

**BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES  
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 9, 2019**

---

**REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Bell Acres was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 9, 2019, at the Big Sewickley Creek Volunteer Fire Hall, 1850 Big Sewickley Creek Road, Sewickley, PA 15143

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Mr. Young announced that Council invited the Quaker Valley School Board Members of Region 1 to address the potential new school project and how it's going to affect our constituents and their taxes.

**GIANNI FLORO, DANIELA HELKOWSKI, AND JONATHAN KUZMA - QUAKER VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

Quaker Valley School Board Members Gianni Floro, Daniela Helkowski and Jonathan Kuzma provided updates and answered questions regarding the school district's present position and future plans for the potential new school project.

**PATRICK D. GAVAGHAN – ECOTUNE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS**

Mr. Gavaghan presented Council with an overview of the Turkeyfoot Run Stream Evaluation that was completed in November 2019. The evaluation consisted of the Turkeyfoot Run stream and its three major tributaries. Many questions were posed by Council to Mr. Gavaghan and Mr. Shoup. After an in-depth discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Gavaghan and Mr. Shoup will submit a pre-application to PA DEP and present several ideas and recommendations to address the undersized culverts, flooding, and other problematic issues of the watershed.

**CINDY SPENCER – 120 HUNT ROAD**

Ms. Spencer inquired about the flooding at the bottom of Hunt Road and the property owned by Allegheny Land Trust, where the trees are in the creek. Mr. Young asked Mr. Kulbacki to contact Allegheny Land Trust to see if they can remove the trees out of the creek.

Mr. Young announced that the floor is now open for public discussion.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

No Comments

**REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mr. Young, President of Council, at 8:17 p.m.

**COUNCIL**

(X) Dennis Young, President of Council  
(X) David Renfrew  
(X) Chris Abell  
( ) Brock Meanor - Excused  
(X) Michelle Veeck  
(X) Greg Wagner  
(X) John Walliser

**MAYOR**

(X) Kenneth Alvania, Mayor

**BOROUGH ENGINEER**

(X) Scott Shoup – Shoup Engineering, Inc.

---

---

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR**

(X) Robert Max Junker – Babst Calland

**STAFF**

(X) Charles Kulbacki, Borough Manager

(X) Lisa Fleming, Borough Secretary

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor's Report for the month of November 2019 has been submitted in writing and made a part of the minutes.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 11, 2019, was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Renfrew. All in favor. Motion carried.

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING**

A motion to approve the minutes of the Budget Meeting held on November 21, 2019, was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mrs. Veeck. Members voting yes: Mr. Abell, Mr. Renfrew, Mr. Wagner, Mrs. Veeck, and Mr. Young. Motion carried, 5 – yes, 0 – no, and 1 – abstention by Mr. Walliser (not present at the meeting).

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for November 2019 as distributed and ratify payments totaling \$95,699.28 out of the General Fund and \$3,776.37 out of the State Fund, was made by Mr. Renfrew and seconded by Mr. Abell. All in favor. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**ROAD DEPARTMENT / BOROUGH OFFICE RADIOS**

A motion to have Chief Korol obtain three quotes for the radios by the specifications provided by the Allegheny County 911 Center was made by Mr. Renfrew and seconded by Mrs. Veeck.

Mr. Young asked if there were any comments from the public. There were no comments. All in favor. Motion carried.

Solicitor Junker was directed to draft a Resolution to memorialize the policy for emergency use of the radios.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**BUDGET & FINANCE – Mrs. Veeck**

**2020 BOROUGH BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12092019 – ADOPTION OF BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2020**

A motion to adopt Resolution No. 12092019 to approve the 2020 Bell Acres Borough Budget with

Receipts totaling . . . . . \$1,944,621

Expenses totaling . . . . . \$1,944,621

was made by Mr. Renfrew and seconded by Mr. Abell. All in favor. Motion carried.

---

---

**RESOLUTION NO. 12092019A – TAX RESOLUTION FOR THE YEAR 2020**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, FIXING THE TAX RATES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020.

