

Beaver Falls City Council met in regular session on September 26, 2023 at 7:05PM in Council Chambers of the City Building. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Mayor Kenya Johns. The prayer was offered by Councilwoman Vanessa Taylor that was followed by the pledge to the flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to accept the minutes from the September 12, 2023 council meeting. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

Dr. Mayor Johns announced that council met this evening in executive session at 6PM for litigation matters.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA – NONE

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to adopt Resolution 1708 allocating the State Aid (\$501,198.39) amongst the city's three pension plans for 2023: Police - \$320,766.97, Fire - \$125,299.60 and Non-Uniformed Employees - \$55,131.82. 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. Taylor to adopt Resolution 1709 approving the list of General Fund/Payroll expenses in the amount of \$525,959.76. 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 adopt Resolution 1710 approving an agreement with Speerhas Business providing for Administration and Code Office copy machine. 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 adopt Resolution 1711 approving a settlement agreement between the City, Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater Inc., Patterson Township, Patterson Heights Borough, White Township and West Mayfield Borough for the suit filed alleging that the above municipalities are part owners of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and should be entitled to funds upon the sale of the plant. 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 adopt Resolution 1712 authorizing the distribution of the city's 2023 allocation in the amount of \$25,261.84, supporting the Fire Relief Association of the city's volunteer fire company. 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 moving forward with the process to hire two firefighters. Chief Stowe thanked Council. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion Passed

Mrs. Durish presented Council with the 2024 MMO for the Firemen's Pension Plan in the amount of \$195,592.00. This is the figure that will be inserted into the budget for the city's financial obligation to the plan.

A motion was made by Ms. Evans and seconded by Ms. Taylor to accept the recommendation of the Safety Committee and grant permission to Beaver County Behavioral Health to use the parking lot behind the Human Services Building on October 28, 2023 from 11:30AM to 12:30PM for Trunk or Treat event. 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 submitted by Ray Gutowski to provide one or two handicapped parking spaces in front of Carnegie Free Library. The vote was:

Taylor	Chiappetta	Evans	Kirkland	Johns
Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

Motion Passed

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Ms. Steele reported that the Beaver County Planning Commission is reviewing the zoning changes and are waiting their response and that nine (9) deeds were drafted for the Bridge Street properties that required signatures and is waiting for the deeds to be returned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Burdine said leaf pickup will begin October 2, 2023. Mayor Johns said the DPW did a good job with street sweeping.

Ms. Burks said she was interviewed on WBVP regarding the Fall Fest. There are three (3) events this weekend in the city. Councilwoman Taylor and she attended the Community Resource event at the high school last night and the GC Homecoming parade is on October 7, 2023.

Fire Chief Stowe reported he is in the process of applying for three (3) grants totaling \$50,000.00. Wants to post the Captain exam thru Civil Service. Three (3) houses were demolished on Bridge Street, two (2) houses will be burned for training on Thursday then will be demolished on Friday. Two (2) houses demolished thru BFCDC on 2nd Avenue and 14th Street.

Ms. Taylor said a Wing Bash for the Ford Foundation and BFPD Domestic Violence will be held on October 7, 2023 at Jus1More Sports Bar & Grill. Good meeting was held for Neighborhood North, BF is moving forward. Bridge Street looks great! Thanks to Fire Chief Stowe and DPW Superintendent Patrick Burdine. Chief Stowe said thanks goes to Mr. Jones, too.

Mr. Kirkland said the DPW cleared two (2) properties on Mount Washington and did a great job!

Mr. Jones had a request from a citizen for a copy of the Home Rule Charter and received approval for a recycling grant.

Mrs. Durish said there was a final meeting regarding the car cruise and that Tom Gargaro, Chairman, has stepped down from the committee. The Christmas Parade is November 25, 2023 at 6PM and the theme this year is Christmas Music Memories.

Ms. Evans said she is happy to hear all this great news!!

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Wilkins said she will be scheduling budget meetings with department heads and will present to Council.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Chase Herbey, Geneva College – loves Beaver Falls, goes to GC by means of walking 8TH Avenue. The sidewalks are terrible. Students cross the streets, crosswalks need repainted at the gas station below the college. The stop on 8th Avenue and Lincoln Place needs to have a study done. You cannot turn left on 8th Avenue (9th Street) and go into Lincoln Place if you are coming from 7th Avenue as it is a right turn only. Sometimes you have to make an illegal turn so you don't have to drive around the block.

Ray Gutowski, BF – will the library receive funds from the sale of the sewage plant, does Aqua have to get PUC approval, thank you for tabling the placing of a handicap space in front of the library and cars for the health office park in front of the library.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiappetta and seconded by Mr. Kirkland to adjourn the meeting at 7:50PM.
The vote was:

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