

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 19, 2023

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. Presentation
5. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Agenda Items
6. Approval of the preceding meeting minutes if correct and rectifying mistakes if any exist.
7. Approval of Payment of Bills
8. Reports of Committees
9. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
10. Old Business
11. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
12. New Business
13. Added Items
14. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items
15. Adjournment

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDING OFFICER: Council President Nelson Learn

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u> <u>& MAYOR</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
LEARN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			
JARRETT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Chief of Police	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
LEWIS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Solicitor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
MOCCIA	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	Engineer	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
TALANCA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	DPW Foreman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
TROIANI	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>Susan Schwartz (PE)</u>	
WOZNIAK	<u> X </u>	<u> X </u>	Fire Chief	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			
Borough Manager	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			

ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:

Discussion - Borough Manager noted additions over the weekend.

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Mr. Lewis

All in favor, agenda approved.

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: Michael Burger, SEDA-COG - CDBG FFY 2023 Project Finalization

- Mr. Burger reviewed proposed allocation of CDBG funds for FFY 2023. Hearing no dissenting comments from Council, Mr. Burger noted that he would move forward with drafting Annual Action Plan based upon these proposed allocations.

ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items

None

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETINGS

- Regular Council Meeting of June 5, 2023.

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Lewis Second: Mr. Talanca

All in favor, minutes approved.

ITEM 7. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS MOTION: Mr. Jarrett SECOND: Ms. Wozniak

All in favor, payment of bills approved.

ITEM 8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

MAYOR: Mayor Tim Burke - Noted that he was preparing to disperse Mayor's Ball funds. Considering additional fund raisers. Was recently named state Mayor of the Year.

ENGINEER: Quad 3 - None

SOLICITOR: Attorney Frank Kepner - Recently filed codes-related legal action.

PERSONNEL: Tom Moccia, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett - None

LEGAL AND FINANCE: Tom Moccia, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett - None

PARKS AND RECREATION: Teresa Troiani, Pete Talanca, Jay Jarrett - Borough Manager provided reminder of upcoming Fourth of July festivities. Also noted that work on Fitness Court is complete, and an event to unveil is in the works.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Greg Harkins, Jeri Wozniak, Teresa Troiani, Jay Jarrett - None

STREETS, PARKS, & BUILDINGS: Jack Kyttle - Mr. Kyttle noted that pavement work on North Street is complete. Work on Arch Street and Fifth Avenue will be completed later in the summer.

FIRE AND WATER: Jeri Wozniak, Pete Talanca, Bob Lewis - None

CODES, RECYCLING, & ORDINANCES: Nelson Learn, Tom Moccia, Pete Talanca - Borough Manager and Solicitor have begun conversations on updates to landlord ordinance.

SAFETY: Bob Lewis - None

POLICE: Chief Ken Strish - Officers completed special training. Reviewed monthly stats.

FIRE: Chief Gene Boone - Reviewed monthly stats.

BAJSA REPORT: See Report - Report provided.

ITEM 9. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Fire Department/Eagle Proposal - Conversation including Chief Boone and Council noted the need for a meeting between Borough chiefs and Eagle line officers.
2. Illegal Vehicles Parked on Streets - Borough Manager, Solicitor and Chief Strish have started working on updating ordinance.
3. Stop Sign Removals - Borough Manager noted signs are no longer needed at updated railroad crossings. Council offered no dissent to drafting ordinance to remove.
4. Stair Mural Project - Connie Donlin discussed on behalf of the Berwick Arts Association. Council asked questions regarding both safety and durability. Generally expressed support of the project, encouraging BAA to move forward with drafting a formal agreement.

ITEM 10. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 11. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution No. 2023-05: Requesting Communication Between Berwick Fire Board and Eagle Hose Company

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Ms. Wozniak Approved,
Denied, Tabled

All in favor, resolution passed.

ITEM 12. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to approve payment of Berwick Arts Association Mosaic Project Invoice, in the amount of \$5,000, to be paid utilizing CLFRF funds.

Discussion: None

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

2. Consider and take action to amend May 15, 2023, New Business Item 7, related to a sign request at 1740 Franklin Street, as follows:

Discussion: Discussed ramifications of various options with regards to this sign. Borough Manager noted that, with it being a Borough street, Council was not obligated to follow PennDOT standards. Solicitor commented on potential liability. Borough Manager noted that, absent a motion otherwise, previously approved action to install sign will be followed.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Approved, Denied, Tabled

Item died for lack of a motion and second.

3. Consider and take action to amend May 15, 2023, New Business Item 6, related to a sign request at 1619 Orange Street, as follows: rescind in full.

Discussion: It was noted that, with this being a PennDOT street, there was not really any choice in the matter.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

4. Consider and take action to promote Chris Kelchner to the position of Sergeant within the Borough of Berwick Police Department, based upon the actions of the Borough of Berwick Civil Service Commission, effective immediately.

Discussion: Borough Manager presented certified list of candidates from Civil Service Commission.

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Ms. Wozniak Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

5. Consider and take action to not offer promotion to Sergeant within the Borough of Berwick Police Department to Greg Martin, as per his written request, with the understanding that his name will remain on the eligibility list of candidates, as per the rules of the Borough of Berwick Civil Service Commission.

Discussion: Borough Manager presented certified list of candidates from Civil Service Commission. Proceeded to explain that Martin has, in writing, withdrawn from consideration, but that it occurred after the last Civil Service Commission meeting, thereby necessitating that Council still receive him as a viable candidate. Finally, noted that Martin will remain on list of candidates for a period of one year, unless that list is decertified to begin a new hiring process.

Motion: Ms. Wozniak Second: Mr. Lewis Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

6. Consider and take action to approve payment of Don E. Bower Pay App #1 for North Street Milling and Paving Project, in the amount of \$63,274.23, to be paid utilizing CDBG funds.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Ms. Wozniak Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 13. ADDED ITEMS

None

ITEM 14. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items

- Councilperson Wozniak - Questioned if there was any update on the Curry Way sign. Borough Manager noted that communication had occurred with family, and that determining a best time was left at the family's discretion, with no update having been received.

ITEM 15. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Ms. Wozniak Second: Mr. Talanca

Meeting adjourned.