

Beaver Falls City Council met in regular session on April 25, 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 Clerk Paula Durish
Deputy Mayor Peggy Evans	Police Chief David Johnson
Councilwoman Vanessa Taylor	Fire Chief Mark Stowe
Councilman Leonard Chiappetta	DPW Superintendent Patrick Burdine
Councilman John "Chuckie" Kirkland	CFO Sandy Wilkins
City Solicitor Shannon Steele	Director of Community Development -
City Manager Charles Jones Jr.	Rochelle Burks

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting with the corrections stated by Mrs. Durish as follows: Ordinance numbers 4082 and 4083 were used in February and the last meeting, April 11, 2023. Ordinance numbers 4095 and 4096 will replace them and the original ordinances will reflect the same. The vote was:

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

Mayor Johns announced that Council held an executive session regarding legal matters at 6:30PM this evening.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA – NONE

Mayor Johns then introduced and asked Police Officer Candidate Tyler Ursida to come forward. Mayor Johns then gave the Oath of Office to Mr. Ursida and a round of applause followed.

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Mr. Chiappetta to approve Ordinance 4097 adopting, defining and establishing regulations for the use of city parks and playgrounds which also requires a permit for special use, adopting an application and permit and levying a fee for such use. 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 adopt Ordinance 4098 approving an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Agreement with the Commonwealth of PA, Office of the Attorney General, Bureau of Narcotics Investigation and Drug Control for their program and members of the Beaver Falls Police Department who participate. 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 adopt Resolution 1679 approving a list of General Fund/Payroll expenditures in the amount of \$343,713.65 for the period April 12, 2023 thru April 25, 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 accept the request submitted by Sandy Wilkins, CFO, to be exonerated from collecting city taxes for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. As required by law, the city's delinquent real estate listings have been turned over to the Beaver County Tax Claim Bureau for collection. 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 grant the request submitted by Tom Gargaro, Car Cruise Chairman, to hold the 32nd Annual Car Cruise in Beaver Falls (on Route 18) on June 10, 2023 from 11:00AM until 7:00PM between 5th Street and 24th Street including closing those streets from 7th Avenue to the alley. 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 accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and grant the request submitted by Kayla Zalenski to close 3rd Avenue between 15th and 16th Streets on June 3, 2023 from 2PM to 9PM for 5th Grade Graduation Party Cookout. 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 accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and grant the request submitted by Danielle Harris to use Mount Washington Playground on June 11, 2023 from 7AM to 8PM for a Graduation Party/Cookout. 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 Pastor Rick Peloni to use Lt. Calvin Smith Memorial Park on July 8, 2023 at 1:00PM to honor America and Veteran's with a Patriotic Program and serve free lunch with giveaways and gas/grocery cards. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Steele stated that she had a summary appeal hearing with the Code Office and explained that the city property on Short 10th Street that was sold cannot be deeded to the new owner, Alex Lathom, because the former deed from the last sale cannot be found. She is working on another option and will let Mrs. Durish know what happens.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Burdine said the daylight street sweeping is going well, residents are getting used to the new schedule. The work his department had to do at the park beside the library is finished. They are now filling potholes on streets and avenues.

Ms. Burks read highlights from her report – on April 29, 2023 at 4PM, the ribbon cutting and renaming of the park beside the library will take place and following from 5PM to 8PM, the celebration of the Core Launch will be held. She had a great time going to the high school, junior high and middle school meeting with the students getting their ideas on what to rename the park. A Cinco De Mayo event will be held (May 5th) at the park from noon to 10PM with food vendors, sales/informational vendors, Mariachi music and Folklorico dancers.

Fire Chief Stowe said there were 6 structures demolished this past week. Topsoil will be hauled in and put over the properties by the end of the week. They will move on and keep going!

Police Chief Johnson thanked everyone who attended the last Neighborhood Watch Meeting and that there will be a summer break. The next meeting will take place in August.

Mr. Jones said an electronic sign, purchased with ARPA funding, will be erected soon in front of the City Building. The park beside the library is almost complete and the bus stop has been moved to the end of the park. The intern, Katie, who worked with him and Ms. Burks, will finish up this week.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Johns said she was recently in Washington and went to the home of the Vice President. It was a great experience, one she will never forget. Also said that the library will be hosting a tea on May 13th.

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A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Ms. Evans to adjourn the meeting at 7:30PM.
The vote was:

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

pjd