

MINUTES

**COUNCIL WORKSHOP
May 3, 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. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals
5. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
6. Old Business
7. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
8. New Business
9. Added Items
10. Adjournment

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

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS & 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 </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>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

Motion: Mr. Talanca Second: Mr. Jarrett

All in favor, agenda approved.

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

1. CDBG FFY 2021 First Public Hearing

Conducted by Mr. Tyler Dombroski, SEDA-COG

2. Citizens Correspondence/Personal Appeals

None

ITEM 5. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Hillside Drive paving - Borough Manager proposed to utilize a portion of \$50,000 received from UGI from Butternut Street project toward paving Hillside Drive. Estimate was received for \$32,000, plus cost for stormwater project at the same time. Council was reassured that even after putting out for bid, they could choose to abandon project if costs came back too high.

Consider and take action to advertise for bids for Hillside Drive reconstruction project.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Berwick Fire Alarm update - Fire Chief Remphrey reported that a discussion at recent Fire Board meeting determined that a Borough ordinance does not allow siren to be turned off entirely. Fire Board was supportive of changing siren so that it is only used for structure fires within the Borough of Berwick, and that Remphrey could order that change with Council approval.

Consider and take action to authorize Chief Remphrey to notify County 911 that Berwick fire siren is only to be used for structure fires within the Borough of Berwick.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Continuation of Zoom for Council Meetings - Borough Manager indicated that Pennsylvania state guidelines still say that only 25% of capacity is allowed for indoor events, which would only allow for approximately 25 people in Council Chambers, including all Borough officials. No change was made.
4. Cats/No Nonsense Neutering - Mr. Bower explained conversation with citizen requesting program to resume. Borough Manager explained reason why it had stopped; recommended that, if resumed, the program be altered so that this citizen would be the main point of contact for can management in the Borough, and be authorized to utilize various Trap/Neuter/Release programs, refundable by the Borough.

Consider and take action to authorize Laurie Allison to act as Borough designee for Trap/Neuter/Release program within the Borough, authorizing her to spend and be reimbursed for up to \$1,000 on neutering/spaying fees, and authorizing her to utilize program of her choice to accomplish this task.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

5. Downtown Tree Replacement - Borough Manager reviewed request by downtown business owner to not replace already-removed trees in front of business, but to instead replace elsewhere. Council requests that business owner attend next meeting to make this plea, and to answer questions.
6. Around the Table
 - Mr. Kyttle - Reminded Council that street sweeping is ongoing, about 50% of the way through the Borough. Patching, cleaning parks, mowing, and inlet repairs are all also underway.
 - Mr. Jarrett - Notified Council of Beyond Violence 5K on Saturday, and requested barricades for the same. Additionally, asked for status update on potential 4-way stop sign at corner of Third Avenue and Poplar Street. Chief Strish responded that this would cause for there to be a stop sign at every intersection along Third Avenue, and that accident history does not justify the need for such.
 - Chief Strish - Provided annual report. Discussed updated use-of-force policy. Notified Council that new officer hiring is

proceeding. Reviewed a Community Giving Foundation request for permission to place signs.

ITEM 6. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Consider and take action to approve citizen request for additional streetlight in the middle of 1100 block of Second Avenue.

Discussion: Borough Manager reports still no further contact from original requester. Council requests more information on actual costs. Motion made to table.

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

All in favor, item tabled.

2. Consider and take action to accept donation of Covered Bridge from Columbia County Commissioners, with the understanding that deconstruction, transportation, reconstruction, and initial repairs will occur at the expense of Columbia County, with no initial cost to the Borough.

Discussion: Reviewed a variety of locations at Test Track. Borough Manager provided justification for why those locations would not be appropriate. Discussed possibility of locating bridge at Ber-Vaughn Park. Borough Manager agreed to discuss this possibility with Commissioners, and report back to Council. Motion made to table.

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

All in favor, item tabled.

ITEM 7. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

None

ITEM 8. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to approve for advertisement Request for Quotes for Professional Engineering Services for Berwick Borough 2021 CDBG Streets Contract II.

Discussion: Borough Manager explained that this is seeking engineering proposals for a CDBG project, and that this is done for all CDBG projects.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to approve for advertisement Request for Quotes for Professional Engineering Services for Berwick Borough Demolition Projects.

Discussion: Borough Manager explained that this is seeking engineering proposals for a CDBG project, and that this is done for all CDBG projects.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to approve payment of Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce Invoice 4/27/21 in the amount of \$1,350.00, to replace invoice to the same dated 3/29/21.

Discussion: Borough Manager explained that this is replacing former invoice from the Chamber, based on changes to contract, but that the amount remains the same.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

4. Consider and take action to approve payment of grants to identified area businesses with CDBG-CV funds.

Discussion: None

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

All in favor, motion approved.

5. Consider and take action to approve J.H. Williams Engagement Letter dated April 20, 2021.

Discussion: Borough Manager indicated that this is standard, and that J.H. Williams has been the Borough's auditor for some time, and always does an adequate job.

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

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 9. ADDED ITEMS

None

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Learn Second: Mr. Talanca

Meeting adjourned.