

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

September 7, 2021

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. Presentations
5. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Agenda Items
6. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
7. Old Business
8. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
9. New Business
10. Added Items
11. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items
12. Adjournment

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDING OFFICER: Council President Scott Bower

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

ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Talanca

All in favor, motion approved as presented.

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION:

1. Berwick Hospital - Hospital CEO presented on need for increased mental health care in the community, and requested that Borough CLFRF funds be granted to increase inpatient MH space at Berwick Hospital.
2. Kelly O'Brien, BIDA - Asking for a \$1,000 contribution, with potential for annual renewal, toward proposal for greater downtown revitalization. Borough Manager will place on agenda for next meeting.

ITEM 5. CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE / PERSONAL APPEALS - AGENDA ITEMS

1. Ed Zajac - Presented proposal for art installation at Veterans Memorial Park. Asked for guidance on funding, including possible funding from Borough. Borough Manager will place on agenda for next meeting.
2. Briar Manor Residents - Residents were granted permission to speak anonymously. Six residents in total were present. Presented on variety of perceived issues at Briar Manor since sale to new owner around the beginning of the year. Borough Manager will schedule a meeting with property manager and Codes Committee.

ITEM 6. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Ed Zajac Art Installation - No discussion beyond that above.
2. Briar Manor Concerns - No discussion beyond that above.
3. Butternut Street Paving - Borough Manager updated Council on ongoing delays with project.
4. Bathroom Project Funding - Borough Manager shared with Council that estimate of probable cost for this project came in significantly higher than initial anticipated. Informed Council that options were to call off some or all of the project, or move forward and make decisions on funding later, either through moving around other CDBG funds, utilizing CLFRF funds, or using general funds. No members of Council expressed interest in ending project.

ITEM 7. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 8. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

None

ITEM 9. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to authorize Borough Manager to enter into agreement whereby Berwick Borough will fund half the cost of crossing guards in the borough, do include an agreed upon pay rate and mandated benefits, with those crossing guards remaining employees of the Berwick Area School District.

Discussion: Borough Manager reminded Council that this effectively mirrored the offer made by Council to the School District almost two years ago. Multiple members of Council expressed a desire to keep Borough and School District separate. Others stated that it would be appropriate to honor original offer.

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

Voting in favor were Mr. Bower and Mr. Jarrett. Voting in opposition were Ms. Troiani, Mr. Talanca, Mr. Learn and Mr. Lewis. Motion failed by a 4-2 vote in opposition.

2. Consider and take action to approve use of contract format for CLFRF funding of outside projects, including approval of entering into contract with all previously approved outside projects.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to approve CDBG FY 2021 Funding Approval Agreement.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

4. Consider and take action to approve listing of 2011 International Tymco Street Sweeper on Municibid.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Jarret Second: Mr. Learn Approved, Denied,
 Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

5. Consider and take action to hire Joseph Gainley as a full-time police officer.

Discussion: Borough Manager presented certified list of three candidates eligible for hire. Chief of Police recommended Mr. Gainley for hire.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

6. Consider and take action to hire Kyle Trenholm as a full-time police officer.

Discussion: Borough Manager presented certified list of three candidates eligible for hire. Chief of Police recommended Mr. Trenholm for hire.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

7. Consider and take action approve upgrade of 30 lights at Test Track Park, at a total cost of \$3,750, to be paid utilizing CLFRF funds.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Ms. Troiani Approved, Denied,
 Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

8. Consider and take action to approve reimbursement of payment of Invoice #001093 from Conklins and Ezzyk Heating and A/C in the amount of \$496.00, with reimbursement to be made to For the Cause, for work done to repair HVAC system at the Berwick Teen Center, to be paid utilizing CLFRF funds.

DISCUSSION: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

9. Consider and take action to pay Invoice #277 to Public Works 1 Inc., in the amount of \$11,900, using CLFRF funds.

DISCUSSION: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

10. Consider and take action to pay Invoice of September 1, 2021 to SEDA-COG in the amount of \$18,900 for administration of CDBG-CV grant.

DISCUSSION: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

11. Consider and take action to authorize Borough Manager, upon receipt of signed agreement, to release previously agreed upon CLFRF funds to Community Strategies Group.

DISCUSSION: Borough Manager presented this as an option to provide CSG with liquid funds to keep project moving. Discussion was had about the organization's experience in managing grant dollars, which limits the risk of proving it with funds prior to receiving an invoice.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 10. ADDED ITEMS

None

ITEM 11. CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE / PERSONAL APPEALS - NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

ITEM 12. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Ms. Troiani

Meeting adjourned.