

The regular meeting of Beaver Borough Council was held on Tuesday January 13, 2009, in the Community Room at 7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: President Joseph Budicak; Vice-President Dave Edelstein; Dave Shallcross; Joe Zagorski; John Wolbert; Tom Patterson; Kay Nestor; Shirley Sayers; Mayor Thomas T. Hamilton; Solicitor John Petrush; Police Chief Dan Madgar; Borough Manager John Barrett and Administrative Assistant Jan Mohrbacher

ABSENT: Art Robb

VISITORS: Pam Braun, Midge Sefton, Jeff Lloyd, Greg Powell, Bob Rice, Dan Deceder, Tommi Wagner, Debbie Alexander, Randy Alexander, Tom Lodovico, Beverly Lodovico, Bob Smith, Dave Linkimer, John Grosskopf, State Representative Jim Christiana

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and roll call. Mayor Hamilton swore in Mr. Zagorski who was appointed in December to fill the vacancy on Council.

Mr. Patterson motioned to approve the minutes of December 9, 2008 as submitted. Mr. Edelstein seconded and the motion carried.

Persons in Attendance:

Pam Braun of 695 Seventh Street noted that she had submitted some research she did on previous Council meetings in the 1970's regarding the road project completed by the Borough at that time. Ms. Braun noted that she had heard that the Highway Committee was going to recommend that no sidewalks be installed on Seventh Street under this year's project and asked Council to support that recommendation.

Unfinished Business:

1. Ft. McIntosh Club – Mr. Shallcross stated that due to certain circumstances that he was not prepared to discuss this topic at this time and hopes to have all the information for the next Council meeting.
2. DCED Audit Report – Mr. Edelstein noted that the 2007 DCED Audit which is required had been completed but that the expanded audit to match GASB 34 requirements as still in the works. The Industrial Appraisal Company has completed their data collection and the report is in production. Once the new appraisal is completed then Cottrill & Arbutina can complete the expanded audit for 2007.

3. Use of Equipment and Facilities – It was noted that this subject was referred to the General Government Committee for further review and with Mr. Robb being absent we would leave this item on Unfinished Business. Mr. Patterson stated he thought that this was going to be a dead issue. He feels the proposed resolution is going too far and that things should be left the way they are. Mr. Patterson believes there will be opportunities lost for employees to do things that ultimately benefit the Borough. Mrs. Nestor stated that she believes that the specific reason this was brought up is totally different from the items cited by Mr. Patterson such as using the exercise equipment and that kind of use needs addressed. After some discussion, this will be reviewed by the General Government Committee.
4. Employee Handbook – It was noted that a special meeting was going to be set up to specifically review the draft handbook. Solicitor Petrush stated that he received some additional information from the Manager and a sample handbook. Some further review by the Solicitor is needed because of some requirements the insurance companies are now mandating. It was decided to leave this on unfinished business and when the Solicitor is ready to proceed a special meeting would then be called.
5. Job Descriptions and Evaluation Forms – Mr. Wolbert thanked the Manager for preparing the documents. There were several questions but the Wage & Personnel Committee will discuss these at their meeting. Mr. Patterson noted that there were some changes in the Police documents that will be discussed at the Emergency Services Committee meeting and brought to Council. Mr. Budicak asked the Solicitor if the Borough had any obligation to discuss any changes to these documents with the employees. Solicitor Petrush stated that at a minimum the Council needs to meet and discuss these changes with the employees. If the changes were of substance that might change their terms of employment then there would be a requirement to bargain these changes.
6. Police Department Accreditation – Mr. Budicak noted that in October Council agreed to authorized the submission of an application to begin the process of seeking accreditation. However, a continued review of the process was to be done to better understand what was going to be involved and exactly what costs might be incurred. This will be discussed further under the Emergency Services Committee report.
7. Zoning Ordinance Revision – Bob Rice updated Council as to the status of the zoning revision. He will provide a continued report next month.

8. Greenhouse Gas Inventory – Mr. Wolbert stated that Stanley Kabala a professor at Duquesne University was going to conduct a study on Greenhouse Gas and that the Borough could participate at no cost and the study would provide something similar to a utility audit. This report could then be used to pursue grants to make recommended changes. There is a meeting scheduled for January 20th at 7:00 PM at the Conway Fire Hall. Mr. Wolbert stated that he would not be able to attend this meeting and though a representative should attend. Mr. Zagorski and Manager Barrett said they would check their schedules and see if they could attend. Mr. Budicak noted that anyone interested could attend.

