

Borough of Ben Avon Heights

Wednesday, January 10, 2012 - Council Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of council was held at Avalon Borough Building at 7:00 P.M.

A quorum is in attendance

Present:

Council Members: Berardi, Cuteri, Davis, Isherwood, Georgalas, Keelan, Kolenda

Mayor: Dismukes

Solicitor: Vogel, Tucker Arensberg

Avalon Fire Chief: Carney

Ohio Twp. Police Chief: Micklos

Engineer: Firek, Lennon Smith Souleret Engineering

Secretary/Treasurer: Raves

Harry Dilmore: Avalon Borough

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Dismukes: (Councilman Berardi was not yet present and needed to be sworn in before business could begin.)

1. Fire Report – Chief Carney has no activity to report. Mr. Dilmore reported that the 911 emergency call system has been notified of the change of Fire Protection for the Borough.
2. Police Report – Chief Micklos stated that there was lots of activity in the area but not actually located in the Heights. There was one Alarm, a credit card issue and one Ambulance Call.
Jim Georgalas thanked the Police for their quick and professional response to his call for emergency medical assistance.
Mayor Dismukes needs to talk to the Borough Manager regarding renewal of our contract with the Police Department.
3. Mayor Dismukes swore in the new members of Council – Berardi, Georgalas and Keelan
All members of Council were asked to get copies of their Election Certificate to Mrs. Raves for the Borough's files.
4. Mayor Dismukes officially called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM.
5. Nominations were requested for President and Vice President of Council. Mr. Berardi made a motion to maintain the same President and Vice President as last year. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. Committee member assignments –

Jim Georgalas has offered to take on the Planning Commission. Mr. Cuteri stated he would be happy to turn it over to Mr. Georgalas. This is to be a Board of 3 members... One Council Member and two Borough Residents. Mr. G. Mihalko is on this board but there is still one resident vacancy. (Mr. Keelan was on this board before his appointment to Council.) Mr. Cuteri stated that a joint Planning Commission was discussed with Kilbuck Township and will need to be pursued with their Commission in the future.

David Raves' term on the Zoning Hearing Board has expired and has offered to rejoin for another term.

Discussion took place regarding the redistribution of duties from the Community Affairs Committee. Kim Cuneo has offered to handle creation and distribution of the "Annual Report" for 2011. She has also offered to maintain the task of Christmas sign post decoration in the future. This will leave the Welcome Resident Packages and the Annual Report to Mrs. Raves in 2012.

Earned Income Tax Collection is now being handled by The Keystone Collections Group. Mrs. Raves has been attempting to verify that Ben Avon Heights Borough has been successfully integrated into their system. To date, it does not seem that they have us in their computer system as an employer or as a recipient of Taxes for 2012. Mr. Vogel will contact someone to verify who we need to discuss and rectify this dilemma with.

Mr. Vogel reported that the 2012 County reassessment figures will probably not be used till 2013. At this time it appears that last year's figures will be used for 2012.

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| Streets/Lights/Water - | Mark Davis, Rick Berardi and Andy Kolenda |
| Fire/Police - | Mayor Dismukes |
| Finance - | Mayor Dismukes, Alan Cuteri and Mark Davis |
| Community Affairs - | Deleted and these tasks will fall to the Secretary/ Treasurer |
| Sewers/Consent Decree - | John Isherwood, Peter Keelan, Jim Georgalas |
| Recreation - | Alan Cuteri |
| Planning Commission - | Jim Georgalas - 2014 |
| Insurance - | Rick Berardi |
| ANTCC (Allegheny North Tax Collection Committee) Representatives - | Alan Cuteri and John Isherwood |

7. Determine Appointment for Officials –

A motion was made by Mr. Cuteri to appoint Jim Georgalas to Planning Commission in place of Mr. Cuteri and to reinstate Mr. Raves to the Zoning Hearing Board for another 4 year term. The motion was approved unanimously.

The list of Officials for the year 2012 is as follows...

