

## **BRIAR CREEK BOROUGH**

**June 2, 2021**

### **MINUTES**

Council President, W. Bruce Michael, called the meeting to order at 7PM. The Pledge Allegiance to the Flag was recited, followed by a Moment of Silence.

Roll call of Council Members was taken. Present: Mayor Harold Kershner Jr, W. Bruce Michael, Ed Fenton, Emery Seeley, James Seeley, David Kershner, and James Long. Other officials present were Zoning Officer Ralph Kelchner, and Secretary Carol Kieser. Absent: Jennifer Kulesza, Junior Councilman Lucas Knorr, Solicitor, and Engineer.

No citizens were present.

The Minutes of the April 28, 2021 Work Session and the May 5, 2021 Council Meeting were approved as recorded.

No Solicitor's report.

Engineer's report. – An email from Peters Consultants procedure to post, bond, and place weight restrictions on Park and W. Rittenhouse Mill Road was read. Motion by Jim Long/seconded Jim Seeley to not proceed with bonding the roads. Motion carried, no opposed.

Zoning Officer's Report – Ralph Kelchner

- Council updated on the Geisinger rehab project. Permits are in order.
- A peddler's permit was issued to Angela Speak (Coffee Shop) and she is allowed to move her stand anywhere within the borough.
- The Westside Ballroom is open for business and an occupancy permit will be issued.
- The property at 30 E Rittenhouse Mill Road was reported to be sold for a welding shop. Ralph Kelchner will check into this.
- Attorney Kevin Tanribilir has issued a legal notice for a Zoning Hearing for Mike Bannon, who made application for a variance to operate a commercial garage on the 197 W Rittenhouse Mill Road property. Hearing to be held on Thursday, July 1, 2021, at the Borough Building.

No Mayor's Report.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report - The list of bills to be paid, listing of bank account balances and registers, and budget update were submitted to Council. Motion by Jim Long/seconded Ed Fenton to approve the Secretary/Treasurer's Report. Motion carried, no opposed.

#### Committee Reports

Law & Finance – Bruce Michael reported on an article in the Borough magazine regarding the need for an exit audit. Carol Kieser will contact Shelly Houk for the definition of "officer" and clarify the need to have an exit audit due to the resignation of the former secretary. Motion by Jim Long/seconded Ed Fenton to table the exit audit until clarification is received from PSAB. Motion carried; no opposed.

Highway and Streets – Mike McCracken has started crack filling on Ruckle Hill Road. Bower has repaired the drywell lid at the Bonanza property.

Building and Grounds – Down payment has been mailed to Hillside Roofing. Roof replacement is scheduled for June 17 and 18.

Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority – Minutes of the April 14, 2021 meeting were submitted to council. Jim Seeley updated council on the sewer discharge requirements if the Baran Property is sold to Encina for a plastic recycling plant.

Columbia County Tax Collection Committee – No report.

#### Old Business

USDA Grant Update – An email from Peters Consultants was discussed. Peters Consultants continues to address the outstanding items in the Environmental Report and has contacted DEP for assistance to complete the air quality emissions portion of the report. Contact has been made with NRCS for comment on the Farmland Section of the report. Once these areas are completed, the Environmental Report will be sent to Michelle Musser.

Community Giving Foundation Grant – Grant has been awarded for the generator project. Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Dave Kershner to authorize Carol Kieser to sign the grant documents. Motion carried; no opposed.

Carol Kieser reported the Community Giving Foundation decided to award the grant for the generator project, but may have \$4000 available for the pavilion project. The Borough can then apply for a grant in the Spring 2022 for the additional funds. Motion by Jim Seeley/seconded Ed Fenton to request the funds from the Community Giving Foundation. Motion carried; no opposed.

#### New Business

Office Security Camera & Electrical Issues – Jim Long reported Mark Connor discovered the stray voltage is coming from the ceiling lights. Discussion was held to hire Mark Conner to convert all the building ceiling lights to LED bulbs.

Copier – Spreadsheet was supplied to council with several comparable models. Motion by Jim Seeley/seconded Dave Kershner to purchase the copier from Bodner Sales and Service. Motion carried; no opposed.

No further business. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26PM.

Respectfully submitted:  
Carol A Kieser, Secretary