

BRIAR CREEK BOROUGH
March 27, 2024
WORK SESSION 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.

Present: Mayor Harold Kershner Jr., W. Bruce Michael, James Seeley, Ed Fenton, Rodney Koch, and Bill Witner. Other officials present: Solicitor Barry Lewis, and Borough Manager Carol Kieser. Absent: James Long, David Kershner, Engineer, Zoning Officer Larry Frace, and BASP Representative Tammy Trivelpiece.

Citizen Present: John Trivelpiece, Holli Trivelpiece, and Keith and Christy Kehl-Hess.

Holli Trivelpiece, Recording Secretary for BASP, filled in for Tammy Trivelpiece and reported on the March 7, 2024 Berwick Area Swimming Pool meeting. Financial report was given. Jocelyn Getty was hired as secretary of accounting. Fundraising Events were noted: Carnival May 7-11, 2024; VIP Day June 9, 2024; 21-and-Over Day June 29, 2024; Craft Fair with Doggie Dip September 7, 2024. Copy of the BASP minutes is filed in the borough office.

Citizen Comments Related to the Agenda Items – John Trivelpiece took the floor and explained the widening of E Rittenhouse Mill Road will create an unsafe freeway between Park Road and Route 93 and E Rittenhouse Mill Road itself. A copy of a “Save Our Road Protect Our Community” and an undated petition “Say No to Widening East Rittenhouse Mill Road” with 45 signatures was presented to Council. (Copy of information will be included with official minutes). John Trivelpiece suggested only widening the entrance from Rt 93 onto E Rittenhouse Mill Road and the area in front of Smith Pipe and Welding should take care of the truck traffic into Smith Pipe.

No other comments or complaints were received.

Included in the packets for council were minutes of the 02/28 Work Session and 03/06/2024 Council Meeting, and the list of bills for review.

Jim Seeley reported on the 02/14/2024 Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority meeting. Still working on the NPDES Permit. Two new employees were interviewed and hired. Copy of the BAJSA report is filed in the borough office.

Solicitor's Report – Haza Bell Developer's Agreement is finished. Waiting on results of the dry well testing and Council's approval of the development plans.

No report on the Camera Security System Policy was given.

Old or Unfinished Business

No update was given on the Zoning Ordinance Text Changes.

Because Jim Long was absent from the meeting, no report was given on the LST employer listing.

No update was given on the shredding event.

Jim Seeley reported that he and Carol Kieser went to Salem Township to see their security door locking system. Council held a discussion on the Security Door Lock System proposal from NEPA Securities and Technologies. Motion by Rodney Koch/seconded Bill Witner to drop the idea. Roll call was taken: Ed Fenton, yes; Rodney Koch, yes; Jim Seeley, yes; Bill Witner, yes; Bruce Michael, yes. Motion carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Larry Frace and Carol Kieser are continuing to work on the zoning fee schedules.

New Business

E. Rittenhouse Mill Road Widening Project – Project specs, which were written by Steve Kehoe, PennDOT Municipal Services Specialist, were emailed to eight companies. Proposals from three companies were received and presented to Council. Motion was made by Ed Fenton/seconded Rodney Koch to table the discussion until the April 3, 2024 regular council meeting.

Ed Fenton made a motion/seconded Rodney Koch to hold an executive session at the end of the work session to discuss the Ruckle Hill Solar Farm appeal. Motion carried; no opposed.

Public works hours for Jim Long and Jim Seeley were presented for approval. Motion by Bill Witner/seconded Rodney Koch was made to approve these works hours for payment. Motion carried; no opposed.

Page Three of Three
Work Session Minutes
March 27, 2024

A meeting has been set by Hailstone Economic LLC with PennDOT at 1PM-3PM on May 29, 2024, to be held at the Briar Creek Borough Hall. Bruce Michael recommended State Representative Robert Leadbeter and Senator Lynda Culver be invited to the meeting.

Haza Bell Land Development Plans were not approved pending receipt of the drywell testing and the inspection results of the inlet on Welliver Road. Council asked Secretary to call Marsico's Septic and Environmental Services and let them know Briar Creek Borough would like to move forward with the inspections.

Jim Seeley reported the CD #5918, matured on March 23, 2024, in the amount of \$29,146.29 and has been rolled into a 11-month CD #8994 at 5.15% interest.

Floor was opened for new business. Jim Seeley reported he was contacted by Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. from Shamokin, PA, with information regarding a proposed bi-monthly, walk-thru food drive at the Ber Vaughn Park. Holli Trivelpiece was asked to report this to the pool board in case the pool parking lot is needed for this food drive. Jim Seeley to attend a meeting with the organization and more information to follow.

At 8:35PM, the work session was adjourned to hold an executive session to discuss legal matters related to the Ruckle Hill Road Solar Farm.

At 8:51PM, work session was brought back to order. Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Rodney Koch to sign the Ruckle Hill Road Solar I, LLC stipulation and settlement agreement. Roll call was taken: Ed Fenton, yes; Rodney Koch, yes; Jim Seeley, yes; Bill Witner, yes; Bruce Michael, yes. Motion carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Rodney Koch to adjourn. No further business was conducted and meeting was adjourned at 8:53PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Carol A Kieser
Secretary
Briar Creek Borough