

MINUTES

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
December 21, 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. Presentations
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. Adjournment

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

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>
LEWIS	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>			
TROIANI	<u>X(Zoom)</u>	<u> </u>	Chief of Police	<u>X(Zoom)</u>	<u> </u>
ALLEY	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Solicitor	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
BOWER	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Engineer	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>
JARRETT	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	DPW Foreman	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>
LEARN	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>Susan Schwartz - PE</u>	
TALANCA	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Fire Chief	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>			
DAMIEN SCOBLINK, MANAGER	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>			

ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:

Discussion - Mr. Jarrett requests that an appointment to Codes Appel Board be added to agenda.

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Mr. Talanca

All in favor. Agenda, with requested change, approved.

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

- Public Hearing - Final Public Hearing for Second Round of CDBG-CV Funds
 1. Shannon Heimbach Ferrara - Requests that only businesses that remained compliant with all COVID guidelines be eligible.
 2. Fred Gaffney - On behalf of Chamber of Commerce, expressed thanks for and support of this use of grant funds.

- Citizens Correspondence/Personal Appeals
 1. Tonya Whitmire - Upon being introduced by Ms. Troiani, expressed interest in using plots on Market Street for a temporary memorial for local lives lost to COVID. Request added to agenda.
 2. Frank Burbick - On behalf of Russian Club, reports that the club still would like to have paper alley along their property vacated to them. It was reinforced that the Borough is willing to consider this, but it requires support from all bordering property owners. Borough Manager will provide Mr. Burbick with a form letter making this request, with the understanding that he is responsible for getting needed signatures.

ITEM 5. PRESENTATION:

None

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING

- Regular Council Meeting of November 16, 2020 and Work Shop minutes of December 7, 2020.

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Talanca

All in favor, minutes approved.

ITEM 7. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS MOTION: Ms. Alley SECOND: Mr. Talanca

All in favor, payment of bills approved.

ITEM 8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

MAYOR: Mayor Tim Burke - Was able to assist with a variety of donations related to the Thanksgiving holiday; participated in, and will continue to participate in, a variety of Christmas civic activities; is up to almost 200 children signed up in need of Christmas gifts

ENGINEER: Quad 3

SOLICITOR: Attorney Frank Kepner

PERSONNEL: Jeri Alley, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett - Thanked Borough Manager for successfully completing both union contracts.

LEGAL AND FINANCE: Jeri Alley, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett

PARKS AND RECREATION: Teresa Troiani, Pete Talanca, Jay Jarrett

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Greg Harkins, Scott Bower, Teresa Troiani, Jay Jarrett

STREETS, PARKS, & BUILDINGS: Jack Kyttle - Thanks given by members of Council to Mr. Kyttle and DPW for successful plowing after recent major snowstorm.

FIRE AND WATER: Scott Bower, Pete Talanca, Bob Lewis - Fire Department would like a ramp by old incinerator for training purposes. Mr. Kyttle has stated that FD can continue to use current boat ramp. Department was encouraged to come up with full proposal and payment plan if they continue to want to pursue a new area.

CODES, RECYCLING, & ORDINANCES: Nelson Learn, Jeri Alley, Pete Talanca - The new recycling program, run entirely by the Borough, will begin in January.

SAFETY: Bob Lewis - Yearly training complete. Safety Committee was also audited this year.

POLICE: Chief Ken Strish - Reviewed November statistics; looking forward to starting the hiring process soon

BAJSA REPORT: See Report

FIRE CHIEF: Submitted report for November; submitted quote for vehicle repair; department has participated in multiple training opportunities; all chiefs have been sworn in

ITEM 9. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

None

ITEM 10. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 11. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 2020-12 - Transfer of Funds

Discussion: This is to allow to the General Fund to borrow against either Street Lighting or Fire Protection, in place of a Tax Anticipation Loan

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

All in favor, resolution approved.

ITEM 12. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to set and advertise 2021 meeting dates.

Discussion: List had been distributed prior to meeting. Confirmed that meeting would be moved from July 5 to July 6 because City Hall was closed July 5 in observation of Fourth of July.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to appoint Christy Monico to the Zoning Hearing Board for a five-year term.

Discussion: Motion to nominate Christy Monico made by Mr. Talanca, seconded by Ms. Alley. Motion to nominate AD George made by Mr. Bower, died with lack of a second.

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

Mr. Bower abstained due to personal relationship with Ms. Monico. All other members of Council voted in favor. Motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to appoint Donald Kishbaugh as a Berwick Borough representative to BAJSA for a five-year term.

Discussion: Motion to nominate AD George made by Mr. Bower, died with lack of a second. Motion to nominate Donald Kishbaugh made by Mr. Talanca, seconded by Ms. Alley.

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

Mr. Learn abstained due to already serving as a paid board member for BAJSA. Mr. Lewis, Mr. Talanca, Ms. Troiani, Ms. Alley, Mr. Jarrett vote in favor. Mr. Bower votes opposed. Motion approved, 5-1.

4. Consider and take action to approve payment of Invoice #2281 in the amount of \$8,185 to LIVIC Civil, for work completed on CDBG street paving projects.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

5. Consider and take action to approve beginning process of vacating unopened alley that is extension of Le Grand Street between South Mercer Street and Race Street.

Discussion: Reasoning for need for vacation was explained to Council.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

6. Consider and take action to approve Blue and White Collar Employment Contract for the period beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2023.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

7. Consider and take action to approve Police Employment Contract for the period beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2023, contingent upon Police formally entering into Memorandum of Understanding related to hiring new officers through the COPS grant.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

8. Consider and take action to approve Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough of Berwick and Berwick Police Department/Teamsters Local Union 764, related to hiring new officers through the COPS grant.

DISCUSSION: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 13. ADDED ITEMS

1. Consider and take action to appoint Keith Huntington to Codes Appeal Board, pending his acceptance of this appointment.

Discussion: While he did not specifically apply for this position, Mr. Jarrett noted that Mr. Huntington had stated that he'd like to do something to serve his community, and this would be an opportunity for him to do so.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to provisionally allow plan to allow Tonya Whitmire to complete a temporary memorial for local COVID casualties on Market Street plots, pending approval from Borough Manager upon receiving final plan.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 14. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Ms. Alley

Meeting adjourned.