

Borough of Ben Avon Heights
February 9, 2011 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, Kolenda, Solicitor Vogel, Police Chief Micklos, EMS Representative Justin Webster, Fire Chief Buckman, and prospective BAH homeowner Jeff King.

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

December 2010 Minutes

- A motion was made to approve the December 2010 Minutes. They were approved as distributed.

December 2010 & January 2011 Treasurer’s Reports

- A motion was made to approve the December 2010 & January 2011 Treasurer’s Reports which were approved. The 2010 Budget Overview report was reviewed and discussed.

2011 Council Committees

Streets/Lights/Water -	Mark Davis, Rick Berardi and Andy Kolenda
Fire/Police –	Mayor Dismukes
Finance –	Mayor Dismukes, Alan Cuteri and Mark Davis
Community Affairs –	Kim Cuneo
Sewers/Consent Decree –	John Isherwood
Recreation –	Alan Cuteri and Jennifer Dickson
Planning Commission –	Alan Cuteri
Insurance –	Rick Berardi
ANTCC (Allegheny North Tax Collection Committee) Representatives –	Alan Cuteri and John Isherwood

2011 Council Appointments

Solicitor	Tucker Arensberg Attorney John Vogel
Secretary/Treasurer	Cindy Phelps
Engineer	Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineers
Police Chief	Ohio Township Police Department Chief Micklos
Fire Chief	Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Company Chief Gary Buckman
Zoning Officer	Tom Price
Zoning Hearing Board (3 year staggered terms)	David Raves - 2009 to 2011 Heather O’Brien – 2010 to 2012 Jason Brown – 2011 to 2013
Building Inspector	Building Inspection Underwriters of PA
Emergency Management Coordinator	To Be Named
Judge of Elections	Matt Wensel
ACORD Board	Ed Gould/Ken Bernauer/Jason Brown/Dan Scrabis
Auditors	Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP
Earned Income Tax Collector	Berkheimer & Associates
Elected Real Estate Tax Collector	Cindy Phelps
Deputized Real Estate Tax Collector	Berkheimer & Associates
Planning Commission Members	Alan Cuteri (4 year term) 2010 to 2013 Greg Mihalko (3 yr term) 2010 to 2012 Peter Keelan (2 yr term) 2010 to 2011
Legal Advertising	The Citizen
Bank	First Niagara

Public Comment: None

Banbury Road Property Rear Lot Line Review

- Jeff King, a Ben Avon resident with a sales agreement on 4 Banbury Road, addressed Council to ask them to review his drawings, to determine if his rear lot line calculations for a possible addition, were acceptable. Council found his calculations acceptable. Mr. King will be in touch and will go through the proper procedures for additions if and/or when the sale moves forward.

Police Report: Police Chief Micklos

- The written police report was provided to Council. Chief Micklos provided Council with follow-up information regarding the suspicious snow shoveling people. The investigation concluded and it was determined that the suspicious people were most likely not linked to the other Pittsburgh snow shoveling crimes.

- Mrs. Phelps reported that the new morning crossing guard, positioned at the park bus stop, has been trained and "officially" started on her own yesterday. A substitute crossing guard has also been hired and is in the process of being trained.

Fire Report: Fire Chief Buckman

- Written monthly and 2010 fire reports were provided to Council and Fire Chief Buckman said that BAH had 2 structure fires, 1 vehicle accident, 2 fire alarms and 1 incident of wires down during 2010.

North West EMS Quarterly Report: EMS Chief Justin Webster

- The 2010 4th Qtr. written report was provided to Council, which noted 4 ambulance calls in BAH, with one being a vehicle vs. pedestrian incident. They also provided Trick or Treat patrols. Mr. Webster will attend BAH Council Meetings quarterly to provide quarterly reports to Council.

Banbury Sidewalk

- As discussed during the December 2010 Council Meeting, the property owner in the area where the sidewalk was removed does not think that a safety fence is necessary because he believes the hillside is not steep. Council reviewed the area and agrees with the property owner; therefore no safety fence is necessary.

