

BRIAR CREEK BOROUGH
July 26, 2023
WORK SESSION MINUTES

President W. Bruce Michael called the work session to order at 7PM.

Present: W. Bruce Michael, James Seeley, James Long, Ed Fenton, Joseph Riggio, Bill Witner, David Kershner, Solicitor Barry Lewis, Tammy Trivelpiece, and Borough Manager Carol Kieser. Absent: Mayor Harold Kershner, Zoning Officer, and Engineer.

Citizen Present: Holli Trivelpiece and John Trivelpiece.

Motion made by Jim Long/seconded Bill Witner to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Tammy Trivelpiece reported on the July 6, 2023 Berwick Area Swimming Pool meeting. Financial information and scheduled fundraiser dates were given. Council requested the names of those who attend the meetings be included in the minutes. Copy of minutes is filed in the Borough Office.

No citizen's complaints or comments were received.

Included in the packets for Council were the minutes of June 28 work session and the July 5, 2023 regular council meeting, a list of bills to be paid, and Budget versus Actual Report.

Jim Seeley reviewed the minutes of June 14, 2023 Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority meeting and the customer past due report. Employee has resigned and BAJSA may hire two employees. The Employee Union negotiations will begin in August. Copy of the minutes is filed in the Borough Office.

Attorney Barry Lewis, Solicitor, reported the Rick Smethers' Hearing to be held at the Magistrate's Office has been rescheduled to August 24th.

Old or Unfinished Business

No report given on the Review Zoning Ordinance Text Changes.

No progress to rewrite the Hall Rental Policy to date. Secretary will review sample policies, provided by Attorney Lewis, and draft a new policy.

Jim Seeley reported the site is being prepped for the concrete pad and pavilion project should be completed by the end of August.

Welliver Road Weight Study – Report received from Peters Consulting, Inc. Three borings were taken and the underlying base is suitable for 80,000 lb. maximum gross load with a 27,000 lb. single axle load and a 52,000 lb. tandem axle load. Copy of the report will be filed in the Borough Office.

E. Rittenhouse Mill Road Survey – Motion by Jim Long/seconded Jim Seeley to approve the survey plan, provided by Peters Consulting, Inc., and authorize Jim Seeley and Jim Long to work with Peters Consulting when the survey pins are set. Roll call vote taken: Jim Long, yes; Ed Fenton, yes; Jim Seeley, yes; Bill Witner, yes; Dave Kershner, yes; Joe Riggio, yes; Bruce Michael, yes. Motion carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Council held a discussion regarding the current width of E. Rittenhouse Mill Road and widening and paving it for safety reasons. Council discussed the safety issue that was brought to Council's attention by the 09/10/2022 petition signed by E. Rittenhouse Mill Road residents which was attached to a letter to Senator John Gordner, as well testimony at the 04/20/2023 Smith Pipe Zoning Hearing regarding the unsafe width of that road. No action taken; subject still under discussion.

Ed Fenton reported he is still working on the Crack Sealing Specs and bid package.

Jim Seeley reported 22 stacking conference room chairs have been received.

Advertisement has not been placed in the newspaper for the two contracts for bid; ie, Emergency Maintenance and General Maintenance.

Carol Kieser reported a certified letter has been sent to Lance Eveland to remove a tree from his property that is encroaching on the bank, which Council proposes to cutback to improve line-of-sight on W Rittenhouse Mill Road. No response has been received from Mr. Eveland.

New Business

Jim Long reported he has received a request to add a street light on W. Front Street. Discussion was held on the cost the Borough pays for each street light. Jim Long stated he will check the PPL streetlight listing to make sure the Borough is being billed correctly. No action taken.

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Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 8, 2023, to review the final plans for the Briar Creek Self Storage Development.

Council decided to hold a Special Meeting at 7PM, on Wednesday, August 9, 2023, to act on the recommendation from the 08/08/2023 Planning Commission Meeting regarding the Briar Creek Self Storage Development.

A Zoning Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 6PM, to consider the application for a special exemption of Ruckle Hill Road Solar 1, LLC.

Carol Kieser will send a letter to the Berwick YMCA approving the YMCA 10K running course thru Briar Creek Borough for 10/21/2023.

No further business and motion was made by Jim Long/seconded Ed Fenton to adjourn. Motion carried; no opposed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carol A Kieser, Secretary
Briar Creek Borough