

Borough of Ben Avon Heights

Tuesday October 14, 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: Davis, Isherwood, Keelan, Kolenda, Smith

Mayor: Dismukes

Solicitor: Vogel

Ohio Twp. Police: Chief Micklos

Avalon Volunteer Fire Company: Chief Carney

NorthWest EMS: Division Chief, Farls

Secretary/Treasurer: Raves

Residents: David Raves, 6 Lynton Lane

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mr. Davis:

1. Fire Report: Nothing to Report
2. Police Report: 1 alarm, 2 bikes stolen, Change stolen from a car, 1 Medical Emergency.
3. EMS Report: 1 Medical Alarm Battery issue, 2 fire standby and 1 patient transport for the Quarter.
4. Halloween: Will be on Friday October 31, 2014 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Chief Micklos stated that there will be additional patrols on duty at that time.
5. Vote to approve September Minutes: Mr. Isherwood ***made a motion*** to approve the September Minutes as presented. Mrs. Smith seconds the motion. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
6. Vote to approve the September Treasurer's Report: Mr. Davis ***made a motion*** to approve the September Treasurer's Report that was submitted previously by email to Council. Mr. Kolenda seconds the motion. ***The motion passed unanimously.*** Mr. Isherwood asked if we could apply for another AIM loan. Mrs. Raves will inquire
7. Public Comment: No public attended for comment.
8. Steering Committee Appointment for Joint Comprehensive Plan: David Raves has volunteered for this Committee. Mr. Davis ***made a motion*** to appoint Mr. David Raves to the Steering Committee for the Joint Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Kolenda seconds the motion. ***The motion passed unanimously.*** Mr. Davis asked Mr. Raves to look out for

our interests. We are aiming to maintain our residential only status by virtue of their diversity. Mr. Vogel noted that we have committed \$22,000.00 for this project at this time.

9. Resolution 2014-06: Multi-municipal Comprehensive Plan: Mr. Davis **made a motion** to adopt Resolution 2014-06 for Multi-municipal Applications for Update to and inclusions in the Borough of Ben Avon Heights in the Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan of 2014 Entitled "A Common Vision". Mr. Keelan seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

10. Engineer's Report: Submitted by email. Nothing new to report except progress on several Hauling Permits. Mr. Davis asked when the roadway crack sealing would be done on Penhurst, Wilson and Clovelly. Mrs. Raves noted that early November is the tentative date. She has informed the contractor to not schedule a Monday or Tuesday due to leaf collection.

11. New Grading Ordinance: The Borough will not require everyone doing any work to apply for a permit. **A motion was made** by Mr. Kolenda to advertise this Ordinance for passage at the November meeting. Mr. Davis seconds this motion. Discussion took place questioning the clarity of the Ordinance. Mr. Vogel was asked to forward the Ordinance to the Engineers for their review and comment. Mr. Isherwood questioned the grading ratios. Mrs. Smith asked if wording to require notification to the immediate neighbors could be added. It was discussed that no neighbor notification is currently written into the Ordinance; however, if the project needed to go to the Zoning Hearing Board then the project would be posted and neighbors would be aware. Mayor Dismukes asked what we would gain from this type of ordinance. Mr. Vogel reminded him that we are attempting to avoid grading that adversely impacts neighboring properties. Mayor Dismukes asked if we can force remediation by the way the ordinance is written. Mr. Davis noted that we need to have the wording to require the owner to return the property to its original state if the work was out of compliance with the Ordinance. Another item brought up was to add wording that references that a retaining wall over 4'-0" will require a building permit. Erosion control standards are covered under the States DEP. Mr. Davis stated that we can notify the DEP to cite a homeowner if necessary. A vote took place with Davis and Smith voting to advertise and Isherwood and Keelan voting against advertising. Mr. Davis **made a new motion** to rescind the vote to advertise the new Grading Ordinance till Council works on clarifying the document. Mr. Kolenda seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.** Mrs. Smith asked why an additional fee would be required, why can that not be under the building permit fee? The answer to that question is to cover the engineering fees for review.

12. Old Business: was tabled.

13. Ordinance No. 327 Jordan Tax Service Costs for Real Estate Tax Collection: Act 20
Ordinance related to fees and charges for collections will need to be passed in order for Jordan Tax Services to take over the Real Estate Collection. Mr. Davis ***made a motion*** to authorize advertisement for all needed Ordinances relating to the appoint of Jordan Tax Services as Real Estate Tax Collector and Delinquent Tax Collectors and for delinquent municipal claims. Mr. Keelan seconds the motion. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

14. Executive Session: Council entered into Executive Session at 7:55 PM.

The meeting resumed at 8:10 PM.

15. The Budget Committee will be meeting October 22nd at 7:00 PM at Shannopin Country Club. Mr. Davis reviewed the outline for the meeting... reviewing the history of the millage rates and the assessment changes to the Borough's income. Then the discussion will revolve around where the millage will need to be set for 2015.

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

This meeting adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

The next monthly meeting is **Wednesday** November 12th, 7:00 at Shannopin Country Club.

Submitted by Denise Raves, Secretary