

# **BECHTELSTVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES MAY 17, 2017**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Bechtelsville Borough Council was called to order by President, Deborah Fronheiser at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday May 17, 2017 at the Bechtelsville Borough Hall.

### **ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Deborah Fronheiser, Rose Marie Bireley, Joel Weller, David Wieder, Charles Scheetz; Mayor Glenn Haas; Secretary, Valerie Moll; Solicitor, Jamie Ottaviano; Colebrookdale Police Sgt. Babb. Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Logan Westlake was present to give Council an update regarding his Eagle Scout project. He has been working with an advisor and has made some minor changes to the design of the flagpole area. The project will require running electric from the Borough Hall building. He has an electrician that will be performing the work.

Scott Reitnauer and residents from West Chestnut Street were present to discuss the parking situation. Letters were sent to the residents of W. Chestnut Street inviting them to the meeting to give feedback to Council regarding the possible change in parking. The residents asked Council why the parking needs to be changed. It was explained that the fire company requested the change. The fire company feels they need parking on their side of the streets when they hold events. It was noted that if parking was moved, only two spaces would be permitted due to PENNDOT regulations.

Resident Walt Wydrinski stated he feels the Fire Company should have parking. There was discussion about having event parking or a loading/unloading zone. Council asked if a loading/unloading zone would be satisfactory to the fire company. Mr. Reitnauer stated that it would be. Council asked Mr. Reitnauer if the fire company will agree to grant the necessary easement to repair W. Chestnut Street. Mr. Reitnauer stated the fire company will grant the easement.

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by David Wieder to allow 2 loading/unloading spaces on W. Chestnut Street.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank

Resident Steve Mumford was present to discuss the condition of 19 Franklin Street. The property has been vacant for several years. Mr. Mumford lives next door and is concerned about the grass that is 2 ft. high and the animals that have been living in the high grass. Council stated that Code Enforcement was called about that property this

week. They are in the process of contacting the property maintenance company. Unfortunately, the property is in foreclosure and the bank is not in a hurry to take it over. Council is attempting to find out the bank who is involved and make them aware of the situation.

### **MINUTES APPROVED FOR MEETING HELD APRIL 19, 2017**

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by Joel Weller to approve the minutes, as prepared, for the regular meeting held April 19, 2017.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank

### **TREASURER'S REPORTS**

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by David Wieder to approve payment of all bills up to and inclusive of 5/17/17 and file the treasurer's reports for the General Fund, Motor Aid, and Recreation Fund for audit.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank

### **BOROUGH REPORTS**

#### **POLICE**

Sgt. Babb was present and gave the police report for the month of April showing 1 vehicle arrest, 0 criminal arrest, 2 warnings, 0 accidents, 1 parking tickets, and 99 incidents.

It was noted that Chief Viola was terminated by Colebrookdale Township on May 15, 2017. Sgt. Babb is now the officer in charge.

### **ENGINEER**

#### **FRANKLIN/MENSCH PROJECT**

The Franklin/Mensch project was rebid. A proposal was received from Stern Nester. Yarnell Paving did not submit a proposal. The proposal from Stern Nester is \$18,600. Council decided to go back to the original proposal received for \$15,400. A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by Joel Weller to accept Stern Nester's proposal of \$15,400 for the Franklin/Mensch project

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank

## **ZONING OFFICER**

### **Zoning Issues**

1. 1731/1733 S. Main Street – We have also sent a Notice of Violation to Mr. Hartline for the tires and gave him 20 days to have them removed. Please advise if Borough Council would like Non Traffic Citations for the tires on the property issued when the 20 days for compliance has passed. Also, Judge Hartman extended Mr. Hartline's time to have the accessory building demolished and the new hearing is scheduled for May 17, 2017.
2. 1753 S. Main Street – A site visit was conducted on March 9, 2017. It was observed that there is slate roofing coming off the accessory structure and the roof is in disrepair. The accessory structure is also in disrepair. A Property Maintenance NOV has been sent. The property is for sale and a buyer has agreed to bring the property into compliance if he purchases it. Borough Council agreed to give the new buyer additional time to bring the property into compliance.
3. 26 Pheasant Road – We were past Mr. Stahl's property on Tuesday May 9, 2017 and it looked like the tents were down, and the signs in the front yard were removed. Mr. Stahl is questioning the letter for the tents under the zoning ordinance and I will let the Solicitor advise if he wants us to go any further if they go up again, from my vantage point the other day it appeared they were not there.

For the other issues he is requesting more time and also would like permission to store the metal scrap material on the lot across the creek and cover it with a tarp. We do not feel this will in any way make it compliant and operating a scrap business is not a permitted use in the zoning district.

Please let us know if Borough Council would like TEI to file Non Traffic Citations for the property maintenance issues.

4. 20 Pheasant Road. – We have looked at the manufactured home and see deflections in the roof, but the roof appears to be intact, there are no missing shingles and it appears it is water tight at this time. There is nothing in the property maintenance code that we can use because the roof sags in spots, until such time as there is a hole or obvious sign of leakage.

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded David Wieder to not grant a time extension to Mr. Stahl.

All ayes

Abstain: Rose Marie Bireley

Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank

May 17, 2017

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by Joel Weller to deny permission to store scrap metal and to have Mr. Stahl remove the scrap metal from the property at 26 Pheasant Road.

All ayes

Abstain: Rose Marie Bireley

Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank

### **SOLICITOR**

Technicon reviewed the ordinance changing the frequency of rental inspections from 3 years to 2 years. They had some concern regarding language establishing the effective date of the change. A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by David Wieder to authorize Attorney Ottaviano to amend the ordinance to clarify the effective date.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank

### **ROADMASTER**

The Roadmaster noted that the driveway at the park has been repaired.

### **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

The Recreation Association is currently working on plans for the park in order to apply for grants.

### **STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

No issues reported.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Council received a copy of a report from DEP regarding Eastern Berks Fire Company. DEP responded to a complaint regarding burning on the property. Violations were identified and Eastern Berks was informed that burning was not permitted and is required to clean up the site.

May 17, 2017

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Joel Weller and seconded by David Wieder to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb, Tim Frank

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie A. Moll  
Borough Secretary