

BEAVER MEADOWS BOROUGH
COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING
January 6th, 2025

The Beaver Meadows Borough Council held a general meeting on Monday, January 6th, 2025, at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers of the Beaver Meadows Borough Building. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, the following Council members answered roll call, taken by Secretary Laura Coppersmith: Council President Michael Baran, Vice President B.J. Cryder, Michael Gerhard, and Bill Curilla. Mayor Thad Williams was also present. Dydyna Tranguch, Barb Brandon, and P.J. Sateach were absent.

Councilor Cryder made the motion to dispense the reading of the minutes from the December 2nd general meeting, and December 20th special meeting. Second by Councilor Gerhard. Roll Call: All Yes.

Councilor Cryder made a motion to accept the minutes. Second by Councilor Gerhard. Roll Call: All Yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NA

COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Cryder made a motion to accept the communications. Seconded by Councilor Curilla. Roll Call: All Yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENGINEERING:

Dear Members of Council:

The following services have been provided by our firm:

Emergency Utility Work

There was a sewer line break on Hunsicker Street just north of Pine Street last week. We were in contact with Councilman Cryder throughout the process to help properly address the situation. A plumber was called to camera the line and locate the break. A contractor was then called to repair the sewer line. There is also an old brick manhole on Second Street near Saint Paul's Lutheran Church that is starting to fail. Based on our discussions with Councilman Cryder and a contractor who accessed the situation, it appears the extent of the deterioration is beyond rehabilitation. We agree that this manhole should be replaced.

Sewer/I&I

We will review the sewer video information for Beaver and Depot Streets once provided by Biros, Inc., and provide a summary of the results to the Borough. We will also discuss proposed

improvements with Councilman Cryder and apply for grant monies, with Council's approval, after the Biros, Inc. work is complete.

Memorial Park Pavilion Project

Advanced Code Consultants performed a plan review and site evaluation of the building on behalf of the Borough to obtain a building occupancy permit and noted some items that need to be addressed. We will review the comments and coordinate with the Borough and code officials on how to address them.

Street Improvements

We are working with John Davis, PennDOT Municipal Services Engineer, on closing out the liquid fuels portion of the 2024 Road program paving project.

PADEP Service Line Inventory

The Borough will need to continue home and system service inspections for the PADEP service line inventory. The Borough must also hire a certified water operator to meet PADEP requirements.

Sewer Ordinance/Amendment

We are on hold until the Borough can provide the requested existing sewer information.

Sincerely,
Michael A. Cera,

STREETS:

Councilor Cryder read the I & I report.

Councilor Gerhard made a motion to ratify the uses of the Covid relief money. Second by Councilor Cryder. Roll Call: All Yes.

	Covid Relief Fund	
Wanick Construction	2nd Street inlet	\$ 6,500.00
Wanick Construction	Martyn and Mill Street ditches	\$ 15,000.00
		\$ 21,500.00

Councilor Cryder reported that the inlet repair on 2nd and Church Street was done. Also, to advise residents we approved money for the playground equipment for the kiddie section of the playground.

POLICE: Officer Melvin reported the following:

There was 1 auto accident, 1 report of unauthorized use of auto, 1 report of domestic incident, 1 report of credit card fraud, 1 report of identity theft, 1 welfare check, and assisted EMS on one occasion, there were 10 parking tickets, 10 traffic citations, 2 vehicles towed, and 3 zoning tickets issued.

SANITATION: Councilor Curilla reported there were trash cans left out and forwarded the addresses to Secretary Laura.

BUILDINGS: Councilor Sateach was absent.

WATER & SEWER: President Baran reported that past due accounts are at \$4,201 over 90 days. Mary will start sending out shut-off notices, and making arrangements with residents to get their bills paid.

PARKS & RECREATION: Councilor Brandon reported that a portion of the Covid money is being used for the playground equipment in the amount of \$21,322 and up to \$10,000 to install the equipment. Also, there are 3 bids for the kitchen at the pavilion.

