

Beaver Falls City Council met in regular session at 7:00PM on March 22, 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 Captain Chris Crawford
Councilwoman Peggy Evans	DPW Superintendent Pat Burdine
Councilman John Kirkland	CFO Sandy Wilkins
Solicitor Shannon Steele	CDD Bethany Williams
City Manager Charles Jones Jr.	

A motion was made by Ms. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Chiappetta to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2022 council meeting. The vote was:

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

Mayor Johns welcomed everyone to the meeting. Said council is here to listen to what everyone has to say.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA – NONE

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve Resolution 1625 approving a list of General Fund expenditures in the amount of \$80,292.24. 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 advertisement for the Community Development Director's position. 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. Taylor to approve the advertisement for hiring two employees for the Department of Public Works. 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 Mr. Kirkland to accept the letter of resignation from Aaron Summers from the Waste Water Treatment Plant effective March 27, 2022. 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 Mr. Kirkland to accept the letter of resignation from Todd Davis from the Beaver Falls Zoning Hearing Board effective immediately. 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 accept the letter of resignation from Michael Anderson from the Beaver Falls Zoning Hearing Board effectively immediately. 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 appoint Jesse Pigoni to the Beaver Falls Business District Authority as recommended by Chairperson Brenda Mellen. The appointment is to fill an unexpired 3 year term and will expire April 1, 2023. 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. Taylor to appoint Haley Pinkston to the Beaver Falls Business District Authority as recommended by Chairperson Brenda Mellen. The appointment is to fill an unexpired term and will expire April 1, 2023. 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. Taylor to approve the request made by Ben Karaffa to purchase 1423 3rd Avenue, BF from the county repository to renovate and use as an investment property. The request for tax exoneration prior to 2022 was also approved. 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 made by Destiney Smith to purchase 1603 4th Avenue, BF from the county repository to renovate and use as her residence. The request for tax exoneration prior to 2022 was also approved. There are property maintenance liens on the property in the amount of \$200.00. Council exonerated 50% of such liens leaving Ms. Smith responsible for paying \$100.00 which must be paid to the Code Office prior to proceeding with the purchase. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiapetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Kirkland and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the request made by Gary McKenzie Jr. and Melissa Cornelius to purchase 1322 10th Avenue (vacant lot), BF from the county repository to expand their current yard. The request for tax exoneration prior to 2022 was also approved. There are property maintenance liens on the property in the amount of \$808.66. Council exonerated 50% of such liens leaving Mr. McKenzie and Ms. Cornelius responsible for paying \$404.33 which must be paid to the Code Office prior to proceeding with the purchase. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiapetta	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 made by Tyhi Foskey to purchase 1032 24th Street, BF from the county repository to build a single family dwelling on this vacant lot and sell. The request for tax exoneration prior to 2022 was also approved. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiapetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

Mayor Johns thanked everyone for their interest in Beaver Falls.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Ms. Steele said she would like to meet tonight after this meeting to discuss possible litigation due to personnel matters.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Burdine thanked council for approving the advertisement to hire in his department (Public Works). Thanked the citizens who purchased properties from the county repository. His department is filling potholes, checking playgrounds and police giving two week grace period for street sweeping beginning April 3rd.

Ms. Williams stated she is finishing her term of her position. Website will be live in two weeks. Her work will go on as she will act as a consultant to the city. Said it has been a joy to work for the city these past nine years. A round of applause followed.

Fire Captain Crawford said next month there will be live burn trainings on College Hill at the old DeAngelis Donut building. Since the weather has been warmer, the department has been out doing training. There are free smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors available for residents. The fire department will put them in, citizens just have to call.

Ms. Taylor said she was approached by residents to fix up the 5th Avenue (Ruhe) Playground. People want the playground back. There will be a meeting on April 11th and Council is invited to attend. Mayor Johns thanked Ms. Taylor.

Mr. Jones thanked Bethany Williams for the fantastic job she did as Community Development Director. He appreciates her and all the work she did.

Ms. Evans wished Ms. Williams all the best in her new position with the Department of Community and Economic Development.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Police Chief Johnson said not to accept phone calls from solicitors. Mayor Johns expressed sympathy to the families of those officers who were killed.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Breanda Mellen, Chairperson of the Business District Authority, was present to give council a briefing of the activities of the authority. Mayor Johns thanked Brenda for the work she is doing.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Ms. Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 7:40PM. The vote was:

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

pjd