

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
December 7, 2020  
7:00PM Council Meeting**

THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1. Call to Order by presiding officer  
Moment of silence, Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call (if quorum is not present, the meeting shall thereupon be Adjourned to a specific date by the majority vote of those present)
3. Review and approval of agenda.
4. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals
5. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
6. Old Business
7. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
8. New Business
9. Added Items
10. Adjournment

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDING OFFICER: Council President Robert Lewis**

**ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)**

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u> <u>&amp; MAYOR</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
LEWIS	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>			
TROIANI	<u>X(Zoom)</u>	<u>      </u>	Chief of Police	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
ALLEY	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	Solicitor	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>
BOWER	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	Engineer	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>
JARRETT	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	DPW Foreman	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
LEARN	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>PE - Jeri Gibbons</u>	<u>      </u>
TALANCA	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	Fire Chief	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>			
DAMIEN SCOBLINK, MANAGER	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>			

Council President Lewis announced that there was an executive session prior to the meeting to conduct collective bargaining activities.

**ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:**

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Talanca

All in favor, agenda approved

**ITEM 4. PUBLIC HEARING / CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE / PERSONAL APPEALS:**

1. CDBG-CV Second Allocation Project Finalization - Tyler Dombroski of SEDA-COG presented update on CDBG-CV second round funds. Council indicated a desire to utilize this money to help local restaurants. After reviewing what such a program would look like, action taken:

Consider and take action to allocate second round of CDBG-CV funding for grants to local businesses, specifically restaurants.

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Mr. Learn X Approved,  Denied,  
 Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Citizens Correspondence/Personal Appeals

None

**ITEM 5. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:**

1. Boulevard traffic patterns - There was concern over a change that was made, utilizing 11<sup>th</sup> Street as an open crossing for Market Street, instead of 9<sup>th</sup> Street. By the time of this meeting, it had already been changed back, and will remain that way.
2. Meetings for 2021 - Virtual? - Will include in advertisement for next year's meetings that all meetings will be virtual for the public, until announced otherwise
3. Around the table
  - a. Chief Strish - There will be an awards ceremony for his officers December 20, but will be for department only; Body Camera grant paperwork is complete, and will be ready for reimbursement
  - b. Mr. Lewis - Looking for a way for Fire Department to access river for training purposes, Mr. Kyttle will explore options
  - c. Mr. Jarrett - Following up on request for stop sign at Third Avenue and Poplar Street, Mr. Kyttle will look into this; Had a conversation with Briar Creek Township Supervisor about how

local municipalities used to meet regularly to discuss local issues, Borough Manager will reach out to discuss the Borough's involvement in any efforts to restart this practice

**ITEM 6. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**ITEM 7. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

1. Ordinance 2020-05 - Setting the Tax Millage Rate for 2021

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Bower Second: Mr. Learn X Approved,  Denied,   
Tabled

All in favor, ordinance approved.

**ITEM 8. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consider and take action to approve Borough of Berwick 2021 Operating Budget.

Discussion: None

Motion: Ms. Alley Second: Mr. Jarrett X Approved,   
Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to accept copier lease terms from Bodnar Sales and Service.

Discussion: Borough Manager recommended accepting this proposal over competing proposal from Xerox. Bodnar proposal amounts to approximately \$300 more per year, but is a local business with an excellent service history with the Borough, and the Xerox proposal included a refurbished machine.

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Mr. Talanca X Approved,   
Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to approve payment in the amount of \$425 to Keypoint Frame & Art for completion of framing of historic flag for display.

Discussion: Having this work done was approved some time ago, this is approving paying the bill.

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Ms. Alley X Approved,   
Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

4. Consider and take action to accept bid for recycling truck rental from Premier Trucking, contingent on bid being deemed fully satisfactory upon further review.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Ms. Troiani X Approved,   
Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

5. Consider and take action to accept bid for recycling truck rental from Big Truck Rentals, only in the event Premier Trucking bid is determined to be insufficient, and then contingent on bid being deemed fully satisfactory upon further review.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Learn X Approved,  Denied,  
 Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

6. Consider and take action to appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as a Berwick Borough representative to BAJSA for a five-year term.

Discussion: Will table and schedule interviews for interested parties, as well as extend deadline to allow for more applicants.

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_  Approved,  Denied, X Tabled

7. Consider and take action to appoint \_\_\_\_\_ to the Zoning Hearing Board for a five-year term.

Discussion: Will table and schedule interviews for interested parties, as well as extend deadline to allow for more applicants.

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_  Approved,  Denied, X Tabled

8. Consider and take action to accept extend deadline to December 21, 2020 for all previously advertised board openings for 2021.

Discussion: Conversation was had relating to appointing for the positions applicants are in place for, or only extending deadline for positions with no applicants, but ultimate decision was to extend for all positions.

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Talanca  Approved,  Denied,  Tabled

9. Consider and take action to accept bid for stone for recycling center from Newport Aggregate, in the amount of \$8,100.

Discussion: Newport Aggregate provided lowest bid for this project.

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Bower X Approved,  Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

#### ITEM 9. ADDED ITEMS

1. Item: Consider and take action to accept terms of settlement agreement with BAJSA to satisfy BAJSA's fiscal responsibility toward Abbonizio settlement.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Mr. Bower X Approved,  Denied,  Tabled

All in favor, with Mr. Learn abstaining due to being a paid member of the BAJSA board. Motion approved.

Council President Lewis announced there would be an executive session to discuss specific personnel. The possibility of returning to an action item following this session was announced. Open meeting was adjourned to executive session.

Council returned to open session. It was announced that no action items would occur.

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Mr. Talanca

Meeting adjourned.