ZONING: Councilor Gerhard reported he spoke with Greg in zoning, and he made some suggestions to change the items listed on the zoning tickets and to add a description area for residents to understand why they received the ticket.

CCCOG: Councilor Cryder had nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilor Cryder suggested that we rescind the one-way sign and keep it two-way on Church Street and we will keep the stop signs. We will also look into putting in the speed bumps/humps.

Councilor Gerhard made the motion to keep Church Street two-way traffic and rescind the one-way signs, keeping the stop signs and putting in speed bumps/humps. Second by Councilor Curilla. Roll Call-All-Yes

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Gerhard made a motion to hire Myers Environmental Services to be our water operator at \$300.00 a month. Second by Councilor Cryder. Roll Call-All-Yes

Councilor Cryder made a motion to keep Alfred Benesch as our engineering firm. Second by Councilor Gerhard. Roll Call-All-Yes

Councilor Gerhard made a motion to reorganize the department heads to the following: Barb Brandon -Recreation and Sanitation, Mike Baran -Water and Sewer, BJ Cryder-Streets, Paul Sateach-Buildings, Michael Gerhard-Zoning, Dydyna Tranguch-Finance. Second by Councilor Cryder. Roll Call-All-Yes

Councilor Curilla feels Secretary Laura does not communicate with the council or communicates with him. Councilor Curilla read several examples on reasons he feels she should go to training. Council President Baran read a letter from Solicitor Yurchak on this matter.

Councilor Curilla also stated he wanted to know why he was not invited to sit in for interviews for the police department. Mayor Williams responded that he does not feel that his police career warrants him to sit in for interviews. He advised that Councilor Curilla only has a negative outlook on our police department. Councilor Curilla did express his disagreement.

Councilor Curilla also said that he would like to see more parking enforcement. Officer Melvin advised Councilor Curilla that tickets are being issued, and they do not remain on cars permanently and residents do remove the tickets from the windshield. Officer Melvin also read several emails from Councilor Curilla that have been harassing the police department. Mayor Willams stated that all emails can be requested through the RTK requests.

Councilor Curilla also wanted to address that the 3 part time police officers have not written any parking tickets or traffic citations for the 2024 year. Officer Melvin said presence from our police officers is just as important for our residents.

Councilor Curilla made a motion to send Secretary Laura to training on how to communicate with elected officials. The motion was not second and therefore was a dead motion.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Checking	\$180,314.26
Garbage Checking	\$75,008.79
Sewer Checking	\$232,083.05
Water Checking	\$94,993.72
Liquid Fuels Checking	\$18,103.08
Police Dept. Checking	\$2,899.25
Recreation Checking	\$55.49
General MMA Checking	\$21,889369
Memorial Park Pavilion	\$0.30

Councilor Gerhard made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second by Councilor Cryder. Roll Call – All Yes.

Councilor Cryder made a motion to accept the receipts. Second by Councilor Gerhard. Roll Call –All Yes.

Councilor Gerhard made a motion to pay the bills and salaries. Second by Councilor Cryder. Roll Call- All Yes.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- Tom Cherneski asked about the kitchen quotes and when they would be handled. Secretary Laura advised she needs revised quotes with prevailing wage. Tom also

addressed Councilor Curilla and the sign he used to have in his yard that this town did not have a police department. Tom advised him he will never be mayor in the town if he is around.

- Tom Katchur asked the purpose of the water operator. Council President Baran advised it is a DEP regulation.
- Mary Rayno asked Councilor Curilla if his police department had got 100% traffic violations. He advised no and Mary expressed that the police presence is important to her and other residents.
- Heidi Holinowsky asked about our zoning department and who is enforcing shoveling sidewalks. Councilor Gerhard advised that Advanced Code would send someone over 24 hours after the snowstorm to enforce the ordinance.

Council President Baran made a motion to adjourn until the next General Meeting to be held on February 3rd, at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Coppersmith
Borough Secretary