

BRIAR CREEK BOROUGH
March 1, 2023
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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, E. James Seeley, David Kershner, Ed Fenton, Joseph Riggio (arrived at 7:12PM), James Long. Other officials present were Secretary Carol Kieser and Borough Solicitor Barry Lewis. Absent: Bill Witner, Larry Frace, and Engineer.

Citizens present: Jordan Smith, John Trivelpiece, Holli Trivelpiece, David DeHaven, and Matt Hess, Columbia County Housing and Redevelopment (arrived at 7:55PM), Ryan Elmy, Brent Eikct, and Melanie Fisher.

Minutes of the January 25 Work Session and February 1, 2023 Regular Council Meeting were approved as recorded.

No Citizen Comments or Complaints were received.

No Mayor's Report was given.

Solicitor's Report – Comcast and Breezeline Cable Franchise Ordinances are still pending. Council requested Barry Lewis to compare our zoning ordinance with Montour County and Hemlock Township Solar Energy Ordinances. Report back at the next meeting.

No Engineer's Report was given.

Bruce Michael reviewed the Zoning Officer's Report since Larry Frace was absent from the meeting. Copy of the report is filed in the Borough Office. Request was made for the Borough Highway and Streets Department to check area off of Old Route 4 for a proposed driveway permit. Jim Long to look at the area.

Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Joe Riggio to approve the Secretary's Report. Motion carried; no opposed.

Committee Reports

Law and Finance - Council reviewed the current rates of the CD's. Motion by Jim Seeley/seconded Ed Fenton to authorize the Secretary to contact the bank and find out what the penalty would be if the CD's are closed out early. Secretary to check for CD rates and report at the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the hall rental fee schedule. The Seventh-Day Adventist Church has requested to use the hall for 15 evenings in October. No action was taken. Solicitor recommends Council create a policy including a fee schedule. Bruce Michael will review the current hall rental agreement and report back to Council.

Highways and Streets – Two quotes were presented for Paint Striping on Old Route 4, W Rittenhouse Mill Road, and Park Road. Secretary was asked to contact those companies to clarify their proposed costs.

Jim Long reported that McCracken Seal Coating has looked at the roads and streets in the borough and will submit a price.

Jim Long will look at the site for the driveway on Old Route 4.

Jim Long reported on the request from Glenn Haun regarding trees overhanging his trailer in the Rose Davis Mobile Home Park. A survey map was submitted to council. The trees of question are located on the Davis MHP property. Secretary will contact Mr. Haun and let him know.

Buildings and Grounds – Joe Riggio reported on the proposal from Native Creations Landscaping Services. Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Joe Riggio to move forward with the proposal and plant four trees: one Red Maple, one Sugar Maple, one Eastern Redbud, and one Serviceberry. Motion carried; no opposed.

BAJSA – Jim Seeley reported the Authority is adverting for an office clerk.

Old or Unfinished Business

Jim Long reported the prospective buyer and his engineer are planning to visit the Baran Farm Property

Motion by Jim Seeley/seconded Jim Long to approve sending a letter to Dr. Yasin N Khan, potential buyer of the Baran Farm Property, to introduce him to the Briar Creek area. Motion carried; no opposed.

No review was held regarding the zoning districts. Update to zoning ordinance is pending.

The Berwick Borough has set up a committee to review the Berwick/Briar Creek Recycling Project. Waiting on a proposal from the Berwick Borough Council.

Council held a discussion regarding the TnR feral cat program. Council is questioning what is available for residents who wish to have their house cats neutered or spayed. Motion by Joe Riggio/Ed Fenton to have Secretary contact Robin Massina for additional information concerning the TnR vouch program. Motion carried; no opposed.

Motion by Jim Seeley/seconded Joe Riggio to sign the Memorandum of Understanding from the Columbia County Conservation District. Motion carried; no opposed.

Meeting turned over to Matt Hess, Columbia County Housing and Redevelopment Authority for an update on the pavilion project. Waiting on revised bid from PA Aluminum to include prevailing wages. Bid to be presented to Columbia County Commissioners for funding approval.

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New Business

Ed Fenton reminded Council of the early bird deadline to register for the June 4-7, 2023 PSAB conference to be held at the Hershey Lodge. Early bird deadline is April 26, 2023.

Carol Kieser reported the Borough has been granted a 5-Year Waiver from NPDES MS4 permitting requirements.

Carol Kieser reported \$24,730.67 has been received for Liquid Fuels.

No further business. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted:
Carol A Kieser, Secretary