

BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES
BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 14, 2025

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Bell Acres was held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 14, 2025, at the Big Sewickley Creek Fire Hall, 1850 Big Sewickley Creek Road, Sewickley, PA 15143.

REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mr. Meanor, Vice President of Council, at 6:06 p.m.

COUNCIL

- () David Renfrew - President of Council - *excused*
- (X) Brock Meanor - Vice President of Council
- () Christopher Abell- *excused*
- (X) Matthew Horton- *via teleconference*
- (X) Charles Kulbacki
- (X) Gregory Molchen
- (X) Michelle Veeck
- () Kenneth Alvania - Mayor - *excused*
- (X) Sandy Nelko - Borough Engineer
- (X) Robert Max Junker - Babst Calland

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Paul Fagan – 1551 Camp Meeting Road

Mr. Fagan expressed concerns about ongoing traffic issues on Camp Meeting Road. He reported that, for the fourth time, a vehicle has crashed into his fence and damaged his yard. He requested the installation of a speed limit sign and noted that the “Curve Ahead” signs, which were previously in place, had been damaged some time ago and never replaced.

Mr. Meanor explained that Camp Meeting Road is maintained by Allegheny County, and the Borough will need to contact the County to request replacement signage. In the meantime, Mr. Meanor suggested placing a temporary speed sign to help reduce speeding around the curve.

Judy Downing – 2440 Henry Road

Judy Downing raised concerns regarding increased traffic on Henry Road and Hunt Road due to the closure of Fern Hollow Road. Ms. Downing noted that vehicles are traveling at excessive speeds and that these roads are not designed to handle such a high volume of traffic. She requested that police presence be increased in the area, when possible, to monitor and address the speeding issue.

Mr. Matt Swartz – Senior Assistant Golf Professional Sewickley Heights Golf Club

Mr. Swartz wanted to bring attention to the Council and Planning Commission regarding the Fencing Ordinance that is ready to be placed signed into an Ordinance. The issue may be the chain link at the bottom of the fence, however Mr. Swartz stated there will be netting covering this area. Mr. Meanor suggested Mr. Swartz plan on attending the Planning Commission meeting and bring a drawing of the fence and where it will be located on the property.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor's report for the month of June 2025 has been submitted in writing and made part of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing Minutes held on June 9, 2025, *as corrected* was made by Mr. Kulbacki seconded by Mr. Molchen. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 9, 2025, was made by Mr. Molchen seconded by Mr. Kulbacki. All in favor. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted for May 2025 as distributed and ratify payments totaling \$115,467.92 out of the General Fund and \$0 out of the State Fund was made by Mrs. Veeck, seconded by Mr. Kulbacki. All in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Budget & Finance – Michelle Veeck

No report.

Public Safety – Brock Meanor

Announcement – Scott Foundation, Inc. Grant Award in the amount of \$10,770 for Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Replacements

Discussion - Street Light Inquiry - Lewis Street and Sands Avenue- Mr. Meanor reported we received a total of 6 responses from the letter that was sent out earlier this month. The decision is to place a shield on this street light to minimize the glare.

A motion to authorize the Borough Manager to proceed with the following action: contact Duquesne Light to install a shield for a one-time fee of \$250.00 was made by Mrs. Veeck, seconded by Mr. Molchen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion – Purchasing and Installing Flags, Flag Poles, and Veteran's Banners in Bell Acres. Mr. Meanor suggested we get pricing for the flags, poles and the banners.

Big Sewickley Creek Volunteer Fire Department – Authorization for Monthly Distribution of Fire Tax Funds

A motion to authorize the Borough Manager to disburse \$10,000 from budget line item 301.101 to be deposited in the FDIC bank account maintained by the Big Sewickley Creek Fire Department in accordance with Section 153-54 of the Borough of Bell Acres Fire Tax Ordinance was made by Mrs. Veeck, seconded by Mr. Kulbacki. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Works – Christopher Abell- *excused*

No report.

Property & Supplies – Charles Kulbacki

Mr. Kulbacki reported the Borough received a check from the insurance company from the storm damage from the April 29th storm. The Borough public works department removed trees that damaged the side of the garage and the back porch deck.

Also received a check to repair the salt shed that was torn from the wind damage in the same storm. HHSDR architects performed another on-site study and took measurements. We will discuss further as to what is needed for all personnel.

LSA Grant – Municipal Complex Study – Property, Physical & Topography Survey Invoice

A motion to approve Shoup Engineering, Inc.'s Invoice No. 25-118 in the amount of \$4,350 for the Performance of Property, Physical, and Topography Survey, as per LSA Grant Criteria and Proposal, for the Municipal Complex Study was made by Mr. Kulbacki, seconded by Mrs. Veeck. All in favor. Motion carried.

Eagle Scout Project Update at the Bell Acres Nature Park

This project is complete. The area looks great and the Eagle scout did a fantastic job! We will have a thank you letter sent out and look into another project the Eagle Scouts can start.

Government & Legislation – Matthew Horton

No report.

Zoning – Gregory Molchen

Proposed Ordinance No. 327 – Regulate Fencing

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 327

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 165 IN THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BELL ACRES, “ZONING”, AS AMENDED, TO REGULATE FENCING WITHIN THE BOROUGH.

A motion to send the Ordinance back to Planning Commission for further review was made by Mr. Molchen, seconded by Mr. Kulbacki. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE

There are other items that should be noted but do not need action at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Molchen, seconded by Mr. Kulbacki. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Palko

Borough Secretary