

BRIAR CREEK BOROUGH
October 6, 2021
COUNCIL MEETING 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: W. Bruce Michael, Mayor Harold Kershner, Jr., Emery Seeley, James Seeley, David Kershner, Ed Fenton, Larry Santora, and James Long. Other officials present were Larry Frace and Secretary Carol Kieser. Absent: Solicitor and Engineer.

No citizens were present.

Minutes of the August 25, 2021 Work Session and September 1, 2021 Council Meeting were corrected as follows: "Discussion was held to have **one** drywell installed on Sunset Drive and **two** on Ash Alley." Minutes were approved as corrected.

No citizen's comments or complaints were received.

No Solicitor's Report was submitted.

Engineer's Report – Copy of the advertisement for the Village Lane Stormwater Improvements Project was presented. Bids to be opened at 11AM on October 27, 2021 at Peter's Consulting office. Jim Seeley, Emery Seeley, and Jim Long to attend bid opening. Peter's Consulting to present results to Council at the October 27, 2021 work session.

Zoning Officer's Report – Written report was presented to Council.

Summary:

Update was given on the Bannon Project. A letter was sent to owner from Columbia County Soil Conservation for earth disturbance in a floodplain without a permit. Complaint was received about sandblasting in a floodplain and operation was shutdown.

Complaint was received from Adult Protective Services about 51 Village Lane. Property was inspected and found several violations. A letter was sent to owner listing the violations.

Currently awaiting municipal court dates for violations filed at the Magistrates office.

Charger stations to be installed at the Giant Plaza. Zoning and Construction Permits were issued.

Red Oak and Briar Mobile Home Parks were sold. New owners have requested a copy of all violation files.

Mayor's Report – Reported a complaint was received concerning water problems from the new home construction on Ruckle Hill Road. Barry Travelpiece, Columbia County Soil Conservation, has been contacted. Larry Frace will follow up.

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

James Seeley suggested secretary post the building door for hours when she is out of the office for vacation, etc.

Committee Reports

Law & Finance – Review of the COVID funds and approved for MS4 Stormwater use. Funds to be used by 2024 with State reports due each year.

Highway and Streets – Proposal in the amount of \$7590 from Don E. Bower, Inc. for a headwall replacement project was presented. Jim Long noted the headwall will be built instead of using a precast headwall. Motion by Emery Seeley/seconded Ed Fenton to accept proposal and use the COVID funds to pay for the project. Motion carried; no opposed.

Jim Long noted that berms and ditches need to be cleaned on W. Rittenhouse Road. Don E Bower Inc will be contacted per the general maintenance contract.

Jim Long reported on his meeting with Steve Kehoe to discuss the installation of additional dry wells.

Jim Long and Jim Seeley will be working with Roto Rooter to clean the borough inlets. Carol Kieser reported she has contacted Matt Hess, Columbia County Redevelopment, and it is his opinion that COVID funds cannot be used to pay for this maintenance.

Building and Grounds – No report.

Berwick Area Pool Association – Report presented at the September 29, 2021 work session

Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority – Jim Seeley reported a special meeting will be held to discuss the agreement to provide sewer service for the Talen power plant and the new facility for the Bitcoin facility and address water runoff from the area.

Columbia County Tax Collection Committee – Carol Kieser will be attending a meeting scheduled at 6PM on October 20, 2021 at the Central Columbia High School Board Room.

New Business

Council was polled on their opinion to donate \$1000 to partner with BIDA for Downtown Management Services. Consensus of the council members was to agree to a one-year trial period, beginning January 2022, and request quarterly reports from BIDA with the results of their efforts to pursue business in the Briar Creek Borough. Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Jim Seeley to enter into an agreement for one year, beginning January 2022, with follow-up reports from BIDA. Motion carried; no opposed.

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Motion by Emery Seeley/seconded Larry Santora to **decline** donating to the Bette Grey Transportation Program, as requested by BIDA. Roll taken: Ed Fenton, yes; Jim Long, yes; Emery Seeley, yes; Jim Seeley, yes; Larry Santora, yes; Dave Kershner, yes; and Bruce Michael, yes. Motion carried on unanimously roll call vote.

No further business. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted:
Carol A Kieser, Secretary