

BRIAR CREEK BOROUGH
September 25, 2024
Work Session Minutes

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

Present: Bruce Michael, E. James Seeley, Jim Long, Dave Kershner, Ed Fenton, Rodney Koch, and Bill Witner. Other officials present: Solicitor Barry Lewis, Zoning Officers Larry Frace and Abigail Smith, and Borough Manager Carol Kieser. Absent: Mayor Harold Kershner and Engineer.

Citizens present: John Trivelpiece and Holli Trivelpiece.

No report was given for the Berwick Area Swimming Pool.

No comments or complaints were received.

Secretary's Report

Included in the packets for Council were minutes from the 08/28 Work Session, 09/04/2024 Regular Council Meeting, a list of bills to be paid, and a draft (work copy) of the proposed 2025 budget.

BAJSA

Jim Seeley presented the August 14, 2024 meeting minutes and a list of the delinquent customer balances. Copy of the minutes is filed in the Borough Office.

Solicitor's Report

Security Camera Policy – No report.

Mobile Home Park Ordinance – Contact was made with Magistrate Brenda Hess to discuss fines.

Transient Retail Business Permit – Council is still reviewing the two sample ordinances Attorney Lewis presented at the Council Meeting to regulate licenses, permits, and general regulations.

Attorney Lewis discussed the qualifications to be a member of the IMPC Appeal Board, specifically the board should consist of people with various backgrounds, either trained and experienced, in construction, real estate, electrical, architectural, etc. and must hold a certificate of training. Discussion was held to form a board of members from Briar Creek Borough, Salem Township, Briar Creek Township and provide the members with training by Larry Frace, Northeast Training Institute.

Old or Unfinished Business

Zoning Ordinance Text Changes – Uses are still being revised for each zoning district.

Park Road/E Rittenhouse Mill Road Resurfacing Project - Ed Fenton suggested bid in the Spring.

Jim Seeley reported the kitchen remodel is complete except for the countertop and installation is scheduled for October 8th.

Zoning Fee Schedule – Still being reviewed.

LST Review – Jim Long will continue to review data from each quarter as it is available.

New Business

Public Work hours for Rodney Koch and Bill Witner were presented. Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Jim Seeley to approve and pay. Motion carried, no opposed.

A letter was received from Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. requesting to use the borough hall for 16 weeks for implementation of a new program called Thrive. The focus of the program would be to educate families who are experiencing poverty to move toward self-sufficiency. Motion by Ed Fenton/seconded Jim Long to approve the request, providing documentation is received for insurance liability and tax-exempt status and personnel background checks are performed. Council members were polled and positive feedback was received. Motion carried; no opposed.

A discussion was held regarding a request for financial support received from the Bloomsburg Recycling Center. John Trivelpiece (audience) comments that Council should contact Berwick Borough since their recycling site is located in Briar Creek Borough instead of donating to Bloomsburg. John Trivelpiece volunteered to attend a Borough Council Meeting for information.

A discussion was held to defer a homeless encampment on the Hess Farm owned by Briar Creek Borough. Motion by Jim Seeley/seconded Ed Fenton to authorize Jim Long to work with Mike Winder to establish boundaries and post no trespassing signs in that area. Motion carried; no opposed.

Correspondence

Information was presented for upcoming LTAP classes hosted by SEDA-Cog at the Point Township Municipal Building, located near Northumberland.

No further business and meeting was adjourned at 8:36PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Carol A Kieser, Borough Manager
Briar Creek Borough