

**New Beaver Borough  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2024**

The New Beaver Borough Council held its regular meeting, February 12, 2024 in the Municipal Building on Wampum-New Galilee Road. President D. Hairhoger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. P. McConnell led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was read with the following present: President D. Hairhoger, V.P. T. Hairhoger, Councilpersons: M. Kingman, J. Gubish, D. Badger (via telephone), P. McConnell and P. Morrison, Solicitor R. Long and Secretary/Treasurer D. Crawford. Mayor R. Crawford was absent.

**P. Morrison motioned to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2024 Planning Committee meeting, T. Hairhoger seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

**T. Hairhoger motioned to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2024 Reorganization meeting, P. Morrison seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

**P. Morrison motioned to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2024 regular Council meeting, T. Hairhoger seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

**T. Hairhoger motioned to accept the bill list, J. Gubish seconded.** ROLL CALL: D. HAIRHOGGER, T. HAIRHOGGER, KINGMAN, GUBISH, BADGER, MCCONNELL and MORRISON-YES.  
Motion carried, 7-0.

**T. Hairhoger motioned to accept the Treasurer's Reports, D. Badger seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

**Visitors:**

John LaCarte of Stonecrest Developers advised Council that the golf course is officially closed and that Independence Excavating was contracted to start the process of installing the infrastructure at the site.

Solicitor Long advised Council that R.A.R. Engineering reviewed the bonding amount required by Stonecrest Developers and determined that the acceptable amount is \$1,487,000.00.

Solicitor Long also reminded everyone that the land development and subdivision plans were approved conditionally at previous meetings and that R.A.R. Engineering is satisfied that conditions have been met and recommended that both plans be signed by the Borough at this time.

Solicitor Long explained that PennDOT requires Council signatures on the traffic signal construction plan and that R.A.R. Engineering stated that PennDOT would oversee this and make sure it is completed to PennDOT's satisfaction.

**T. Hairhoger motioned to accept the bond amount of \$1,478,000.00, to ratify the approvals of the land development plan and the subdivision plan, and to sign the traffic signal plans, J. Gubish seconded.**  
Motion carried, 7-0.

The Norge/Wehman families attended the meeting to ask Council if there would be any problem with building a home on property zoned agricultural. Council advised that if all the necessary permits and approvals were received, they foresee no issue. The Norge/Wehman family left at 7:20 p.m.

Joe Torkelson of Vesper Energy, advised Council that letters are going out to land owners in an effort to bring solar farms to New Beaver. He is aware that the Borough has a Solar Energy System ordinance. Mr. Torkelson left the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Bryan Lutz and Mary Stuck attended without comment. Cheryl Koncewicz had a couple of questions for John LaCarte regarding Stonecrest. Barb Majors thanked Council for taking care of the ditches on Old Route 18.

**Solicitor Report:** Solicitor Long agreed that a resolution regarding Act of 1945 should be sent to PSAB.

**Mayor Report:** Absent

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Road:**

Patterson Road East Dirt & Gravel Grant project will be bid out early this year with the help of Conservation.

Patterson Road West remains closed at the failed culvert.

Conservation is looking at the mine run off and the deteriorating culvert at the corner of Old Route 18 and Possum Hollow Road.

The Glenkirk Road project will be bid out for opening at the March 2024 meeting.

**T. Hairhoger motioned to apply for County Liquid Fuel funds to put toward the Glenkirk Road project, J. Gubish seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

Wampum Borough is considering repairs to Park Drive in 2024. New Beaver is responsible for approximately 300 feet of that road. Wampum Borough was contacted and asked if a coordinated effort is possible. We are waiting on a response.

#### **Ordinance:**

D. Badger advised we are waiting on information on massage parlors, food trucks and micro-breweries.

#### **Insurance:**

**D. Badger motioned to renew the PIRMA Liability and Property insurance policy for March 1, 2024-March 1, 2025 for \$18,096.00, T. Hairhoger seconded.** ROLL CALL: T. HAIRHOGER, KINGMAN, GUBISH, BADGER, MCCONNELL, MORRISON and D. HAIRHOGER -YES. Motion carried, 7-0.

#### **Planning/Ag Security:**

P. Morrison advised that Anthony Ketterer was interested in Ag Security.

#### **Building:**

Lean-to is pending.

#### **Police/Fire:**

Power Control Module replacement for the 2010 police vehicle is pending.

#### **Old Business:**

**J. Gubish motioned to have Richardson Inspection Services file a citation with the magistrate regarding the property maintenance issues at Green Meadows Mobile Home Park, M. Kingman seconded.**

Motion carried, 7-0.

#### **New Business:**

**T. Hairhoger motioned to contract for 100 tons of salt through COSTARS for August 1, 2024 – July 31, 2025, J. Gubish seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

**T. Hairhoger motioned to contract with Aiken Refuse for a borough clean-up, date to be determined, at \$1,750.00 per compactor load, J. Gubish seconded.** ROLL CALL: KINGMAN, GUBISH, BADGER, MCCONNELL, MORRISON, D. HAIRHOGER and T. HAIRHOGER -YES. Motion carried, 7-0.

**T. Hairhoger motioned to pay \$30.00 for membership into the Wampum Area Business Association for 2024, P. Morrison seconded.** ROLL CALL: KINGMAN, GUBISH, BADGER, MCCONNELL, MORRISON, D. HAIRHOGER and T. HAIRHOGER -YES. Motion carried, 7-0.

Council discussed the County Commissioner's repeal of the \$5.00 per vehicle fee ordinance.

**T. Hairhoger motioned to contact the Public Utility Commission and oppose the rate hike, P. Morrison seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

**M. Kingman motioned to accept the New Beaver Borough Volunteer Fire Department's 2024 events as follows; Gun Bash, Hall Rentals, Weekly Practices, Monthly Meetings, Free Food Fridays, Elections, Graduations, Weddings, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Pizza, Halloween Party, Parades, Monthly Calendar Tickets, Weekly Raffles, Lawn Maintenance, Poker Run and Building Maintenance, J. Gubish seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

#### **Correspondence:**

A letter from the Lawrence County Conservation District to PA Turnpike Commission was shared with Council regarding their incomplete NPDES application.

PSAB sent a letter and a plaque for their appreciation of the Borough's membership.

Council received a letter from Armstrong advising that there will be a rate increase for television customers.

**M. Kingman motioned to pay the \$40.00 cost for a ticket to attend the Lawrence County 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reception for any Council member who would like to attend, T. Hairhoger seconded.** ROLL CALL: GUBISH, BADGER, MCCONNELL, MORRISON, D. HAIRHOGER, T. HAIRHOGER and KINGMAN -YES. Motion carried, 7-0.

Council received a letter from Fell Township, Lackawanna County, regarding their issue with abandoned mines.

#### **Meetings/Webinars/Conferences:**

Information about a COSTARS webinar was shared with Council.

D. Badger's attendance at the PSAB Spring Conference in Hershey on June 2-5, 2024 will be paid for by PSAB. P. McConnell expressed interest. D. Badger asked him to call him after March 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss.

**P. Morrison motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:05 p.m., J. Gubish seconded.** Motion carried, 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Drita L. Crawford  
Secretary/Treasurer