

Borough of Ben Avon
7101 Church Avenue, Ben Avon, Pennsylvania 15202
Regular Meeting of Council – February 20, 2018
Minutes

Call to Order

President, Jennifer Bett, called the meeting to order at 7:01p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members Present

Jennifer Bett, Earl Bohn, Michele Boyd, Henry Casale, Megan Dolan, Ken Opipery, and David Stoeckle

Council Members Absent

None

Others Present

Melanie Holcomb, Mayor
Anne Sweeney, Esq., Solicitor
Lisa Cronin, Secretary
Dale Regrut, Public Works Foreman
James Rupert, Chief, Ben Avon Volunteer Fire Department
Norbert Micklos, Chief, Ohio Township Police Department

Public Participation

None

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mr. Stoeckle; Second: Mr. Bohn; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2017, council meeting.

Financial Report - Report given by Ken Opipery

Motion: Mr. Opipery; Second: Mr. Casale; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the accounts payables of \$60,645.30 for 12/31/2017.

Motion: Mr. Opipery; Second: Mr. Casale; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the accounts payables of \$125,811.01 for 1/1/18 through 2/16/18.

Motion: Mr. Opipery; Second: Mr. Casale; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve final 2017-year end financials and December 2017 statements.

Motion: Mr. Opipery; Second: Mr. Casale; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve January 2018 financials.

Administration Report –Report given by Earl Bohn

Mr. Bohn provided follow up on the borough's Ordinance on commercial property rental permits and the inspections required before a permit is issued. Mr. Bohn advised the building inspector to continue to enforce the Ordinance for the safety of everyone. The borough has an ongoing rental inspection program that has a three (3) year cycle.

Public Affairs / Communications Report – Report given by President Jennifer Bett

Mrs. Bett and her husband, Michael, have been working on updating the borough’s website to make it easier to update and maintain. Mayor Holcomb suggested it would be worth having a representative from the Savvy Citizen talk to council about their program.

Public Safety/Code Enforcement Report–Report given by Earl Bohn

Mr. Bohn said that he would send out some dates to council members regarding the invitation from the Fire Chief and the President of Ben Avon Fire Department to come and see what activities they perform.

Public Works Report – Report given by Ken Opipery

Mr. Opipery is in the process of review and re-writing the borough Street Opening Ordinance. It would involve getting a permit from the Public Works Foreman, requiring a larger and better restoration by the company doing the work. The borough is not interested in making money from this, but rather having the work done thoroughly and properly.

Motion: Mr. Opipery; Second: Mr. Stoeckle; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve advertising the revised Street Opening Ordinance presented by Gateway Engineers in The Citizen upon the Solicitor’s review and approval. Public Works Foreman will communicate with Council President Bett with any upcoming construction, emergency projects, etc. so that she can get the word out to residents. Mr. Opipery agreed that communication with the residents is important but the residents need to know that circumstances can change that are beyond the borough’s control.

Mayor’s Report – Report given by Melanie Holcomb

Please see Attachment A.

Police Chief’s Report – No Report

Fire Chief’s Report – No Report

Solicitor’s Report – No Report

New Business

Motion: Mr. Bohn; Second: Mr. Casale; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve Resolution No. 2018-01 Tax Rate Millage of 4.36 for 2018.

Motion: Mrs. Dolan; Second: Mr. Bohn; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve Jordan Tax Service to collect the borough’s taxes.

Old Business

Motion: Mr. Casale; Second: Mr. Stoeckle; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to appoint Jennifer Fustich to represent Ben Avon as a voting member for the term of five (5) years on the Avonworth Municipal Authority Executive board beginning Tuesday, February 20, 2018.

Motion: Mr. Casale; Second: Mr. Bohn; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to appoint Case Ahr, Lisa Byerly, Terry Hartnett, and Michael Schwartz as Ben Avon representatives to the Avonworth Municipal Authority Advisory board beginning Tuesday, February 20, 2018 for the term of one (1) year.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Opiery; Second: Mr. Bohn; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Cronin,
Borough Secretary