows suit with the residents' request to not raise taxes during last year's Community Meeting. In order to not raise taxes we will only be able to pave sections of roads each year to keep a balanced budget.

– Mr. Kolenda asked if annual maintenance should be done on the newly paved roads in order to maximize their life span.

– Mr. Davis asked Gateway to get serious about fixing Briar Cliff Road in the area where the road is shifting. He also plans to talk to the Weirs about parking their car in a different spot to alleviate more damage to the area. A motion was made to barricade 5 to 6 feet of the edge of the roadway in the area of the shifting to prevent more damage. The motion passed.

2011 Budget: Mrs. Phelps

- On Saturday, October 30, 2010 at 9 am at Shannopin the Budget Committee will meet to discuss the 2011 budget. All Council members have been invited and the meeting will be advertised.

Forced Local Government Mergers and Consolidations

- A motion was made to pass the Resolution regarding Opposition of Forced Local Government Mergers and Consolidations. The motion was seconded and discussed, but failed to pass.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Phelps, Secretary/Treasurer