

Borough of Ben Avon Heights

Tuesday, September 12, 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: Davis, Eadie, Radcliffe, Smith – Berardi arrived at 7:41

Mayor: Dismukes

Solicitor: Vogel, Tucker Arensberg

Engineer: Heyl, Lennon Smith Souleret

Avalon Fire: Chief Berie

OTPD: Chief Micklos

Secretary/Treasurer: Raves

Carolyn Yagle, EPD

Residents: Jennifer Dickson, Richard Neidinger, David Raves, Kati Von-Lehman

Mr. Davis began the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. July 2017 Minutes:

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

2. July 2017 Treasurer's Report

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

3. August 2017 Treasurer's Report

- ***Mr. Davis made a motion*** to approve the August 2017 Treasurer's Report previously distributed to Council by email. ***Mrs. Smith seconds the motion.*** The ***motion passed unanimously as distributed.***

4. Police Report: The Chief had nothing to report. All was quiet in the Borough. Mayor Dismukes recommended approving the presented 3-year contract (with 2 one-year extensions) for Police Services from Ohio Township with a routine annual increase. - ***Mr. Davis made a motion*** to advertise Ordinance No. 336 Accepting the renewed Police Contract as presented by Mayor Dismukes. ***Mr. Radcliffe seconds the motion.*** The ***motion passed unanimously.***

5. ACORD Board Appointment: Kati Von-Lehman has stepped forward to join the Avonworth Municipal Authority as a representative from Ben Avon Heights. - ***Mr. Davis made a motion*** to approve the appointment of Ms. Von-Lehman to represent Ben Avon Heights Borough on the

Avonworth Municipal Authority. **Mr. Radcliffe seconds the motion.** The **motion passed unanimously.**

6. **Multi Municipal Comprehensive Plan:** Carolyn Yagle reviewed the draft plan that will be presented at a public hearing on Wednesday September 20th at the Avalon Elementary School at 7:00 PM. The plan was submitted to Allegheny County who questioned two issues but are pleased with the answers and the plan as currently presented. Several highlights Ms. Yagle pointed out were the improvement of transportation (mass transportation as well as pedestrian and bike traffic) and expanding shared services of the municipalities involved trying to reduce costs. (Government Cooperation.) She stated that if the Borough would like, we could have our own zoning ordinance or share with the other municipalities involved. Expanding best practices with an emphasis on green infrastructure without specifically calling out types to be used.

Storm or sanitary sewer improvements needed in the future can be used an avenue for seeking funding.

This is not a law, it is a guide that the land uses in BAHB are called out and help to enhance where we would like to in the future. If we wanted, we can have our own zoning ordinance but by our participation in the Multi municipal comprehensive plan, gaps in our land uses can be covered by the other communities. We need to formalize that we are sharing the uses by an amendment in our zoning ordinance from a policy perspective. The plan currently states that the sharing of uses is anticipated.

Mr. Vogel was concerned that he felt several issues were not covered completely. Ms. Yagle stated that at the public hearing all questions will be read and answered at the public hearing next week and that will make them part of the plan and "On the official record".

Council asked Mr. Vogel to submit all questions for the public meeting to Ms. Makatura so that all our concerns will be covered in the record.

Mr. Vogel noted that he felt that Ben Avon Heights should hold their own public hearing at the October Council meeting. **Mr. Davis made a motion** to advertise a public hearing to adopt the Multi Municipal Comprehensive Plan for vote at the October meeting. **Mrs. Smith seconds the motion.** The **motion passed unanimously.**

7. **Fire Report:** Chief Berie reported that there were no fire calls. The Chief questioned if the Borough would like the fire department to perform their usual runs Halloween evening. Council agreed and thanked the Fire department for their services.

8. **Engineer's Report: 2016 Roadway Project:** Mr. Heyl reported that flow meters were installed in the same two sewers as the last round of wet weather monitoring for the measurement of outflow. It will take 6 months of monitoring to establish the flow and to identify any changes. **2016 roadway work:** Stephanie has installed the manhole and Robinson Pipe will be scheduled for CCTV work once paving is completed. Liberoni has paving scheduled for Thursday September 14th and or 15th weather permitting. Mr. Heyl will schedule a final punch list with the contractor. Discussion took place regarding the new rain leaders needed at 11 Wilson. It is Mr. Heyl's opinion that we should hire Stephanie to complete this work since their price was considerably lower than Liberoni's and the fact that Liberoni has not been responsive to our requests. Since this work will be less than \$10,000 we are not required to bid.

Mr. Radcliffe reported that he has sent the damaged sign to Lake Shore Industries to see if they can fix the unit or if it will need to be replaced. He will report to us once the contractor determines the

A final walk thru and punch list will be scheduled in the near future.

Mr. Heyl questioned the 2017 work that Columbia Gas will be performing in the Borough and who will be bidding the work? Mr. Heyl stated that they will only do 1 1/2" overlay. We will

need to bid this work ASAP. Mrs. Raves noted that we will submit an add alternate for base repair along Briar Cliff. Mrs. Raves was requested to contact the representative of Columbia Gas and request his presence at our October meeting.

Mr. Davis reported that Shannopin Country Club questioned him regarding what they would need to do to add a fitness center and tennis/ pickle ball courts. The Borough does not require more than the zoning review and Building Permit and if you tap into the sanitary sewer, they will need a tap in submission. All other items like earth disturbance will be handled under the County.

Street Opening Ordinance No. 335. ***Mr. Davis made a motion*** to adopt Ordinance No. 335 Amending and Restating Ordinance No. 332 Regulating the openings and excavations in the streets of the Borough. ***Mr. Radcliffe seconds the motion***. The ***motion passed unanimously***.

9. **Public Comment:** Jennifer Dickson submitted a request for Councils consideration to install a "Little Free Library" at the Park. She stated that she and her husband would donate the unit to the Borough and Mrs. Dickson would be the steward of the unit, verifying that the material is appropriate and cleaning. Council agreed this would be a good idea and gave Mrs. Dickson authorization to donate the "Little Free Library". Mrs. Dickson will meet with Mr. Radcliffe to work out details for the location and installation of the unit.

Richard Neidinger attended the meeting to voice his disapproval of the Borough's hiring a landscaper to address property maintenance violations on his property. He noted that on July 20th his neighbor reported that Mrs. Raves and a landscape contractor were on his property. That day he personally spoke with Mrs. Raves, and Mayor Dismukes regarding his dissatisfaction regarding the Borough's plan. He believed other properties in the Borough were also in violation. He stated that he is negotiating the sale of the property.

10. **ACORD Park Resolution:** Mayor Dismukes stated his approval of the 50-year resolution which obligates all the municipalities for a long time. "The park is a gem."

Mr. Davis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-2 Extending Avonworth Municipal Authority. ***Mr. Radcliffe seconds the motion***. The ***motion passed unanimously***.

11. **Park Usage:** Mr. Berardi asked if Anytime Fitness could provide free workouts in the Park for four consecutive Saturdays. Council approved this use.

12. **Executive Session:** Council entered Executive Session at 8:20 PM.

13. **Council resumed session at 8:38 PM**

14. **October Budget meeting:** Wednesday October 25th was selected for this meeting.

This meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

The next monthly meeting is Tuesday October 10th at Avalon Volunteer Fire Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Raves, Secretary/ Treasurer