

Borough of Ben Avon Heights

Wednesday March 12, 2014 - 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, Davis (Arrived at 7:03), Keelan (Arrived at 7:04), Kolenda, Smith

Mayor: Dismukes

Solicitor: Vogel

Ohio Twp. Police: Officer Ryan Ging

Secretary/Treasurer: Raves

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Mr. Cuteri:

1. Vote to approve February Minutes: Mr. Berardi ***made a motion*** to approve the February Minutes. Mr. Kolenda seconds the motion. Mr. Berardi asked that the discussion of motorists speeding along Oxford Road be added to the Minutes. ***The motion passed unanimously as amended.***
2. Vote to approve the January Treasurer's Report: Mr. Davis ***made a motion*** to approve the January Treasurer's Report as submitted. Mr. Berardi seconds the motion. Mr. Davis questioned the name of the Budgetary Reserve Account and requested that RAD be added to the name for clarity. Mr. Davis questioned the balance in the Construction Loan Account. Once the 2013 Punch List items are completed the balance will be paid off and the money moved to the Reserve Fund. The Sewage Fund will be raising approximately \$20,000 per year for use in the future. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
3. Fire Report: Chief Carney called in his report and was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a meeting of the Avalon Safety Committee. There were no calls in Ben Avon Heights in the last month for the Fire Department. The Fish Fry/ Monti Carlo night made \$1,700.00. There will be a second Fish Fry on Good Friday. Information will be forwarded
Mayor Dismukes informed Council that the agreement addendum submitted by the Avalon Fire Department to extend our contract for 10 years (to 2027) requires revisions and will be presented to Council once he and Mr. Vogel have completed the negotiations. We will add this matter to next month's Agenda.
4. Police Report: The usual calls and patrols took place in addition to snow call outs. Mayor Dismukes stated that he had a discussion with Chief Micklos regarding the placement of the Radar Trailer "Speed Limit" sign along Wilson. Officer Ging will discuss the matter with Chief.

5. Public Comment: No public present.
6. Real Estate Tax Collector Resolution: The County Requires a Resolution Officially naming regarding the elected Real Estate Tax Collector position. **Mr. Davis made a motion that we officially confirm Denise L. Raves as elected Real Estate Tax Collector. Mr. Cuteri Second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.** Resolution 2014-1 was signed.
7. Dog Ordinance Report: Council reviewed the Ordinance presented by Mr. Vogel. Several discussions took place regarding the need for residents to petition Council for citations verses having the police set up to issue citations directly. Mayor Dismukes felt it important that it there be “No private cause of action”. BAHB will make citations available to the police department for enforcement of this Ordinance. Mayor Dismukes also noted that he felt it important to inform the Residents of this Ordinance and asked Mrs. Raves to forward it by email blast for their review.
Council agreed and voted unanimously that the following revisions are to be made to the presented document for advertisement. First, remove the word nuisance in Section 1. Secondly there is a typo in section 3. Thirdly, add wording to 3B stating that waste is to be deposited in the pet owner’s personal receptacle. These changes will be circulated in a few days for Council’s approval before the Ordinance is forwarded to the Residents and for advertisement.
The Ordinance was unanimously approved for advertisement as revised.
8. West View Water Agreement for Service Termination: Mr. Vogel had not seen the agreement forwarded by West View Water; therefore, will need time to review. This is a standard agreement that they have with other communities and is required for each shut off request made by the Borough. With every agreement, West View Water charges \$100.00.
9. Executive Session: Council entered into Executive Session at 7:45 PM
The meeting resumed at 7:50.
10. Delinquent Sewage Account Protocol: Mrs. Raves presented an Executive Protocol regarding the handling of delinquent Sewage Accounts. Council approved the following:
 - A. Jordan Tax Services will notify the Borough of all delinquent payments quarterly on the first day they become delinquent. Jordan will at that time call each account to discuss their delinquency and to make arrangement for payment.
 - B. If the account is still delinquent once the next quarter bills are scheduled to be sent, the Borough will forward a warning letter and give Jordan the go ahead to notify the resident of a 10 day notice for water shut off and shut off procedures.
 - C. The Borough still has the right to file a Lien on the delinquent property if needed.
11. Valley Waste –Recycle Issue: Mrs. Raves reviewed the fact that on two different days, residents notified her that they witnessed the garbage company picking up recycling and

trash at the same time and placing it in the same truck. A letter was issued the Valley Waste that this will not be acceptable in the future.

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

This meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

The next monthly meeting is **Tuesday** April 8th at 7:00 at Shannopin Country Club.

Submitted by Denise Raves, Secretary