Consent Decree

- Mr. Isherwood and Mrs. Phelps received authorization from Gateway Engineers to pay Creative Enterprises \$11,000 for the 2010 Sewer Open Cut Repairs. Mr. Isherwood reviewed the invoice and signoff from Gateway and authorized payment. A motion was made to pay Creative Enterprises \$11,000 for the 2010 Sewer Open Cut Repairs Project. The motion passed.

Clovelly Road Paving Program

- The second payment application has been received, with sign off from Gateway, in the amount of \$68,837.29. BAH is in receipt of \$68,837.29 from AIM for the 2nd drawdown payment. A motion was made to pay T.A. Robinson the second payment application in the amount of \$68,837.29. The motion passed.

- Mrs. Phelps received notification that Columbia Gas paid T.A. Robinson \$22,877.25 for the Clovelly Road trench work related to the gas line replacement project.

Street Signs: Mrs. Phelps

- Mrs. Phelps provided Council with an estimate to purchase new street signs to replace the ones which are no longer standing. The approximate estimate to replace them with the same signs that are currently in use was \$479 plus installation. The estimate to replace them with MUTCD compliant street signs was \$680 plus installation. Council authorized Mrs. Phelps to order the same style signs which are currently in use at an approximate cost of \$479.

Municipal Election: Mrs. Phelps

- Three Council seats will be up for reelection during the November 8, 2011 Municipal Election. The

nomination petition packets are available to be picked up (as of 2/8/11) at the Elections Division which is located in the Allegheny County Office Building on the 6th floor. The first day to circulate is 2/15/11 and they must be returned (with the proper signatures) to the Elections Division by 5 pm on 3/8/11 in order to have your name on the primary ballot.

Leaf Collection Contract: Mrs. Phelps

- Mrs. Phelps informed Council that Walt's Landscaping would like to extend their current contract with the borough for an additional 4 years at the same annual cost of \$9,200. Council discussed the option and then a motion was made to extend the contract, by addendum, for an additional 4 years at \$9,200 per year. The motion passed unanimously.

Audit Agreement: Mrs. Phelps

- Mrs. Phelps provided Council with the 2010 Audit Agreement from Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP, Certified Public Accountants, for the Borough's annual audit. The cost went up \$50 from last years' audit fee, bringing the fee to \$3,625. A motion was made to approve the Audit Agreement with the fee of \$3,625 for the 2010 audit. The motion passed unanimously.

E-Waste Recycling Program: Mrs. Phelps

-Enjoy Bellevue, in conjunction with the Goodwill Industries will conduct a North Borough's E-Waste Recycling Program on Saturday, April 30, 2011. They will accept all unwanted electronic items (computers, printers, cameras, cords, software, microwaves, and even hard to recycle electronic waste). Ben Avon Heights was asked to promote and offer the program to our residents. Anna Phelps offered to have the BAH park as an additional drop-off site to make it more convenient for area residents. Council liked the idea and approved the park as an additional drop-off site. The E-Waste Recycling Program will take place on the same day as the Annual Earth Day Litter Clean-Up.

Clovelly/Banbury Catch Basin Damage: Mrs. Phelps

-Mrs. Phelps contacted Waste Management to request that they contribute to the cost to replace the catch basin, which was allegedly damaged by a Waste Management Garbage truck, in March of 2010. The cost to replace the damaged catch basin was \$1,500. Waste Management, in a gesture to maintain a good relationship with the Borough, agreed to pay 1/3 (\$500) towards the new catch basin.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council entered into **Executive Session** to discuss a legal matter at 8:40 pm. Executive Session ended at 8:50 pm at which time the meeting resumed.

Engineer Services

- A motion was made to appoint Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc. as Ben Avon Heights' new Engineers. The motion passed.

-Mr. Cuteri will draft a letter to send to Gateway Engineers to notify them. A motion was made to pay all outstanding Gateway Engineers Invoices, with the exception of the O & M Plan Invoices. The motion passed. Since the Gateway O & M Plan Invoices were not approved to be paid, the December 2010 Treasurer's Report was modified by \$5,827.57.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Phelps, Secretary/Treasurer