

**New Beaver Borough
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2025**

The New Beaver Borough Council held its regular meeting on December 8, 2025 in the Municipal Building on Wampum-New Galilee Road. President T. Hairhoger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. J. Gubish led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was read with the following present: Pres. T. Hairhoger, V.P. M. Kingman, Councilpersons: J. Gubish, B. Majors, D. Badger, P. McConnell and P. Morrison, Mayor R. Crawford and Secretary/Treasurer D. Crawford. Solicitor R. Long was absent.

D. Badger motioned to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2025 regular Council meeting, P. Morrison seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

D. Badger motioned to accept the bill list, P. Morrison seconded. ROLL CALL: HAIRHOGGER, KINGMAN, GUBISH, MAJORS, BADGER, MCCONNELL and MORRISON - YES. Motion carried, 7-0.

D. Badger motioned to accept the Treasurer's Reports, P. Morrison seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

Visitors:

Jarett Svihra of Mines & Meadows attended the meeting to ask about the potential amusement tax. He asked if it was due to the emergency call-outs the volunteer fire department responds to at Mines & Meadows. He mentioned that the volunteer fire department can bill for emergency/rescue calls and that he does donate financially and helps by supporting the poker run at his facility and helped them attain a large donation from Lindy Paving.

John LaCarte, Jack LaCarte and Lawrence Maiello attended the meeting to give an update on the Stonecrest Developers project. A letter from LaCarte Development Company, Inc. was shared with Council outlining which improvements they are requesting be accepted by the Borough at this time. Council was advised that all improvements are complete with the exception of energizing the lift system which will happen in early Spring 2026.

Maryagnes Stuck and Cheryl Koncewicz of Old Route 18 and Nick Vercilla of the New Castle News attended the meeting without comment.

Solicitor Report: Absent

Mayor Report: None

Committee Reports

Road:

Council was advised that no additional estimates have been received toward repairing the motor on the 1995 JD 6300 tractor. T. Hairhoger said that he would reach out to the New Castle School of Trades. B. Majors said she would share the contact information for the Vo-Tech mechanics department.

Pres. Hairhoger stated that public works is having issues with the hydraulics on the 2022 Case loader/backhoe.

D. Badger motioned to contact Case to look at it and give a quote to repair, J. Gubish seconded. ROLL CALL: KINGMAN, GUBISH, MAJORS, BADGER, MCCONNELL, MORRISON and HAIRHOGGER - YES. Motion carried, 7-0.

Pres. Hairhoger advised that the Patterson Road culvert will be worked on in Spring 2026.

Solicitor Long called in via telephone at 7:15 p.m.

The damage on Cosgrove Road done by a logging company was repaired by Youngblood Paving, Inc.

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Solicitor Report:

Solicitor Long explained that the next step in the Stonecrest Development project is to dedicate the road in the park and storm water facilities up to the catch basin by manner of an ordinance. He advised that Ron Rizzo at R.A.R. Engineering agreed that the roadway is up to specs and ready for adoption. Storm water facility “as built” plans are being worked on currently by Stonecrest engineers and they will share the plans with R.A.R. Engineering when ready for review.

D. Badger was concerned that the bonding would not be sufficient to fix the road with the heavy equipment that will be in and out of the park during the building of structures. He asked that Solicitor Long look into how the ordinance can be worded so that the borough can put a stop to work until road damage is paid for if necessary. Solicitor Long asked that the Secretary email a copy of our excess maintenance agreement template for his review.

Solicitor Long advised that a per machine fee could be imposed on Skill Games. The police or code enforcer could be utilized to enforce and collect the fees. He will research on if the fees can be retroactive.

Ordinance:

D. Badger shared copies of sections of Shenango and Neshannock Township ordinances referring to massage parlors and sexually oriented businesses. He asked that Council review the massage parlor information for discussion at the next meeting. He will provide an adult entertainment/sexually oriented business ordinance draft at a later date.

Personnel:

M. Kingman will work on revisions to the employee handbook to incorporate the new 10% employee contribution towards the medical insurance premium and the non-paid vacation time policy.

Old Business:

Council was advised that Local Share Assessment grants for the hoop building and police truck were submitted. Award notifications will be sent out in September 2026 at the earliest.

The Dirt Gravel Low Volume grant for Britton School Road Extension through the Conservation Department was submitted. Award notifications will be sent out in January/February of 2026.