Voting/New Business Items:

1. Sidewalks on the dead end of Seventh Street – Mrs. Nestor stated that the Highway Committee met and reviewed the situation. The Committee meeting minutes and supplemental information are attached. They felt this was a unique situation and that special considerations were warranted and therefore the Committee was recommending that no sidewalks be installed on either side of the street but that curbs would be required. After some discussion, Mrs. Nestor motioned not to require the installation of sidewalks on the dead end of Seventh Street as a part of the road reconstruction project that will begin this year because there is no existing sidewalk and there are no connecting sidewalks to adjoining areas and as not to create an undue hardship on the property owners who abut both Sixth and Seventh Streets. Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. Mr. Shallcross noted that Spagnola's made a similar request when the Borough did the portion of Sixth Street behind his business. All felt this was a unique situation because there was no contiguous sidewalk to adjoin with. With no further discussion, the motion carried. Mr. Patterson thanked Ms. Braun for her efforts in researching the past events and presenting them to Council.
2. Banner Request for Philly Original– Mr. Wolbert motioned to approve the banner request as presented. Mrs. Sayers seconded and the motion carried. Mrs. Nestor asked that the requirements approved by Council be placed on the form. The Manager will look at remaking the form.
3. Rules of Order for Council Meetings – Solicitor Petrush stated that due to certain circumstances he was unable to bring a completed copy of the proposed Rules of Order and asked that the matter be considered at the February meeting. Council agreed.

New Business:

1. Mr. Wolbert distributed information on the Right-to-know law and a sample resolution. He believes that the Borough still needs to adopt a resolution on how records would be handled. The Solicitor will review the matter and report back to Council. Representative Christiana stated that his office was setting up a meeting in February for all the local Open Records Officers to attend and review the requirements of the new law and answer any questions.
2. Mr. Shallcross brought up an idea of organizing snow mobile races down by the river. There are no other communities in the area that do this but he has seen where others are doing this type of event. Mr. Shallcross will gather more information and report back to Council.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. David Shallcross, Chairperson

1. Mr. Shallcross reported that the Community Development Program was finalizing the RFP for consultants to submit proposals to conduct the two feasibility studies. They are hoping to put the advertisement out sometime in February.
2. Mr. Shallcross reported that swing sets were purchased under last year's budget and will be installed sometime this spring.

Wage & Personnel Committee – Mr. John Wolbert, Chairperson

1. Mr. Wolbert noted that his December Committee meeting was canceled. He stated that his regular monthly meetings would continue on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. He noted that his Committee would be reviewing the letters of employment for the non-union employees.

Special Services Committee – Mrs. Shirley Sayers, Chairperson

1. Mrs. Sayers had nothing to report.

Highway Committee – Mrs. Kathryn Nestor, Chairperson

1. Mrs. Nestor presented the Public Works Department November report for Council's review.

Water and Sewer Committee – Mr. Joseph Zagorski, Chairperson

1. Mr. Zagorski presented the December expense and revenue report and November Treasurer's report of the water and sewer fund for Council's review.
2. Mr. Zagorski presented the Water and Sewer Department report for Council's review.

General Government Committee – Mr. Art Robb, Chairperson

1. Mr. Budicak presented a letter from Mary Boys expressing how beautiful she thought the Christmas lights looked in Beaver.
2. Mr. Budicak presented a letter from Bill and Sue Cutri thanking Council for their efforts in trapping the skunks this past year and made a donation of \$100 to support that effort.
3. Mr. Budicak presented a semi-annual zoning report from the Zoning Officer for Council's information.

Emergency Services Committee – Mr. Thomas Patterson, Chairperson

1. Mr. Patterson noted that he would be having a Committee meeting on February 2nd at 7:00 PM.
2. Mayor Hamilton had nothing to report.
3. Chief Madgar noted that the accreditation process was started but would be discussed at the Emergency Services Committee meeting. Council stated they wanted to see specific numbers on the cost to attain the accreditation as well as costs associated with maintaining the accreditation in the subsequent years.
4. John Grosskopf noted that the Fire Department received a grant for \$10,200 for a commercial washer to maintain their turn-out gear and for some other minor items. Dave Linkimer thanked Council for his appointment as the Emergency Management Coordinator and noted there was some paperwork that needed to be addressed with the appointment. The Manager will get with Mr. Linkimer to complete the necessary items. Mr. Linkimer noted that the Fire Department would also like to recognize Ray Grosskopf for all his efforts as the Emergency Management Coordinator next month with Council.

Finance Committee – Mr. David R. Edelstein, Chairperson

1. Mr. Edelstein presented the December revenue and expense report and November Secretary's report of the general fund for Council's review. Mr. Edelstein also noted that he would be having a Committee meeting sometime in the near future to review the year end numbers.

Marketing Committee – TBD, Chairperson

1. There was no report.

Mrs. Nestor requested an executive session to discuss the ongoing negotiation with the Municipal Employees.

Solicitor's Report:

1. Solicitor Petrush had nothing to report.

Manager's Report:

1. Manager Barrett asked Council to change depositories from Citizen's Bank to First National Bank. There have been numerous repetitive problems with Citizen's Bank which the Bank has been unable to resolve. After some discussion, Mr. Edelstein motioned to change the Borough's and Authority's depository to First National Bank at the earliest convenience of the office. Mr. Patterson seconded and the motion carried.

Council went into executive session at 8:42 P.M.

Council reconvened at 9:03 P.M.

Mrs. Sayers motioned to pay all approved bills. Mr. Shallcross seconded and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 P.M.

Submitted by,

John M. Barrett
Borough Manager