

Beaver Falls City Council met in regular session on May 9, 2023 at 7:00PM 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 Manager Charles Jones Jr.
Deputy Mayor Peggy Evans	City Clerk Paula Durish
Councilwoman Vanessa Taylor	Police Chief David Johnson
Councilman Leonard Chiappetta	Fire Chief Mark Stowe
Councilman Johns "Chuckie" Kirkland	DPW Superintendent Patrick Burdine
Solicitor Shannon Steele	CFO Sandy Wilkins
Engineer Tony Sadaka – Widmer's	Director of Community Development Rochelle Burks

Mayor Johns then presented a proclamation to Mark Peterson, founder and President of Sound Ideas Media, LLC, who owned and operated WBVP and WMBA radio stations from 2014 to 2021 and has since retired in December 2022. A standing ovation and applause followed the presentation.

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2023 council meeting. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA – NONE

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Mr. Kirkland to adopt Resolution 1680 approving a list of General Fund and Payroll Expenditures in the amount of \$418,706.46 for a period from April 26, 2023 to May 8, 2023. 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 table the request from Trey Bolen to purchase 1326 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, BF from the county repository as Mr. Bolen was not in attendance. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Ms. Evans to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and grant the request submitted by David Brickner to install two stop signs on the southeast and southwest corners of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street for the safety of pedestrians and deny the painting of a strip of yellow paint at the same location. 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 the request submitted by Bethany Warren of Hope Community Reformed Presbyterian Church to close 34<sup>th</sup> Street from Pear Alley to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 34<sup>th</sup> to 35<sup>th</sup> Streets on July 22, 2023 from 3PM to 8PM for the Community Block Party. There will be free food, live music, yard games, bouncy house and Neighborhood North activities. 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 deny the request submitted by Lori Forkey of McDanel Advanced Ceramic Technologies to erect signs warning vehicles to watch for pedestrians/equipment crossing or have a cross walk added on 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Police Chief Johnson, a member of the Safety Committee, will speak to Ms. Forkey to discuss safety practices. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

Solicitor Steele had no report to give.

#### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Burdine highlighted his April 2023 report: department received 86 calls, removed and disposed of 12 downed trees/branches from city roads, replaced 6 damaged or faded street signs, conducted 8 property dye tests, marked and recorded 41 pa-one calls, inspected and removed debris from MS4 outfalls and secured 4 vacant properties. Said the daylight street sweeping schedule is going good and that potholes are being filled on streets and avenues.

Mr. Sadaka said the contractor requested a change in the backstop detail plus additional monies above the project bid. The request was denied and the contractor was asked to build the additional backstop per project plans and bid amount. The WWTP renewal application for NPDES discharge permit was submitted to DEP.

Ms. Burkes read the following from her report: the Core Launch Event at The Falls Park was a grand success with approximately 400 people in attendance - the Cinco de Mayo event was a great success, thanked everyone for their support and the citizens appreciated Council being out - the planning for Juneteenth is ongoing - the name chosen for the park beside the library is Falls Park – is in the process of creating a Beaver Falls city flag and would like to form a committee for help and a Back 2 School Bash is being planned for August 18, 2023.

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Fire Chief Stowe read highlights from his reports: Fire - there were 149 calls for service in April, an estimated fire loss of \$113,000.00 and a total of 628 total hours of training. Captain Crawford, Firefighter Marcinko and Firefighters Marchitelli, Marcinko, Pagley and Tyger all attended various safety, fire instructor II and fire operations training programs in April. Zoning – 6 demolition permits, 5 zoning permits and 6 building permits. Code – 54 complaints/inspections, 2 abandoned vehicles tagged, 1 building posted uninhabitable, 34 residential and 2 commercial occupancy permits, 2 hearings and 14 citations. Rental – 17 inspections. A total of \$10,600.00 was collected for amusement licenses and a grand total of all fees collected for April was \$20,742.51.

Police Chief Johnson's April report was as follows: Parking – 201 tickets issued, 2 police issued, total parking money was \$1,489.04 and Magistrate fines was \$326.54. Police – 1,507 total calls for service, \$516.42 collected for Magistrate lockup and service fees, \$3,754.26 for police fine revenue and 180 police traffic/non-traffic citations.

Ms. Taylor said plans are moving forward with the Ruhe Park event on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The fire department is bringing their Fire Safety House, there will be food trucks, music and a movie. The next meeting is May 22<sup>nd</sup> and everyone is invited to attend.

Mr. Chiappetta said everything is fine.

Mr. Jones said he thought everyone enjoyed Falls Park. This is a park people downtown can enjoy, it is a great venue and space. Would like to add new features to the park.

Mrs. Durish reminded everyone that the Car Cruise in on June 10<sup>th</sup> from 11AM to 7PM on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and that she received a letter from The American Legion inviting Council to participate in the Memorial Day Parade on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Evans said there is Little Tigers registration on May 11<sup>th</sup> and the band, Fistful of Ballers, will be playing at CC's Catch 22 on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Burks said she is pleased and thankful for Chris Garcia for planning the Cinco de Mayo event.

Ms. Evans said the kids had a blast at the park, they were having fun and were so excited. They were eating ice cream and tacos. She was excited to see them having such a good time!

Ms. Taylor said the park looked beautiful that evening with the lights and decorations. Beaver Falls is looking good!

Mayor Johns said she would like to see the city support the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Out of School Bash at Ruhe Park.

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

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

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