

## Borough of Ben Avon Heights

### Wednesday March 11, 2015 - 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, Davis, Keelan, Smith

Solicitor: Voltz

Ohio Twp. Police: Sargent Beck

Avalon Volunteer Fire Co.: Chief Carney

Lennon Smith Souleret: Firek

Secretary/Treasurer: Raves

Residents: Lester Olson, 17 Cambridge Road.

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

1. Police Report: The usual calls were reported. 12 road department calls, a few traffic stops, suspicious circumstance.
2. Fire Report: Nothing to report totally quiet.  
At this time Mr. Keelan entered the meeting and a quorum was achieved.
3. Vote to approve February Minutes: Mr. Davis ***made a motion*** to approve the February Minutes as presented to Council earlier by E-mail. Mr. Keelan seconds the motion. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
4. Vote to approve the February Treasurer's Reports: Mr. Berardi ***made a motion*** to approve the December and January Treasurer's Reports - submitted previously by email to Council. Mr. Davis seconds the motion. Mrs. Raves informed Council that the \$20,000.00 questioned for the Planning Commission last month was left in the General Account (instead of moving it to the Reserve Account as discussed.) due to the \$17,000 2012 loan payment that will be due this month. ***The motion passed unanimously***
5. Public Comment: Mr. Olson came to discuss three general concerns that he has regarding the maintenance of Cambridge Road.
  - a. He felt as if the Snow Plowing and Salting of that roadway was deficient for the last two years and in January and March of this year. He notified Council that there were several days in both months that his mail was not delivered stating that the mailman had written notes on the mail stating that he could not get to Mr. Olson's house due to icy conditions. Mrs. Raves notified Mr. Olson that the last two winters

have been extremely brutal, Borough had run out of salt and that the entire length of Cambridge was not salted because of the shortage. The gate at the bottom of the road was opened so that the residents at the bottom of the hill could get out safely. Mr. Davis noted that the last two years the weather has been extraordinarily difficult and noted his personal business experience. We will be sure to discuss this issue with Avalon.

- b. Mr. Olson then stated that he felt that Cambridge Road should be resurfaced soon due to its condition. Mr. Davis stopped Mr. Olson at this point referencing the engineering report that prioritized the roadways in the Borough. It will likely take 25 years to resurface all the roadways in the Borough at this time due to the funds that were spent for the Consent Decree and the Briar Cliff retaining wall. We borrowed as much money as we could at that time to repair those issues. The engineers listing were shared with Mr. Olson.
- c. Mr. Olson was reporting that leaf pick up is delinquent on their road. And he feels someone has been blowing the leaves back into his yard in the fall so they are not picked up. Mrs. Raves and Mr. Davis informed Mr. Olson that the Borough does not blow the leaves from any of the Borough's streets. If a neighbor is performing this task then he should take that matter up with them. Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Olson for attending the meeting and to notify the Borough if there are any issues in the future.
- d. At this time, Mrs. Raves reported that the abandoned stair from Cambridge to Briar Cliff Roads is deteriorating and that a section of the railing is now on the ground near the road. Mrs. Raves asked for permission to contact Avalon to remove the rail. Council agreed that this resolved and asked Mrs. Raves to make the call.

6. Community Presbyterian Church: Mr. Davis reported that the Church has asked for permission to hold their Easter Sunrise Service at the Park again this year. Mr. Davis ***made a motion*** to approve the Church Service at the Park this year. Mr. Berardi seconds the motion. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

7. Engineer's Report:

ACO: Annual waste load Report was transmitted in January. And the County Health Department requested to see all CCTV information for lines that are 10" and above. The engineers submitted this report on 2/25/2015.

2015 Roads: Mr. Firek reported that their office had contacted West View Water regarding the roadway locations Council is considering rebuilding in the 2015 year including Oxford Road between New Brighton and Biddeford Roads as well as on Wilson Road from Kent to Devon and then from Devon to Newgate. Mr. Koleck, of West View Water, stated that he would place the discussion of reviewing replacing their lines in these areas on the Board's March Agenda.

The documents for Wilson Road work are underway.

Mrs. Smith led a discussion regarding the condition of Courtney Mill Road and that the extreme weather had made the roadway a bit dangerous. It appears that it may fall off the hill. Mrs. Raves will contact Kilbuck Township regarding this matter.

Mr. Olson shared several concerns he had regarding the condition of Cambridge.

A discussion of the possibility of adding a sidewalk along Perrysville Road took place but this is a State Road. Mr. Firek reported that their office was planning to bid the section

of Wilson Road from Perrysville Road to Penhurst this month; this was important to get the AIM Loan paperwork moving. They will open the bids and tabulate them for the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting with the hope of May 1<sup>st</sup> of 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning work.

8. AIM Loan: Mrs. Raves reported that the AIM Board has approved us for the loan of \$92,766.00 at 1.34% for the first section of Wilson. We will need to go for DCED approval. If West View Water does get their work completed on the back section of Wilson and the beginning section of Oxford we will look to see if a late bid will be possible. Mr. Davis **made a motion** to authorize to advertise raising the debt service. Mr. Berardi seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

9. Council entered into Executive Session at 7:52 PM

Note; Mr. Cuteri entered the meeting during executive session and Mr. Davis left the meeting during Executive Session. The meeting resumed at 8:19 PM.

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

This meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

The next monthly meeting is Tuesday April 14th, 7:00 at Shannopin Country Club.

Submitted by Denise Raves, Secretary