

## Borough of Ben Avon Heights

### Tuesday, September 11, 2012 - Council Meeting Minutes

The meeting of council was held at Shannopin Country Club at 7:00 P.M.

A quorum is in attendance

#### **Present:**

Council Members: Cuteri, Davis, Isherwood, Keelan, Kolenda (arrived at 7:30)

Mayor: Dismukes

Solicitor: Vogel

Ohio Twp. Police: Sargent Beck

Avalon Fire: Berrie

Secretary/Treasurer: Raves

Residents: Diane Daniels, Kirsten Donley, Al and Arlene Grubbs, Andy Kozusko, Betsy Radcliffe

County Council – Matt Drozd

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Mr. Davis:

1. August 2012 Minutes:

- A motion was made by Mr. Cuteri second by Mr. Keelan to approve the August 2012 Minutes. They were approved unanimously as distributed. Mr. Davis abstained

2. August 2012 Treasurer's Report:

- A motion was made by Mr. Cuteri, and second by Mr. Keelan to approve the August 2012 Treasurer's Reports which was approved unanimously as distributed.

3. The Budget Overview: –Noted that the Earned Income Tax collections were ahead of schedule.

4.

Public Comment: Diane Daniels, Kirsten Donley and Betsy Radcliffe asked about leaf collection and construction timeline. It looks that there will be a two week overlap in leaf collection and road construction. The end date for construction is October 30, 2012. Residents are instructed to take their leaves to the nearest intersection outside the road construction or leave the leaves in their yards for those 2 weeks. Diane Daniels questioned the parking during the Wilson Road paving. Residents are instructed to park on the road during the time they cannot get to their driveways. A sign should be erected instructing cars on Newgate to use the lower portion of Wilson and that the road is closed to through traffic.

Andy Kozusko questioned the construction project on Newgate. How will the trucks for that project be handled? The contractor has bonded the length of Wilson and has been notified of road construction. The road conditions will be inspected once the contractor requests the release of the bond.

If you see a truck on Wilson Road that you believe exceeds the current weight limits on the road, that is not headed to the Newgate construction project jobsite, please call the police to report them.

The remainder of Wilson Road will be paved in time as money becomes available. The roads were prioritized several years ago by engineering analysis and they will generally be paved in order of that assessment depending on fiscal considerations.

The priority list was made public in the past and a copy will be forwarded to the residents in attendance.

Parking was discussed and it was decided that it will be first come first serve basis on Penhurst, Devon, Wilson and Kent. Access to each individual driveway will be closed for approximately 9 days once the contractor begins work at each driveway.

Centennial Committee - Arlene and Al Grubbs updated Council on the committee's progress.

Please look at the website, "Centennial Committee" tab!

The Committee requested permission to erect a color banner along the fence at New Brighton Road along the Park. Installation of the banner would be in January and it would remain in place for the year.

There are many more calendars to sell so please pass the word. Door to door sales are currently taking place.

Car Decals are also available for sale as are advertisements in a booklet that is being developed. Proceeds will go to the weekend event.

Council had thought that a Borough Logo contest winner could be unveiled during the celebration as well.

The list of budgeted items will be made available for Council's review to see what the Borough might be able to consider for sponsorship.

Mayor Dismukes thanked Mr. & Mrs. Grubbs for their exceptional work spearheading this project.

5. Fire Report: One call to Shannopin Country Club.

A discussion regarding the Santa in the Park tradition took place. It was decided to leave the Bonfire tradition in place. We did ask for Avalon to include chocolate filled candy canes in their budget for the Ben Avon Heights children.

6. Police Report: - One DUI, Fire Assist, ambulance Assist, traffic accident, citation, Animal Complaint, traffic citation and routine rounds

Mrs. Raves noted that Chief Micklos has brought us two separate deliveries of traffic cones for the bus stops due to their disappearance.

Mayor Dismukes brought up the fact that during Wilson Road construction we should not be issuing parking citations unless they are warranted. The area by the park has been patrolled more closely as requested at last month's meeting.

7. Revision to Canvassing and Soliciting Ordinance – Change verbiage to state that everything should be sent to the Ohio Township Police Department who should notify

the Borough office of any issued permits. A motion was made by Mr. Cuteri and second by Mr. Keelan to advertise this Ordinance for voting at next month's meeting. Mr. Davis brought forth discussion regarding the length and complexity of the Ordinance. Fees are to be made out to Ben Avon Heights Borough when applications are submitted. A list of residents who would like to be placed on a "No Solicitation List" will be developed and sent to the Police Department.

The motion passed with Mr. Davis abstaining.

**8. Engineer's Report:**

- a. O&M Plan No action taken this month by LSSE.
- b. 2012 Road and Sewer Improvements: LSSE has approved Change Order No. 1 as well as Application for Payment #1(a total of \$60,074.25). Change Order #2 was submitted but not yet approved (this Change Order is for shortening of the retaining wall length.) in the amount of \$20,870.00. Mayor Dismukes asked if the savings from both Change Orders be added to the limits of paving of Wilson Road. It was discussed that we would not take action on additional paving or other work, unless it is of a safety concern, and that we would assess available funds and other work needed in the borough that excess funds could be applied to, at or near the end of the current project.
- c. Permit Application and Request for Waiver for the MS4 is due September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Forms were signed and the necessary check was given Mr. Firek.

Matt Drozd spoke informed us as to several things the County Council is doing.

**9. Keystone Collection:** Mrs. Raves and Keystone Collections have gone over the list of residents who are missing from this year's EIT payments. A "Nice" letter will be sent to residents who we have not collected from so far this year.

**10. Zoning Ordinance Update:** Mrs. Raves had made a map of the Borough with the Lot and Block numbers on each parcel. Mr. Cuteri will make a digital copy of this map and distribute as necessary

**11. New Ordinance restricting Cell Phone Towers.** – This matter has been tabled. LSSE had nothing to add or change regarding the proposed Ordinance. We will wait for Mr. Georgalas to see if there is anything that will tie into the Zoning/ Planning work he is currently developing.

**12. Ordinance regarding Rental Properties:** A draft of the Ordinance was submitted by Mr. Vogel for Council's review. A discussion regarding this Ordinance took place. Building Inspection Underwriters will be contacted asking what their review, paperwork and inspection would cost so we know how much this fee will require to be listed on the Application. Changes will be made and this will be revisited next month. The Ordinance will need to be written as all Single Family Residences. Which is how we are zoned... all R-1.

**13. Sewage Fees:** Mrs. Raves presented two quotes that were submitted by Jordan Tax Services and Pennsylvania Municipal Services Co for collecting Sewage Fees. The

proposals were reviewed. A message will need to be delivered to the residents explaining the need for this fee and Mr. Dismukes was asked to compose this message. It was determined that Jordan Tax Services was the lowest bidder. Once Council implements the fee, we will move forward with discussions with Jordan Tax Services for collection and verify steps necessary to implement this matter

14. CCTV work was done last week but not yet completed. The Contractor will get Tri State Maintenance to come back to the Borough to attempt to finish this work with a representative from LSSE in anticipation of completing all outstanding work. Apparenty areas of sewer that Gateway engineers had certified were televised, Gateway has not been able to deliver any video tapes or evidence that this work was completed.

15. Executive Session – Council entered Executive Session at 9:00 PM. and resumed the meeting at 9:12 PM.

16. Meeting Change: Next month's meeting will be changed to October 16<sup>th</sup>. And the Special Budget meeting will be scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

This meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM.

**The next monthly meeting is Tuesday October 16th at 7:00 at Shannopin Country Club.**

Submitted by Denise Raves