

Beaver Falls City Council met in regular session at 7:02PM on September 13, 2022 in Council Chambers of the City Building. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kenya Johns. The prayer was offered by Councilwoman Vanessa Ford Taylor that was followed by the pledge to the flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Kenya Johns	City Clerk Paula Durish
Councilwoman Vanessa Ford Taylor	Police Chief David Johnson
Councilman Leonard Chiappetta	Fire Chief Mark Stowe
Councilwoman Peggy Evans	DPW Superintendent Pat Burdine
Councilman John "Chuckie" Kirkland	Chief Financial Officer Sandy Wilkins
City Solicitor Shannon Steele	Community Development Director Rochelle Burks
City Manager Charles Jones Jr.	

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Mr. Kirkland to approve the minutes from the August 23, 2022 Council meeting. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Abstain	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

Mayor Johns announced that Council met in executive session this evening at 6:00PM for personnel reasons.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA – NONE

Mayor Johns stated it was an honor to be on Council to take part of presenting plaques to two employees for their dedicated 45 years of service to the City of Beaver Falls. Mr. Chiappetta then presented Cathy Borghi with her plaque and Mr. Kirkland presented Bob Justison with his plaque. A round of applause followed. Mayor Johns said she appreciates the longevity of their terms.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Ms. Taylor to adopt Resolution 1653 approving a list of General Fund expenditures (including payroll) in the amount of \$550,314.53. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to adopt Resolution 1654 approving an agreement with Beaver Falls Little Tigers for football games crowd control services at the two games on October 15th and October 22nd. Before the vote was taken, Mayor Johns said the city will cover the costs, we are committed to the program. Chief Johnson said it is not a city requirement, the school district wants the police to patrol the games. The Mayor said the city cares about the kids and their program. Thinks the Little Ligers should go to the school board. She appreciates all the hard work the organization is doing. Believes the School Board should have plans for the program in the future. The vote was:

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Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Mr. Chiappetta to accept the letter of resignation from William Gardner, a DPW employee, effective October 28, 2022. Mr. Jones said the city is accepting resumes for a laborer's position until September 23rd. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Ms. Evans to approve the request submitted by Courtney Messina to purchase 615 2nd Avenue, BF from the county repository to renovate and move in with her children. Council also exonerated the city taxes prior to 2022. Ms. Messina is also responsible for paying one half (½) of the property maintenance lien (\$697.00) against the property in the amount of \$348.50. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Ms. Taylor and seconded by Ms. Evans to approve the request submitted by Charla Crawford to purchase 1106 4th Avenue, BF from the county repository to sell with her adjacent property for additional yard space. Council also exonerated the city taxes prior to 2022. Ms. Crawford is also responsible for paying one half (1/2) of the property maintenance lien (\$1,679.00) against the property in the amount of \$839.50. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and grant permission to the Big Beaver Falls Area School District to host it's annual Tiger Trot 5K Run and 1.5 Walk on November 5, 2022 starting at 10:00AM. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Steele said she covered everything she had in executive session. Discussions regarding an agreement with Aqua for the sale of the Sewage Treatment Plant should begin on October 3rd.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ms. Taylor said a meeting for Ruhe Playground/Park will be held on October 4th at 5:30PM at the City Building.

Mr. Chiappetta said everything is looking up! Everyone likes Beaver Falls.

Mr. Jones met regarding the Phase II of the library park. Equipment should be coming soon. Met with B-Hive, Penn State Initiative to discuss what the next steps are. Could not announce the names yet, but have new businesses opening in the city soon.

Ms. Durish stated that she has attended meetings for the Geneva College Homecoming Parade and the Beaver Falls Lighted Christmas Parade. The college's parade is scheduled for October 8th at 10:00AM starting at 12th Street and going north to Geneva College and the city's parade is on November 26th beginning at 6:00PM from 17th Street to 10th Street.

Mayor Johns said council should attend the COG meeting on September 26th. Neighborhood North is having an indoor playground fundraiser for the purchase of equipment on September 20th at 6:00PM.

Mr. Burdine read his report for August then said the leaf machine will start picking up piles of leaves on October 3rd and the street sweeper will stop sweeping streets on October 28th.

Ms. Burks reviewed her August monthly report and stated that she would like to have articles from Council members by October 3rd for the first edition of her newsletter coming out on October 15th. The Farewell Tree Service at Lt. Calvin Smith Park has been watered for the last time. It will be coming down on October 4th.

Fire Chief Stowe highlighted his August fire, code and rental registration reports and then stated that Captain Crawford successfully completed his Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator certification. The department will also be doing fire training on Thursday from 6PM to 9PM and all day on 11th Street Hill burning a house.

Ms. Wilkins stated that the city received money

Police Chief Johnson read his August report, stated that officers attended training and 4 were certified in truck traffic and one was certified as weapons instructor. Also invited everyone to the Neighborhood Watch meeting at 7:00PM on September 26th at Christian Assembly Church.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Fire Chief Stowe said that October 15th is Fire Safety Day at the high school field. There will be activities and displays set up. Would like to see everyone there!

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Ray Gutowski, 14th Street, BF – Asked if the city could have a general cleanup once or twice a year. Said there is a lot of junk downtown. If there was a spring cleanup, there would be a better appearance in the city. Asked if all the people buying property from the repository have to pay taxes. Mayor Johns answered that they do, only taxes prior to the purchase are forgiven. He said that the library is having a NOEL fundraiser on November 9th with decorations, food and activities. Asked if there could be a Christmas tree. Since the Christmas Parade was mentioned, thought Santa Land could be at the side entrance of the library with maybe lights and decorations leading thru the new library park.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Mr. Kirkland to adjourn the meeting at 7:42PM. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Motion Passed				

pjd