

BRIAR CREEK BOROUGH
February 7, 2024
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

Roll call of members was taken. Present: Mayor Harold Kershner, Jr., W Bruce Michael, E James Seeley, James Long, Ed Fenton, Dave Kershner, Bill Witner, and Rodney Koch. Other Officials present were Zoning Officer Larry Frace and Abigail Kurecian, and Secretary Carol Kieser. Absent: Solicitor Barry Lewis, and Engineer.

Citizen present: David DeHaven, Holli Trivelpiece, John Trivelpiece, and Christy Kehl-Hess.

Minutes of the December 27, 2023 Work Session, January 2 Reorganization and Regular Council Meeting, January 15 Special Meeting, and January 17, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting were presented. Ed Fenton made a correction to page two of the 12/27/2023 Work Session minutes "Motion carried; Ed Fenton abstained from vote". Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Jim Seeley to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried; no opposed.

Citizen Comments and Complaints

No citizen comments or complaints were received.

Mayor Harold Kershner reported a tree is hanging across W Rittenhouse Mill Road. Road crew will cut and remove the tree. Discussion was held to make a donation to West Berwick Fire Company. Solicitor Barry Lewis will be contacted for advice on donating to the fire company. Item will be put on the 02/28/2024 work session agenda.

No Solicitor's Report was given.

No Engineer's report was given.

Larry Frace submitted a zoning report and discussed the zoning activity for December and January 2024. A copy of the report is filed in the Borough Office.

Letter was received from Columbia County announcing the FIRM maps are now final and will become effective on July 31, 2024. The Borough's Ordinance will need to be reviewed by the county for compliance and the Borough will then need to advertise, hold hearings, and adopt the ordinance before July 31, 2024.

On 01/08/2024, a noise complaint was received regarding 30 E Rittenhouse Mill Road removing snow at 9PM.

On 02/07/2024, a complaint was received that workers have been using the driveway before 5AM at Smith Pipe and Welding, when work begins at 7AM.

Vought Development - Application for a HOP has been approved by PennDOT. Columbia County did not approve the land development plan and it must be revised.

Haza Bell – Sign variance was approved by the Briar Creek Zoning Hearing Board. A Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th to review the final development plans.

Zoning violations from the Harmon and Briar Creek Estates MHP were discussed.

Secretary presented a list of bills for payment, bank account balances and registers. Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Jim Long to approve the Secretary/Treasurer's Report. Motion carried; no opposed.

Committee Reports

Law & Finance – Secretary and Jim Long have been in contact with Berkheimer to get the LST employer list updated.

Highway and Streets – Proposal in the amount of \$11,775 was presented from Don E Bower, Inc. to repair the potholes on Park Road. Motion by Jim Long/seconded Bill Witner to accept the proposal. Motion carried, no opposed.

A discussion was held by Council to widen E Rittenhouse Mill Road. Council decided to delay action until an estimate and description of work is received from Steve Kehoe, PennDOT Municipal Services.

Buildings and Grounds – Estimate was presented from American Technology Systems in the amount of \$422 for an additional display monitor to view the new security cameras installed at the entrance of the municipal building. Motion by Bill Witner/seconded by Ed Fenton to purchase the additional monitor. Motion carried; no opposed.

Old or Unfinished Business

No update was given on the Zoning Ordinance Text Changes.

Resolution #2 of 2024, Repealing Resolution #1 of 2026, Creating Rules and Procedures for Public Meetings and Establishing a Code of Ethics for Officials was presented. Motion by Jim Seeley/seconded Jim Long to adopt the resolution. Motion carried; no opposed.

No updated was given on the paper shredding event.

New Business

No update to the fee schedule for zoning and planning matters was given.

The Borough's website has been down since the beginning of the month. The website provider, Fatcow, has been contacted and they are working to resolve the issue. A discussion was held by council to get an estimate from NEPA Securities and Technologies to setup a new website.

No further business. Motion by Jim Long/seconded Dave Kershner to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:33PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Carol A Kieser, Secretary
Briar Creek Borough