

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 15, 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 </u>	<u> </u>	Chief of Police	<u> X </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> X </u>	<u> </u>
LEARN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Reporter(s)	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
TALANCA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>		<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u> </u>	<u> X </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, agenda is approved.

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

- Yisrael Goddart, 1234 Spring Garden Ave. - Reported what he perceives as racial profiling by Berwick Police Department. Call for resignation of Chief Strish and police officers. Also reported harassment from neighbor.
- Ricky Polger, 1234 Spring Garden Ave. - Reported that he is neighbor of Mr. Goddart, the previous speaker. Stated that accusations made by Mr. Goddart about him are untrue.
- Carl Canserius, 1925 Fairview Ave. - Reported continued concern over status of West Berwick roads, and their ability to hold up to truck traffic.
- Don Hontz, 1915 Fairview Ave. - Reported continued concern over status of West Berwick roads, and their ability to hold up to truck traffic. Stated that Fairview Ave. was brand new three years ago, and is already cracking.

ITEM 5. PRESENTATION: None

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING

- Regular Council Meeting of May 18, 2020 and Work Shop minutes of June 1, 2020.

Discussion - None

Motion: Ms. Alley Second: Ms. Troiani

All in favor, minutes were approved.

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

All in favor, payment of bills approved.

ITEM 8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

MAYOR: Mayor Tim Burke

ENGINEER: Quad 3

SOLICITOR: Attorney Frank Kepner

PERSONNEL: Jeri Alley, Nelson Learn, Jay Jarrett

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

FIRE AND WATER: Scott Bower, Pete Talanca, Bob Lewis

CODES, RECYCLING, & ORDINANCES: Nelson Learn, Jeri Alley, Pete Talanca

SAFETY: Bob Lewis

POLICE: Chief Ken Strish

BAJSA REPORT: See Report

ITEM 9. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

None

ITEM 10. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 11. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution 2020-08 - Fair Housing Resolution

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, Resolution 2020-08 was adopted.

ITEM 12. NEW BUSINESS

1. OPEN SEALED 2021 RECYCLING BIDS:

Team Green - 2 years, \$207,000 per year
Foughts/Mostik - \$441,600 per year
Mascaro - \$405,852 per year

Consider and take action on 2021 recycling as follows: table decision to give Council an opportunity to better understand plans for Borough DPW to take over program.

Discussion: Discussed in-house Borough plan. Council requested an opportunity to better understand DPW's plan, specifically safeguards in place for if things go wrong.

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

All in favor, decision on 2021 Borough of Berwick recycling tabled.

2. Consider and take action on approving payment of Invoice #109786, in the amount of \$181.25, to Peters Consults, Inc. for work on demolition projects.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion passed.

3. Consider and take action on approving payment of Invoice #109751, in the amount of \$796.25, to Peters Consults, Inc. for work on demolition projects.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion passed.

4. Consider and take action on allowing Wicked Good Softball League use of ball field at Test Track Park on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Discussion: It was noted that a certificate of insurance naming the Borough of Berwick as an additional insured had been provided.

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

All in favor, motion passed.

5. Consider and take action on beginning process of vacating unnamed paper alley that runs through property known by Columbia County GIS PIN 04A02 20901, as requested by Mr. and Ms. James and Rose Henrie.

Discussion: Explanation of the unique layout of this property was provided to Council.

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

All in favor, motion passed.

6. Consider and take action on beginning process of vacating unnamed paper alley that connects Scanlon Street and Bowman Street, running between and parallel to the 1700 blocks of Orange Street and Steel Street, to the extent requested by Mr. Scott Bloom, Ms. Sandra Kishbaugh, and Mr. Chris Garmen.

Discussion: Explanation of the location of this alley was provided to Council. Council requests that other homes on the same block be notified of the request prior to them voting on a final ordinance.

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

All in favor, motion passed.

7. Consider at take action to approve \$15,000 in Capital Projects for police van to be utilized for balance of K-9 vehicle.

Discussion: Chief Strish explained that COVID-19 has caused a fundraising shortfall, necessitating this move.

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

All in favor, motion passed.

8. Consider and take action to approve request from Berwick Area United Way to hold rescheduled Celebrate Berwick event on Saturday, August 1, 2020, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with appropriate safety precautions in place.

DISCUSSION: Ayrin Shortlidge from United Way reported that plans included taking steps to encourage appropriate social distancing.

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

All in favor, motion passed.

9. Consider and take action to approve payment of Invoice #060920BPD208 to New Holland Auto Group, in the amount of \$55,774, for the purchase of K-9 vehicle.

DISCUSSION: None

Motion: Ms. Alley Second: Ms. Troiani X Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion passed.

Council entered into executive session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss Abbonizio litigation. Council returned from executive session at 8:42 p.m.

10. Consider and take action to proceed with Abbonizio litigation as follows: agree to settlement in the amount of \$650,000.

DISCUSSION: None

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

Roll call vote was called for:

- Ms. Troiani - yes
- Ms. Alley - yes
- Mr. Bower - yes
- Mr. Jarrett - yes
- Mr. Learn - yes
- Mr. Talanca - yes
- Mr. Lewis - yes

Motion approved by a 7-0 vote.

ITEM 13. ADDED ITEMS

1. **Item**: Consider and take action to authorize Borough Manager to advertise for loan bids in the amount of \$650,000 to pay Abbonizio settlement.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion passed.

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

Meeting adjourned.