

BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 10, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Bell Acres was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2021, at the Big Sewickley Creek Fire Hall, 1850 Big Sewickley Creek Road, Sewickley, PA 15143 in person and via an authorized telecommunication device (Zoom) in accordance with Act 15 of 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jim Pashek of Pashek+MTR, Ltd.
Mr. Pashek presented an updated overview of the Bell Acres Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission will consider its recommendation at its May regular meeting, and Borough Council will then need to schedule and conduct a public hearing before enacting the Comprehensive Plan.
- Jonathan Kuzma and Daniela Helkowski - Board Members of the Quaker Valley School District
Mr. Kuzma and Ms. Helkowski discussed the current issues and challenges facing the school district.
- William Bender - Bell Acres Emergency Management Coordinator
Mr. Bender discussed the importance of the Borough enacting Resolution No. 05102021A – Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Wayne Fortuna and Casey Marek - Big Sewickley Creek Volunteer Fire Department
Fire Chief Fortuna and Asst. Fire Chief Marek presented their Master Capital Upgrade Plan. An extensive discussion took place regarding three major components of the proposed aggressive capital project: (1) purchasing a new pumper truck, (2) replacement of eighteen (18) SCBAs, and (3) building an additional substation.

REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mr. Renfrew, President of Council, at 7:55 p.m.

COUNCIL

- (X) Dave Renfrew - President of Council
- (X) Brock Meanor- Vice President of Council
- (X) Chris Abell
- (X) Michelle Veeck
- (X) Greg Wagner – via Zoom
- (X) Megan Wine – via Zoom
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MAYOR

- (X) Kenneth Alvania, Mayor

BOROUGH ENGINEER

- (X) Scott Shoup – Shoup Engineering, Inc. – via Zoom

BOROUGH SOLICITOR

- (X) Robert Max Junker – Babst Calland – via Zoom

STAFF

- (X) Lisa Fleming – Borough Manager/Secretary

APPOINTMENT – COUNCIL MEMBER

RESOLUTION NO. 05102021 – APPOINTMENT – COUNCIL MEMBER

Due to the unfortunate and unexpected passing of Council Member, Dennis C. Young, Jr., Borough Council, in accordance with Section 901(a) of the Borough Code, had to appoint a registered elector to fill the vacancy until the first Monday in January 2022. A request for applicants was published to the public and Council held a properly advertised Special Meeting on May 3, 2021, for the purpose of interviewing the two residents who submitted letters of interest – Janelle Aslam and Lane Grafton.

Mr. Junker explained the general process and procedure in filling the name on a vacancy resolution. After the introduction, Mr. Junker opened the floor for nominations to fill the unexpired term of Dennis C. Young, Jr. until December 31, 2021. Mr. Meanor nominated Lane Grafton to fill the vacancy. As required, Mr. Junker asked three times if there were any other nominations. There were no other nominations. A motion to close the floor for nominations and direct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Lane Grafton was made by Mr. Meanor and seconded by Mrs. Veeck. All in favor. Motion carried. Lane Grafton will be added to the Resolution.

A motion to adopt Resolution No. 05102021 – A resolution of the Borough of Bell Acres, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, appointing Lane Grafton to fill the vacancy created by the passing of Dennis C. Young, Jr. was made by Mr. Meanor and seconded by Mrs. Veeck. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor's Report for the month of April 2021 has been submitted in writing and made part of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 12, 2021, was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Ms. Wine. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes held on May 3, 2021, was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Meanor. All in favor. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2021 as distributed and ratify payments totaling \$104,349.70 out of the General Fund and \$130.90 out of the State Fund was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Meanor. All in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

CAMP MEETING ROAD LANDSLIDE

Mr. Abell reported that he spoke with Jason Molinero, Deputy Director of the Allegheny County Department of Public Works. Mr. Molinero reported that the party on the north side of the slide has signed off on the project. The County sent separate agreements to BAMA, Sewickley Heights Borough, and other parties involved. The County plans to use their designated emergency contractor, Pugliano Construction Co., Inc., to repair the slide. If all goes as planned, it appears the project will be finished by this summer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDGET & FINANCE – MICHELLE VEECK

No Report

PUBLIC SAFETY – MICHELLE VEECK (Co-Chair)

No Report

PUBLIC WORKS – CHRIS ABELL

Mr. Abell announced he will be having the first meeting with the Public Works Employees on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, regarding their contract renewal.

Mrs. Veeck and Ms. Wine excused themselves from the meeting.

MR. JUNKER'S STATEMENT REGARDING A QUORUM

Mr. Junker stated that for the purpose of the minutes, two members of council left the meeting - one who was participating virtually and one who was present physically. At the present time, Council has four members participating – three in person and one by approved telecommunications device. Fortunately, we continued to post the Act 15 notice on the Borough website and previously advertised that approved telecommunication devices would continue to be used until further notice. Even though the meeting is in hybrid form, Council still has a quorum - just not a physical quorum. Mr. Junker stated that if there are any motions on future items, Council will only need three votes to carry the motion.

PROPERTY & SUPPLIES – GREG WAGNER
BOROUGH LANDSCAPING

Mr. Wagner complimented on the nice landscaping that was completed at the Borough Building.

GOVERNMENT & LEGISLATION – BROCK MEANOR

Mr. Meanor announced the primary election is on May 18, 2021.

ZONING – MEGAN WINE

ZONING HEARING BOARD APPLICATION NO. 21-Z-01

Mr. Abell announced the Zoning Hearing Board approved the variance for Robert D. Miller.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 05102021A – ALLEGHENY COUNTY 2020 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY 2020 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

A motion to adopt Resolution No. 05102021A the Allegheny County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan was made by Mr. Meanor and seconded by Mr. Abell. All in favor. Motion carried.

ArcGIS MAPPING SYSTEM

Mr. Irwin announced the Bell Acres Municipal Authority (BAMA) recently acquired the ArcGIS Mapping System. The system contains mapping of the sewer systems, manholes and air release valves. Eventually the waterlines and storm sewer systems will be incorporated into the mapping system. A laptop will be provided to the Public Works Employees in order to access the system in the field.

CHARLES KULBACKI'S RETIREMENT RECOGNITION BY REP. VALERIE GAYDOS

Mr. Renfrew announced that Charles Kulbacki was recently recognized by Representative Valerie Gaydos on his recent retirement as Borough Manager, a position he held for 27 years. Mr. Renfrew thanked him for his service to the community. Congratulations to Charlie!

COMMITTEES

Mr. Renfrew announced he is going to revise the committees.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were other items that were noted but did not need action at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Meanor and seconded by Mr. Abell. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa J. Fleming, Borough Manager/Secretary