A comment letter from S. Walton, the DCNR forester, regarding her assessment of the 42 acres owned by the Borough was shared with Council. Pres. Hairhoger advised that a forester was contacted and a date to walk the property will be scheduled as soon as the weather permits.

D. Badger motioned for Solicitor Long to research and draft a Skill Games ordinance, J. Gubish seconded.

Motion carried, 7-0.

P. McConnell motioned to table discussions on the amusement tax ordinance until everyone has an opportunity to review the previously written ordinance, J. Gubish seconded.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Secretary will email the drafted ordinance to all.

New Business:

P. Morrison motioned to accept the proposed 2026 General Purpose and Highway Aid budgets as the 2026 budgets, J. Gubish seconded.

Motion carried, 7-0.

P. Morrison motioned to pass Resolution 17-2025 setting the millage for 2026 Real Estate General Purpose Tax at 1.67 mill and the 2026 Fire Services Tax at .33 mill, J. Gubish seconded.

Motion carried, 7-0.

P. Morrison motioned to give R. Lansberry, D. Crawford, C. Garver, A. Perrotta, R. Adams and J. Baldelli a 2.8% wage increase, J. Gubish seconded.

ROLL CALL: GUBISH, MAJORS, BADGER, MCCONNELL, MORRISON, HAIRHOGGER and KINGMAN - YES. Motion carried, 7-0.

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P. Morrison motioned to advertise the regular Council meeting for January 5, 2026 immediately following the 7:00 p.m. reorganization meeting, J. Gubish seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

P. Morrison motioned to advertise February-December 2026 regular Council meetings for the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., J. Gubish seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

P. Morrison motioned to advertise February-December 2026 Planning meetings for the second Monday of each month at 6:45 p.m., J. Gubish seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

Discussion on the Stonecrest project continued. Solicitor Long advised a motion is needed to prepare an ordinance for consideration and adoption for dedicating the roads within the development together with the storm water facilities up to the catch basin. D. Badger stated that he has concerns with taking over the roads within the development.

D. Badger motioned to amend the agenda to allow Stonecrest Development Company, Inc. representatives to speak to the concerns, J. Gubish seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

Lawrence Miello, Stonecrest's solicitor, explained that the agreement states that Stonecrest is responsible for the road 18 months after accepted by the Borough and that general contractors will provide bonds for the roadway.

John LaCarte explained that a publicly owned road is a major attraction to businesses.

M. Kingman motioned to have Solicitor Long draft an ordinance pertaining to ordaining the roads and the stormwater facilities up to the catch basin, P. Morrison seconded. Motion carried, 6-1. D. Badger opposed. Solicitor Long will follow up with R.A.R. Engineering to assure all requirements are met.

Stonecrest representatives left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

D. Badger motioned to participate in the Tier 1 Hunter Access Program, J. Gubish seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

D. Badger motioned to table discussion on Boot Camp for Newly Elected Municipal Officials until January 2026, seconded by J. Gubish. Motion carried, 7-0.

Miscellaneous: The reorganization meeting will be held on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. Newly elected and re-elected officials will be sworn in. Notarized Affidavit of Residency must be brought to the office no later than Monday January 5, 2026.

Correspondence: None

County Commissioners' Resolutions: None

Permits: None

M. Kingman motioned to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel at 7:54 p.m., D. Badger seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

Visitors left the meeting.

D. Badger motioned to come out of executive session at 8:10 p.m., M. Kingman seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

N. Vercilla returned to the meeting.

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M. Kingman motioned to hire Travis Blake as a full-time public works employee at a rate of \$20.00 per hour contingent on successfully passing drug, alcohol and a CDL physical. J. Gubish seconded. ROLL CALL: MAJORS, BADGER, MCCONNELL, MORRISON, HAIRHOGER, KINGMAN and GUBISH - YES.
Motion carried, 7-0.

Benefits will be afforded Travis and his family after successfully completing a 90-day probationary period. A 10% pre-tax employee contribution towards the medical premium will be required. Travis has 6 months after his start date to successfully attain a CDL B license at the Borough's expense. A three-year employment commitment is required. If he terminates prior to the three years, he will be required to reimburse the Borough for the costs incurred with the licensure.

Pres. Hairhoger took a moment to thank Barb Majors for accepting the appointment to fill the vacant Council member seat for the remainder of the year when Dave Hairhoger passed away in March 2025. Everyone wished her well.

P. Morrison motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:15 p.m., J. Gubish seconded. Motion carried, 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Drita L. Crawford
Secretary/Treasurer