

Borough of Ben Avon Heights

Tuesday August 13, 2013 - 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: Berardi, Cuteri, Georgalas, Isherwood, Keelan,

Mayor: Dismukes

Solicitor: Vogel

Ohio Twp. Police: Sgt. Beck

Avalon Fire: Chief Carney

Secretary/Treasurer: Raves

Resident: Arlene & Al Grubbs

Invitee: Jim Pashek, Pashek Associates

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Mr. Cuteri:

1. July Minutes: - ***A motion was made*** by Mr. Berardi to approve the July minutes as submitted. The motion was second by Mr. Isherwood. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
2. Treasurer's Report: ***A motion was made*** by Mr. Berardi to approve the July Treasurers Report as submitted. Mr. Isherwood seconds the motion. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
3. Fire Report: - Chief Carney reported that they responded to a malfunctioning smoke detector at Shannopin Country Club. Chief Carney offered the use of the Fire Station for Council's use anytime. We will hold our January meeting at the Fire Station.
4. Police Report: Sargent Beck reported that there were usual patrols and reports throughout the Borough last month, nothing out of the ordinary. Sargent Beck also reported that he attended the hearing regarding the Obnoxious Vegetation Citation on August 5th. The resident stated that they never received a letter from the Borough and the resident stated that he has started to work on the property. The Magistrate found them guilty of Obnoxious Vegetation and cited them \$25.00. Sargent Beck stated

during the hearing that if the Resident does not clean up the property per the Ordinance, then Council will site him again.

Sargent Beck noted that in the future, the letter to the resident should be more descriptive in regards to the violation.

5. Public Comment: Arlene and Al Grubbs attended to give Council a final review from the Centennial Committee.

- A. After all was closed out, the Committee reports they have \$5,500.00 remaining in the account. The committee would like to put this money into rebuilding the water fountain at the park. Mr. Cuteri said that the existing plaques could be incorporated into a new design.
- B. Several Resolutions and letters were received by the Committee, all which was passed to Mrs. Raves to put with the Borough's Historical information.
- C. House History and Centennial Booklets are still available. A message will be sent to the residents in the near future to see if anyone is interested in purchasing these items.
- D. A file containing the names and addresses of former residents will be forwarded to Mrs. Raves for the Borough's files.
- E. The committee is concerned that the "small close knit community" feeling is being lost and suggests that a committee be formed to welcome new residents. Information will be in the next issue of the Heights Herald to collect names of interested parties for various committees.
- F. Council thanked the Grubbs for all their hard work.

6. Planning Commission: Jim Pashek of Pashek Associates was invited by Council to review his firms approach to Multi-municipal Comprehensive Planning: His firm focuses on community involvement in this process. Mr. Cuteri reviewed the history of the project and that Kilbuck Township was interested in the past. Mr. Pashek stated that he has been in contact with the County and they are excited about Multi- municipal Comprehensive Plans and would probably be willing to help fund most of this project. Mayor Dismukes noted that the Borough has been involved in 30 years of intergovernmental shared services.

Various discussions took place regarding the idea of a joint or separate Zoning Ordinances and it was determined that those items will be discussed at a later date. Mayor Dismukes and Mr. Cuteri will take the lead discussing this opportunity with a representative of Kilbuck Township and possibly Avalon.

Mr. Pashek stated that their process would be as follows:

- Survey Community (Outcome based)
- Blogs
- Public meetings
- Interviews and Focus groups

The estimated timeline for this process would be approximately 12 months. (Possibly a few less months)

The next steps would be to obtain the involvement of other communities.

7. Resolution 2013-1: This Resolution is to permit Lennon Smith Souleret to submit the prepared Feasibility Study to ACHD by July 31, 2013. This was approved last month,

but the official Resolution was not available at that time. Council approved the Resolution.

8. Engineer's Report:

- a. Council read the report submitted by Mr. Firek of LSSE. The required Feasibility Study Report was submitted by the July 31, 2013 deadline.
- b. Change Order No. 4 was reviewed and approved for the Sanitary Sewer Televising
- c. 22 Clovelly Hauling Permit was reviewed and released.

Mr. Cuteri and Mr. Isherwood reviewed the status of the ongoing Sewer Work. The line by 53 Newgate was in good shape and will not need to be replaced. Once the contractors got into the line and fixed the protruding tap the area was clear for televising. The lamphole was left in place.

The sewer line behind 4 Oxford was televised from the property. It was discovered that 6 Oxford does hook into this line behind the houses, not in front as previously believed. A manhole was discovered by camera...it is believed to be buried and next to a wall in the rear yard of 15 Banbury Road. The contractor is attempting to locate this manhole as well as the one behind 22 Banbury.

9. ACORD Board member search: Jennifer Flanagan is no longer living in Ben Avon Heights and has asked to be replaced on the board. A notice in the Heights Herald will be posted.

10. Executive Session: Council entered into Executive Session at 8:17 PM. Council is back in session at 8:29 PM.

11. Borough Information Backup; Mrs. Raves asked Council if they felt it necessary to back-up the operating systems for the Borough. It was discussed that software is inexpensive enough; therefore, it was not considered necessary to back-up the software. Mrs. Raves stated that the external hard drive back-up that the Borough now has does not seem to be functioning properly and a new one could be needed. That expense was approved.

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

This meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

The next monthly meeting is Tuesday September 10th at 7:00 at Shannopin Country Club.

Submitted by Denise Raves, Secretary