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|---|---|
| Solicitor | Tucker Arensberg Attorney - John Vogel |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Denise Raves |
| Engineer | Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineers |
| Police Chief | Ohio Township Police Department Chief Micklos |
| Fire Chief | Avalon Fire Chief William Carney |
| Zoning Officer | Tom Price |
| Zoning Hearing Board (3 year staggered terms) | Heather O'Brien – 2010 to 2012 Jason Brown – 2011 to 2013 David Raves - 2012 to 2014 |
| Building Inspector | Building Inspection Underwriters of PA |
| Emergency Management Coordinator | Scott Dismukes |
| Judge of Elections | Matt Wensel |
| ACORD Board | Ed Gould/Ken Bernauer/Jason Brown/ Need to appoint another. |
| Auditors | Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood LLP |
| Earned Income Tax Collector | Keystone Collections Group |
| Elected Real Estate Tax Collector | Denise Raves |
| Deputized Real Estate Tax Collector | Berkheimer & Associates |
| Planning Commission Members | Jim Georgalas (4 year term) 2012 to 2014 Greg Mihalko (3 yr term) 2010 to 2012 Need to Appoint another resident to this Commission |
| Legal Advertising | The Citizen |
| Bank | First Niagara |

8. December 2011 Minutes

- *A motion was made to approve the December 2011 Minutes.* Discussion took place; Mr. Cuteri stated that the minutes needed to be corrected at item #5 to change the word year to “years”. *They were approved unanimously as corrected.*

9. December 2011 Treasurer’s Report

- *A motion was made to approve the December 2011 Treasurer’s Reports which was approved unanimously as distributed.*

Discussion took place regarding the Budget VS Actual Report... Mrs. Raves will verify the numbers for next meeting.

10. EMS Report – No report was presented on this date.

11. Engineer’s Report – Mr. Firek stated the need for a meeting to discuss long term plans of 2012 Sewer program, the 2012 Road program, MS-4 Permit and the Chapter 94 Report that is due to Alcosan by 3/1/12.

A meeting is scheduled for January 24th at the offices of the Solicitor, One PPG Center at 10:00 AM to review the O&M Plan with the County Health Department and then members will stay to review the above mentioned issues.

Attendees will be: Cuteri, Isherwood and Keelan and maybe Davis and Dismukes

Mr. Firek reviewed the bids that had been received by phone for the Wilson/ Newgate punctured sewer line. This work will include digging and repair of the sanitary line while the Utility Company simultaneously moves the pole. The bids also include temporary asphalt patch till spring when the successful bidder will provide a finished final patch. Martino Inc. was the low bidder in the amount of \$6,767.00. This work will include digging to repair sanitary line while the Utility Company moves the pole at the same time.

Mr. Cuteri made a motion – to award a contract to Martino Inc. for the work outlined in the bid documents provided by LSSE in the amount of \$6,767.00. The motion passed unanimously.

We have not heard anything regarding the CITF grants we applied for.

12. Insurance Review – This discussion was tabled till next month. Mr. Berardi has Mr. Rick Hagar coming to explain the coverage; however, he was not available to attend this evening. The overall review is that we have plenty of coverage.
13. Hauling Permits – Discussion took place. Hauling Permits are to be in place with contractors who are working on properties in the Borough that require Building Permits and have trucks on the roads over the stated limit. Enforcement of this Code does not fall to the Secretary/ Treasurer. There will not be any changes in this process.
14. Storage bin at the Park School Bus Stop. – Discussion took place due to a message received by e-mail regarding the items stored at the bus stop for safety purposes. It was determined that nothing will be done regarding this matter at this time.

Executive Session was entered into at 8:40 PM

At 8:50 Meeting resumed

15. Mr. Isherwood made a motion was made to authorize LSSE to begin preliminary design work on the retaining wall at the Briar Cliff Road location based on the Geo Technical Studies that were recently obtained as well as a plan for Wilson Road resurfacing (section to be defined at a later date) and the Sewer lines behind Stratford Road and the curb on Banbury. The motion passed unanimously.
Mr. Davis will contact LSSE to get them started on that work.

This meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M

The next monthly meeting is Wednesday February 8th at 7:00 at Shannopin Country Club.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Raves, Secretary/ Treasurer