

BECHTELSTVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES DECEMBER 20, 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 December 20, 2017 at the Bechtelsville Borough Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES APPROVED FOR MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 15, 2017

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by Tim Frank to approve the minutes, as prepared, for the regular meeting held November 15, 2017.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb

TREASURER'S REPORTS

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by Joel Weller to approve payment of all bills up to and inclusive of 12/20/17 and file the treasurer's reports for the General Fund, Motor Aid, and Recreation Fund for audit.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb

BOROUGH REPORTS

POLICE

Sgt. Babb was present and gave the police report for the month of November showing 7 vehicle arrests, 0 criminal arrests, 2 warnings, 4 accidents, 0 parking tickets, and 72 incidents.

Sgt. Babb noted that the Colebrookdale and Boyertown police departments are continuing to discuss the possibility of merging.

ENGINEER

Gilmore & Associates provided the following summary of the projects currently in progress:

West Chestnut Street

The following activities are in progress regarding the design, bidding and construction of the West Chestnut Street project. Please note, bid advertisement and opening dates will be dependent on completion of the design and coordination with utilities and affected property owner:

- Preliminary design
- Execution of easement agreement. Revised legal descriptions were provided to Borough Solicitor on October 4, 2017. Please provide copies of executed easements for our files.
- Utility coordination for relocation of utility poles on the north side of West Chestnut Street. Our office is in coordination with Met-Ed (First Energy) for relocation of the affected utility pole, currently scheduled for Spring, 2018.
- In-progress plan/specification submittal for review by Borough Council (11/15). In progress (75% complete) plans and specifications hand delivered to the Borough on November 9, 2017.
- Guiderail design complete.
- Insurance requirements to be provided by Bechtelsville Borough insurance carrier for inclusion in the bid specifications.
- Plan specification (98% complete) submittal for review by Borough Council upon receipt of executed easements and insurance requirements.
- Utility coordination dependent, estimated bid advertisement January, 2018.
- Estimated bid opening February, 2018.
- Construction tentatively scheduled for Spring, 2018.

NPDES MS4 Permit Compliance

Borough requested our attendance at a PADEP MS4 compliance inspection meeting scheduled for late January, 2018. A representative of our office will be available to assist with the MS4 compliance inspection.

1753 Main Street Storm Pipe

Borough requested our office to issue letter to property owner concerning the ownership and maintenance responsibilities for a storm pipe in the alley behind the subject property. A letter, dated December 6, 2017, was sent to the property owner outlining the private ownership and maintenance responsibility.

ZONING OFFICER

AGWAY

Eric Fuhrmann from Technicon was present to discuss the Agway property. Technicon received information regarding a timeline for repairs to the property. The timeline was distributed to Council. Mr. Borneman does not feel he should be required to get a building permit. The UCC does not exceptions for commercial building permits. There

was discussion regarding the property and the need for permits. Charles Scheetz stated he felt that if nothing structural is being changed, a permit should not be required.

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by Joel Weller to establish a June 30th deadline for the Agway property to be brought into compliance and to require a permit and inspections, but waive the permit fee.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb

Eric Fuhrmann will draft a letter to Mr. Borneman explaining Council's decision and what needs to be done. He will forward it to the Secretary so the Solicitor can review.

Zoning Issues

1. Agway – A Property Maintenance NOV was sent. The property owner has been working on submitting a timeline from his contractor for bringing the property into compliance.

The Council President received a question from a resident regarding the ability to have domesticated pot belly pigs in the Borough. Eric Fuhrmann stated that the Zoning Ordinance does not address this animal. Atty. Ottaviano suggested getting more information from the resident regarding the animal and housing arrangements.

Council asked Eric Fuhrmann regarding the Cameron property. Mr. Fuhrmann stated that he is waiting for the property owner to get back to him about the issues that needed to be fixed.

SOLICITOR

DEBT ORDINANCE

Atty. Ottaviano presented a draft copy of the debt ordinance to Council. This ordinance is required by DCED to execute the PIB loan. A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by David Wieder to authorize Atty. Ottaviano to advertise the debt ordinance for adoption.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb

ROADMASTER

The Borough truck was not available for the first snow. It needed repair and Penske did not have it completed in time to return for the snow.

The Roadmaster will get a price to replace the bottom panels of the garage door at the salt shed.

RECREATION ASSOCIATION

The Recreation Association is in need of members. They are looking to require anyone that uses the baseball field to provide a person to the Rec. Association.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

No issues reported.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 331 ADOPTED/ADOPTING THE 2018 BUDGET

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by Tim Frank to adopt Ordinance No. 331, adopting the 2018 budget.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb

ORDINANCE NO. 332 ADOPTED/SETTING 2018 TAX RATE

A motion was made by Joel Weller and seconded by Charles Scheetz to adopt Ordinance No. 332, setting the 2018 Tax Rate at 5.0 mills.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb

RESOLUTION 2017-5 ADOPTED/SETTING 2017 ACT 511 TAX RATES

A motion was made by David Wieder and seconded by Charles Scheetz to adopt Resolution 2017-5 setting the Act 511 tax rates and repealing the per capita tax for 2018.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb

NEW BUSINESS

2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Charles Scheetz and seconded by Tim Frank to authorize the Secretary to advertise the 2018 schedule of meetings.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb

MINI CASINOS

The Secretary received information regarding the Borough's ability to pass a resolution banning mini-casinos. There was discussion regarding this issue and Council decided to not take any action.

December 20, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Tim Frank and seconded by Charles Scheetz to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

All ayes

Absent: James Kolb, Charles Scheetz

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie A. Moll
Borough Secretary