

MINUTES OF THE BIG BEAVER BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 3, 2021
HELD AT THE BIG BEAVER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPART., 621 FRIENDSHIP RD, DARLINGTON, PA 16115
President Michelle Joy called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Prayer.

Roll Call:

Mayor: Don Wachter

Public Works Director: Chad Crawford

President: Michelle Joy

Secretary.: Jennifer Gasser

Vice President: Roz Miller

Zoning Officer: Dawna Pella

Council Members: Bart Carr

Kim Wagner

Jason Landsbach

Luke Taiclet

Jeff Magee

Absent: Treasurer Debbie Ahern

Approval of Agenda

Kim Wagner made a motion, seconded by Roz Miller to approve the agenda. All in favor, agenda is approved.

Public Comment

Donna Crees addressed Council regarding Wyoming Mining running generators and servers at the Wall Gas Pad for Bit Coin Mining and the noise this is causing. Ms. Crees wanted to know if they had permits to disrupt the peace 24/7 and how they could do what they are doing without permission. She advised they put up sound proofing walls; however, they look like exercise mats, and this has not stopped the noise. Michelle Joy explained a letter was sent to Geo Petro and Wyoming Mining dated September 21, 2021, that explained the project they are working on has been denied based on the Zoning Ordinance. Michelle Joy reviewed the letter with Ms. Crees explaining they should have stopped what they were doing, filed all the application and went through the process. Ms. Crees, Council and Dawna Pella discussed the Bit Coin Mining. Luke Taiclet made a motion, seconded by Kim Wagner to ask the Zoning Officer to provide them with a cease-and-desist notification and also enabling her to have maximize fines and penalties levied against them to whatever extent the borough is allowed to do that for violation of zoning, public safety and nonperformance of borough directive. Amended to add maximize fine and penalties and any other actions that need to be taken to achieve compliance and the time frame would be immediately. Roll Call Vote Yes: Roz Miller, Bart Carr, Kim Wagner, Jason Landsbach, Luke Taiclet, Jeff Magee, and Michelle Joy.

Kim Webb addressed Council regarding/requesting clarification regarding the steel sheeting on her neighbor's fence and if it was attached by screws that was not allowed. Ms. Webb advised the sheeting is attached by screws. Council, Dawna Pella, and Ms. Webb discussed Ms. Webb's fence issue. Ms. Webb was provided with MDIA's phone number.

Approval of Minutes

Roz Miller made a motion, seconded by Bart Carr to approve the Minutes of October 19, 2021. All in favor, motion carries.

Reports:

Zoning: Turned In

Public Works Dept: Turned In

Secretary: Turned In

Planning Commission: Unapproved October 13, 2021, Minutes

Old Business Updates

1. SALDO – This does not need to go back to the Planning Commission. Once the Zoning Ordinance is completed, both can be advertised.

2. Danny's Motel – Dawna Pella and Council discussed Danny's Motel and the Architect advised Dawna Pella they put together a response that they wanted to give to Shannon Steele and the owner has retained legal counsel. There was discussion regarding leaving walls with the demolition. Dawna Pella advised he has to go for a variance and due to the market value, he has to go for a special exemption. After discussion, Council opted to wait until the next meeting to let the attorney talk to see what happens. All of Council verbally agreed to this.

New Business

1. Accept Bids on Finishing Mower and V-Box Salt Spreader through Municibid. Chad Crawford advised the highest bidder for the V-Box Salt Spreader has advised he did not want it and he is working with Municibid with going to the next bidder. Luke Taiclet made a motion, seconded by Bart Carr to accept the \$311 for the Finishing Mower and the \$1,000 contingent of the second bidder from Municibid wanting the V-Box Salt Spreader. Roll Call Vote Yes: Roz Miller, Bart Carr, Kim Wagner, Jason Landsbach, Luke Taiclet, Jeff Magee, and Michelle Joy.

2. Engineering Services- Council discussed the cost of Engineering services and prices received from other Engineers not being lower and reducing cost with using inhouse staff.

Executive Session – Personnel Issues 7:55pm – 9:15pm

Jennifer Gasser advised a letter was received from the attorney from the Cell Phone tower as they are disputing that the need to do the Land Development.

Roz Miller made a motion, seconded by Kim Wagner to accept, and change the employees benefits plan to the Municipal Benefits Services Plan (MBS) plan. Roll Call Vote Yes: Roz Miller, Bart Carr, Kim Wagner, Jason Landsbach, Luke Taiclet, Jeff Magee, and Michelle Joy.

3. Budget – Luke Taiclet went over the Budget with Council. During the budget discussion, Luke Taiclet advised the cash balance is now referred to as operating (cash on hand), Chad Crawford's equipment list was included, Benefits, Casualty Liability, etc. have been allocated across all the budgets, you are allowed 3 mills to go to the Volunteer Fire Department. Luke Taiclet went over the projected budget and the difference between revenue and expenses. There was discussion regarding the ARPA grant, Amusement tax, current audit, Parks and Recreation Budget. There was discussion regarding the telephone services, and it was agreed to eliminate two phone lines and save \$50.00 per month. Luke Taiclet advised the Life, Liability and Workers Comp numbers will need to be reworked. Luke Taiclet went over the sewage budget. Council discussed the bond, including paying the bond payment out of the sewer funds. Luke Taiclet went over the Incremental Tax Increase Models. Michelle Joy advised we applied for the APRA grant for Wallace Run Lift Station (Bond). Liquid fuels can be used for equipment purchases, not just roads and we can use bond money for roads.

Meeting Adjourned 10:37 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Jennifer Gasser