A motion to adopt Tax Resolution No. 12092019A for the year 2020 was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Renfrew. All in favor. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 300 – REPEALING THE PER CAPITA TAX**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REPEALING THE PER CAPITA TAX ORIGINALLY ENACTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 80 AND CURRENTLY CODIFIED AS ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 153 IN THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES, "TAXATION".

A motion to advertise Ordinance No. 300 for authorization at its Regular Meeting to be held on January 13, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Big Sewickley Creek Fire Hall was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Renfrew. All in favor. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC SAFETY – Mr. Renfrew**

No Report.

**PUBLIC WORKS – Mr. Abell**

**TURKEYFOOT ROAD LANDSLIDE**

Scott Shoup reported that Camp Meeting Excavating was previously authorized to repair the Turkeyfoot Road slide. He stated that, unfortunately, the excavation triggered movement of the slide. Mr. Shoup reported that the amount of \$20,600 has been exhausted. In order to continue the repairs, it's going to necessitate an additional 3-4 weeks of work. Due to these circumstances, Mr. Shoup consulted with Mr. Junker.

Mr. Junker stated that since we're over the \$20,600 that was authorized last month by Council, and due to the site conditions, slide, exposure of utility lines, heavy rains, and unseasonably warm weather; there is a provision in the Emergency Management Services Code that allows Council to declare a local disaster emergency and suspends any formal contracting requirements. Mr. Junker cited the provision in the Emergency Management Services Code. Therefore, Mr. Junker prepared a motion that captures those issues.

**DECLARATION OF A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY**

A motion to declare a local disaster emergency under Section 7501(b) of the Emergency Management Services Code to be in effect until such time as the landslide on Turkeyfoot Road that is currently threatening houses and utility lines is stabilized, and to authorize the Borough Manager and Borough Engineer to enter into contracts, incur obligations, and otherwise exercise the powers vested under Section 7501 in light of the exigencies of the emergency situation without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Abell.

Mr. Young asked if there were any public comments regarding the motion. There were no public comments. All in favor. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL WORK**

A motion to approve an additional 3-4 weeks of labor by Camp Meeting Excavating at approximately \$30,000 for work to continue on the Turkeyfoot Road Landslide was made by Mr. Renfrew and seconded by Mrs. Veeck.

Mr. Young asked if there were any public comments regarding the motion. There were no public comments. All in favor. Motion carried.

---

---

**CAMP MEETING ROAD SLIDE UPDATE**

Mr. Shoup sent correspondence to Allegheny County requesting their consideration to reopen Camp Meeting Road to one-way traffic on the north lane until the County can address the situation. The County's engineer advised Mr. Shoup that the County considers the project a high priority. Mr. Shoup reported that geotechnical engineers will be out to drill a couple holes.

**PROPERTY & SUPPLIES – Mr. Wagner**

No Report

**GOVERNMENT & LEGISLATION – Mr. Meanor – Excused**

No Report

**ZONING – Mr. Walliser**

**ORDINANCE NO. 301 – AMENDING USE REGULATIONS, PROVISIONS ON SIGNS, AND EXPIRATION OF CONDITIONAL USES**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 165 IN THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES, "ZONING", TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS IN ARTICLE II ON "USE REGULATIONS", TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS IN ARTICLE VI ON "SIGNS", AND TO ADD A NEW PROVISION ON THE EXPIRATION OF CONDITIONAL USES.

A motion to send Ordinance No. 301 to Allegheny County Economic Development for their review was made by Mr. Walliser and seconded by Mr. Renfrew. All in favor. Motion carried.

**THANK YOU, MR. WALLISER**

Mr. Young extended Council's thanks and appreciation to Mr. Walliser for serving. Mr. Young stated, "It has been a pleasure and thank you very much for your interest and input."

**CLOSING**

Mr. Young closed by wishing each and every one a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to transact, a motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Veeck and seconded by Mr. Wagner. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa J. Fleming  
Borough Secretary