

Borough of Ben Avon Heights

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 - Council Meeting Minutes

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

A quorum is in attendance

Present:

Council Members: Berardi, Cuteri, Eadie, Radcliffe, (Davis arrived at 8:00 PM.)

Mayor: Dismukes

Solicitor: Vogel, Tucker Arensberg

Engineer: Heyl, Lennon Smith Souleret

Avalon Fire: Chief Berie

OTPD: Chief Micklos and Sgt. Beck

Secretary/Treasurer: Raves

Residents: Martin Knuth Sr. Martin Knuth Jr.

Mr. Cuteri began the meeting at 7:02 PM.

1. May 2017 Minutes:

- **A motion was made** by Mr. Berardi to approve the May 2017 Minutes previously distributed to Council by email. Mr. Radcliffe seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

2. May 2017 Treasurer's Report

- **Mr. Berardi made a motion** to approve the May 2017 Treasurer's Report previously distributed to Council by email. **Mr. Radcliffe seconds the motion.** The **motion passed unanimously as distributed.**

3. Police Report: Chief Micklos noted that the Emergency Management paperwork has been submitted to the County and Sergeant Adam Beck has been appointed BAHB Emergency Management Coordinator. Sgt. Beck stated that the County had been notified of his appointment as emergency coordinator and that we are good with the County till May of 2018 at this time.

Mr. Radcliffe asked the Chief why there were more than the usual number of citations issued this past month. The Chief stated that the Crossing Guards had reported that there was a large number of cars causing concerns. Council asked the Police to patrol the area closely over the summer as well.

Mayor Dismukes noted that our contract with the police department is up at the end of the year and that he would contact Ohio Township's manager, John Sullivan, to discuss.

The Chief was asked his opinion of the placement of a stop sign at the corner of Oxford where it intersects with Clovelly. It was his opinion that if there were accidents occurring at that location he would consider a stop sign; however, since there does not seem to be an issue he would not recommend a new sign.

4. **Fire Report:** Chief Berie reported that there was one dangerous tree removal. Mrs. Raves was asked to have a tree expert look at the trees along Cambridge to see if any were in danger of falling on a neighbor's house.
5. **Engineer's Report:** Mr. Heyl reported that the 2016 roadway work should be completed by the end of June. Discussion took place regarding the work that Columbia Gas is proposing for the Borough next year. Mrs. Raves was asked to forward the correspondence from Columbia Gas regarding the overall work planned to council.
Mayor Dismukes noted that it was his belief that we should consider doing work on Cambridge Road next year. At least some base repair.
Engineer's will review Briar Cliff Road to see how much base work will be necessary next year when Columbia Gas is working.
MS-4 waiver request: we are waiting to see if our waiver request is granted.
Street Opening Ordinance, additional wording suggested to cover the repair of the saw cut expansion joints was submitted.
Grease Trap Ordinance, discussion took place regarding this matter. Council asked Mrs. Raves to contact the County Health Department to ask why they wanted us to pass ordinances since the County's Plumbing Code currently cover this matter. Mr. Cuteri stated there is no need to have such and ordinance, and there is no-one qualified to enforce such and ordinance at the Borough. Also grease traps are covered by both the State of PA International Building Code as well as the Allegheny County Plumbing Code. This matter was tabled.
Private Lateral Ordinance Review: Discussion took place regarding this matter. The Mayor noted that the COA requires us to reduce flow. Mr. Cuteri Pointed out that this could be significant cost to homeowners looking to sell their property. He also noted that if we do this in advance of a requirement, we will not be able to demonstrate an improvement in lateral leakage, that would likely be detrimental to the Borough with regard to the EPA consent order work. Mr. Heyl stated that the current COA does not require private lateral testing at this time. This matter was tabled.
Flow Rate Comparison: Our demonstration project was accepted; however, what is our base line based on. Mr. Cuteri asked LSSE to find out how our flow rates compare. Mr. Heyl will review and report at the next meeting. The Mayor questioned how the program will progress. This matter was tabled till additional information is obtained.
Street Opening: Review 2017 roadway work next month.
6. **Public Comment:** Martin Knuth Jr. reported that his Eagle Scout park renovation project has been approved by the Scouts. Mr. Radcliffe and Marty have reviewed the entire project and will work on the logistics of the project. Council asked if Marty was comfortable rebuilding the wooden benches using Tek-wood as stainless-steel bolts. Mr. Radcliffe will have the basketball court sealed and repainted. Mrs. Raves will need 2 weeks' notice to have the mulch delivered and that we may have additional fees in the contractor's work due to moving the mulch.
7. **Election Review:** - Mayor Dismukes requested this review so we know who will be on the ballot this fall. Mr. Eadie stated that he was interested in running this fall. He was informed that he was not on the Primary Ballot and that would mean that he would need to run a wright in campaign. Mr. Davis is not running next year.
Mr. Cuteri and Mr. Jason Brown are both on the ballot for four year terms. Mr. Isherwood is not on the ballot either; Mr. Berardi contacted Mr. Isherwood and he said that he was interested in running a wright in campaign. There appears to be one two-year term and one four-year term available.

Mr. Raves stated he would be interested in staying on Zoning Hearing Board; however, if Jason Brown is elected to Council he would not be permitted to remain on the Zoning Board. We will need to find a replacement.

Mr. Cuteri stated that he is interested in remaining on the Planning Commission, so that Commission is fully seated.

ACORD Board needs several people. Ken Bernauer just submitted his resignation and we had one open position on that board previously.

8. Park Work: Mr. Radcliffe presented his idea to refurbish the existing fountain. Once we close the fountain in the fall we can remove the top piece and have it sent out to have a new top machined at an estimate of \$1,800.00. Once it is returned, we would have a plumbing contractor replace the pipe fittings and bubbler. In the meantime, we would need to have the stone base rebuilt and the plaques refinished. Mr. Cuteri stated that he has the original drawings of the fountain and will get them to Mr. Radcliffe. Bluestone is what Mr. Cuteri suggest we use for the fountain base.

Basketball Court Resealed: Pave-Right in Coraopolis submitted a quote of \$3,900.00 for two coats and cleaning and filling all cracks. They will also repaint the basketball court and we will have Marty paint a four-square game on the other half of the court.

Discussion took place regarding the removal of the unused backstop. This idea was tabled. The thought of adding Pickleball court lines to the tennis court was discussed but not decided.

Mr. Davis arrived at 8:19 PM

9. Weeds along Briar Cliff and Cambridge Roads: Mrs. Raves presented the submission from Jeff Tuma to spray the Knotweed along those roads. His proposal is a three-year plan costing a total of \$2,75.00. Council agreed to have Mr. Tuma treat this area.

Mr. Radcliffe brought up the weed condition on Ben Avon Heights Road. The idea suggested is to go online and file a complaint with the PA DOT who maintains this road.

Mr. Radcliff asked when Avalon was going to paint the roads. Mrs. Raves reported that it usually happens sometime in July.

10. Delinquent Property Letters: Mrs. Raves asked Council if they wanted to send a second letter to those properties who have not complied with Council's first request. Council agreed and asked Mrs. Raves to send out a Second and Final notice stating that we would hire a contractor to remedy the situation and assess a lien on their property in the amount of the bill.

11. Executive Session: Council entered Executive Session at 8:32 PM.

12. Council resumed session at 8:34 PM

This meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

The next monthly meeting is Tuesday July 11th at 7:00 at Shannopin Country Club.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Raves, Secretary/ Treasurer