

Regular meetings minutes for 9 February 2023

President Little called meeting to order. Secretary Pat Lansbery, Council Members Wendy Harker & Michelle McNeely absent. Council Members Lou Little, Bill Heaton, Eli Kosanovich, Jake Tate, Jeff Seybert present. Tax Collector Kathleen Brewer, Code Enforcement Officer Chris Lemon and Solicitor Joe Budisak present. Chief David Johnson of Beaver Falls PD also present. January Minutes accepted by JTate motion, JSeybert second.

Approved. Officer Reports accepted by

BHeaton motion, JSeybert second. Approved.

Chris Lemmon gave a copy of his 2022 building permit report for Beaver County to Council. He said the previous animal control issue property on Matilda was being cleaned out. Several dumpsters had been filled and removed. BF Police Chief Johnson reported on their continued bus monitoring details. He was aware of High St speeding complaints. Discussion of possibly placing the BFPD speed alert trailer on that roadway to deter violators.

Citizen comments opened by JTate motion, JSeybert second.

Approved.

Bob Kaib of 3782 W5th inquired about previous concerns raised about the vacant industrial properties near his home (old foundary, PMAC?) President will consult Code Enf for status. Kevin Farkas of 3706 W8th discussed the recent East Palestine Train Incident. He was surprised at the lack of "official" public notification and commentary on social media. He took additional steps to protect the borough website and FaceBook page to insure security. He noted that many people had confusion about the current Beaver County Emergency Services notification program. Bill Heaton, our Borough Emergency Mgmt Coordinator, discussed Smart911 signup. Kevin asked for a "back-up" contact for the borough web presence in case he is unavailable or to allow "official" up-to-the-minute control of public commentary. Boro EMA staff will work with him to on that.

No further citizen comments offered. Return to regular order of business motion by BHeaton, JSeybert second. Approved.

Old business:

Streets- BHeaton presented preliminary info from Widmer Engr about the sections of roadway currently identified for

potential paving this summer. Widmer gave estimates based on previous 2022 job costs which totaled over \$197k. Widmer had a recent proposal with newer 2023 values showing a significant increase in price with the same now over \$343k. Council to review the list and reduce the list of roadways for a lower total project cost as discussed previously.

Bill received a citizen complaint about the poor condition of Norwood. He stated that Norwood was on the list for projects this year but as it's a concrete roadway it would require special treatment that might increase the cost for that small section. Bill also received a letter from PenDot about a complaint brought to them last fall about the Norwood and Wallace Run intersection.

The letter states that PenDot will proceed to investigate the situation and keep the borough informed of their findings.

Fire & Police- Little advised that the VFD Ladies Aux would NOT be doing a bake sale during the upcoming May primary election so the Centennial Cmte would be able to do so. HE also said that the Beaver County Fire Police would be willing to assist with traffic control for the Centennial Celebration at the Park in August for a \$400 donation to the Beaver County Fire Police.

Building, grounds & equipment- Eli noted that the furnace replacement cost was substantially under the approved low-bid price. An updated version of the Employee Handbook was offered. Changes were made to replace existing references to "management" and "supervisor" with more appropriate terms like Council and Street Committee Chair. Discussion about limiting the awarded Vacation time to maximum of 2 weeks after 3yrs service. JTate brought up that accumulated comp hours and vacation time reduce the available work hours for the borough's ongoing needs. Proposed to simply pay the OT as it occurs and have full crew present & working on projects. Eli inquired about borough liability for impaired driving ability due to extended working hours of crews operating vehicles before & after their typical shift. JTate noted CDL drivers have strict operating limits. Council members will review proposal and return suggestions next month. Solicitor will review also in light of recent employment law changes.

Salt supplies from previous year purchase are still being used.

Additional shipments of anti-skid have been ordered. Once old salt exhausted, current COSTARS contract minimum order for 3 loads will be ordered.

Sewers & Sanitation- BHeaton created a sewer tap-in

specification form as the borough had nothing standardized. He has been in contact with BFMA several times to determine who has data for the flow meter that they claim is in place at the end of the borough sewer system. This data is required by the DEP for our reporting on the improvements we make to our system.

He also reported a problem with a storm drain in the vicinity of Cottage & Ross. A new catch basin will need to be placed.

Motion to purchase by JTate, JSeibert second. Approved

Ordinance- JSeibert asked about grass cutting at abandon properties. Discussion about 2 known "vacant" homes and what our ordinances specifically state. Code Enforcement has been unsuccessful in getting any reply from property owners.

Solicitor again reiterated the lengthy process for placing a lien against the property and the limits on getting any reimbursement.

Finance & Litigation- none

Parks & rec- JTate invited Kip Richeal & coaches to discuss their plans for West Mayfield Baseball teams. They expressed their interest in continuing to support the operation of the ball fields for the kids use. They stated 2 teams use the field: Legends of West Mayfield and West Mayfield Youth Baseball.

They are aware of the upcoming Centennial event in August.

They were asked to participate in the parade during that day.

They are willing to work with Council to enter into an agreement outlining their responsibilities. Questions of utility billing for water and electric were raised, will confirm with Pat about that. They stated they are seeking a lawnmower to use for the fields this year as they had one given to them but it's not working reliably. JSeibert offered to give them an old mower of his and to help repair theirs.

JTate asked again about listing the salvage vehicles on Municibid. He needed a contact person for the posting. (Eli agreed to be) Consensus was a minimum bid of \$1500 for the bucket truck and \$5000 for the parts truck. Both vehicles will be listed "As-Is" condition.

Solicitor- Presented a bill for legal consulting for litigation matter. Motion to approve by BHeaton, JTate second. Approved.

New Business:

Streets- LLittle brought up a parking issue from resident on Harding. Concern for neighbors parking limiting their ability to back out of their driveway. No berm or shoulder parking available in that area so any vehicles must be fully on private

property. If vehicles are parked on the street they would be considered as stopped in the roadway and subject to citation by Beaver Falls PD.

Fire & Police- none

Building and grounds- none

Sewers & Sanitation- BHeaton to meet with Dan from Widmer Engr at the park on Friday at 2PM to review the MS4 proposal.

He suggested any council member available to attend as its likely a very large financial cost this year.

Ordinance- none

Finance & Litigation- none

Parks & Rec- JTate asked for input on what terms should be included in the ball field contract with the new coaches. Will investigate the current status of the existing bathroom & plumbing lines. Determine if feasible to return it to functional vs portajohn rental expense.

Solicitor- Bond for W3rd, Patterson & Rock Ave by Reningers/Metal Buildings submitted after recent citation resulting from traffic control detail by Beaver Falls PD. Motion to accept the bond by JTate. JSeybert second. Approved. Chief Johnson again explained the substantial process necessary to make traffic stops on large commercial vehicles, escorting them to certified scale locations and the impact of the mandatory citations that result. JTate confirmed the difficulty CDL drivers face when tasked with driving into commercial sites while risking these punitive fines. Discussion of asking other businesses in that lower end of the borough to consider securing such road damage bond following recent paving on that end of W 3rd Ave. Consideration for any future paving on other end of 3rd also

A motion to pay the bills was made by JTate, BHeaton second.

Approved

A motion to ratify purchases made by committees was made by JTate with the exception of the item "\$52.02 Giant Eagle lunch for employee" No further info was available for this questionable purchase. BHeaton second. Approved with the exception.

BHeaton moved to adjourn, JSeybert second. Approved.