



Borough of Ben Avon Heights

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 - Council Meeting Minutes

A quorum is in attendance

IN Attendance:

Council Members: Brown, Cuteri, Dawley, Mihalko, Neunder, Stiller, Radcliffe

Mayor: Dismukes

Solicitor: Vogel, Tucker Arensberg

OTPD: Chief Hanny

Fire: Chief Berie

Secretary: DiNuzzo

Residents:

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

- 1. Approval of August meeting minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Radcliffe to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Stiller seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- 2. Fire Report:** There were 4 calls while council met, Chief Berie was able to stop by later in the meeting. For the month of August Chief reported that there were trees that went down in Killbuck, taking the power out in a small area on Ben Avon Heights. He was in contact with Killbuck the whole time and it was resolved quickly. Chief mentioned a new program for non-new fire fighter members. They come down and help with fundraisers and events, they're not allowed to fight fires but they do come to calls and help pass out waters. They also have a junior program, for 16 and older as well as a program for 18 and older for those who sign a 5 year agreement to the Fire Department and they will pay for your tuition at CACC. Please contact the Avalon Fire Department if interested and would like more information. Al Cuteri asked that Chief Berie provide a brochure about this to be sent to residents.
- 3. Police Report:** For the month of August there were a total of 105 calls, 93 of those were routine. Chief did mention that they have been doing some traffic posts in our area but with the road closure, traffic has been very low.
- 4. Approval of July Financials: A motion was made by Mr. Radcliffe to approve the July financials. Mr. Brown seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- 5. Engineers report:**
 - a. Questions on five-year budget for roads, sidewalks and curbs:** Discussion among council members took place over types of curbs and which streets they felt were higher on the list of repair. Mr. Radcliffe suggested council figure out how much money the Borough has for October and move forward on this project. Mrs. Neunder wanted to follow up with Avalon work to patch an area on Biddeford as well as the curb. Ms. DiNuzzo would follow up with Avalon as they were planning to give us a quote for the curb patching. Mr. Radcliffe also added while they group walked around the Borough, they would like to widen Devon and Biddeford. They would survey these to make sure there was the space needed.
 - b. Status of camera of sewer work – 1 year underway:** LSSE, the Borough and the company providing the Borough the sewer services will have a pre-construction meeting this week. Roads will not be closed while this service is being performed.

- c. **Street light replacement program:** Ms. DiNuzzo informed council that after August's meeting she had some communication with Duquesne Light and they provided her with a list of lights that they had on file for Ben Avon Heights. Ms. Raves while in the Borough Secretary position had created a map of the Borough with light poles and numbers, which should match the spread sheet Duquesne Light provided Ms. DiNuzzo. Ms. DiNuzzo has started going through the Borough with the map and list to see what may not match. Mr. Cuteri forwarded his copy of the listing with corrections he had so far.
 - d. **Sewer Tap by Non-resident:** Avalon contacted LSSE about a PA one call about a property on Newgate Road that wanted to connect to the public sewer system as they are currently on septic. LSSE and the Borough have not been contacted at this time with the appropriate requests of a sewage planning approval. Mr. Cuteri raised the question if there is an obligation to allow any property to tap into our sewer system as the Borough. The Borough has spent around \$750,000 in wet weather work to repair our sewer system and reduce flow over the past 12 years out of tax dollars. The structure address was in question and Council agreed that if the structure was not in Ben Avon Heights we would not permit tapping into our sewer. Mr. Cuteri will send a letter to the property owner and Mr. Heyl will inform Avalon of councils decision as soon as the address is verified.
- 6. Public Comment:** No public present for this meeting.
- 7. Green space update:** Greg Mihalko's were not happy as this weed treatment was sprayed in the old dumping area and they were not notified of this as they were not supposed to spray on a windy day. Mr. Radcliffe clarified that this was a scheduled application. Mr. Radcliffe would like to have the grass seed laid in early October. Mr. Cuteri reminded Mr. Radcliffe that end up September is better as the grass receives more growing time. Mr. Dismukes asked if this was the last step of the three-year plan and Mr. Radcliffe and Mr. Cuteri indicated it was.
- 8. Zoning applications:** For the month of August there was one submission: 24 Banbury to screen in an existing porch – this was approved.
- 9. County CARES Act:** Ms. DiNuzzo informed council that the agreement was submitted from the Borough and we were just provided log-in credentials to submit invoices and canceled checks. Ms. DiNuzzo will complete this in the next few weeks as she is waiting on Augusts Bank Statements.
- a. **Crossing guard status:** Ms. DiNuzzo informed council that all three crossing guards did return, one was a little hesitant with the new more aggressive schedule. Ms. DiNuzzo is also in the process of hiring one additional crossing guard to take over two shifts and be the back-up for when others are sick. This will significantly help the Borough to not rely on the Ohio Township Police as much.
- 10. Comcast agreement:** Mr. Vogel communicated that comcast is tied up with Covid issues and will address the contract as soon as possible. Mr. Vogel will continue to work on this with them.
- 11. Community events for the fall:** At this time, council will not be promoting any Community events in as required by the County Health Department guidelines.
- 12. Executive session:** Began at 8:04pm
Regular session resumed at 8:07pm
The meeting ended at 8:08pm

The next scheduled meeting is October 13th, 2020 at Shannopin Country Club at 7pm

Jessica DiNuzzo, Secretary