

**BRIAR CREEK BOROUGH
AUGUST 3, 2016 REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by W. Bruce Michael at 7:00 P.M.

Members of Council present were Ed Fenton, Emery Seeley, Jennifer Kulesza, E. James Seeley, James Long, David Kershner, W. Bruce Michael and Mayor Vernel Creveling. Zoning Officer Ronald Bogart and Secretary Amy Evans were present as well.

Citizens John Kulesza and Dawn Sink were also in attendance as well as Nadine Kramarz from the McBride Memorial Library.

The minutes of the Council Meeting of July 6, 2016 and the minutes of the Work Session Meeting of June 29, 2016 were approved as written.

There were no citizen's comments.

Nadine Kramarz reported to Council that 250 people from the Borough now have active library cards, it was noted that the number was more than a third of the Borough population. Nadine also reported that the Library just finished the Summer Reading Program in Ber Vaughn Park and that they started a Lego Club and offer teen crafts and a teen game night as well as adult coloring.

The Borough Solicitor recommended that Council consider purchasing a monitored alarm system for the Borough. Council discussed the pros and cons of such a system which included the issues it may cause with hall rentals.

On motion of Ed Fenton, and seconded by Emery Seeley, with the rest of Council in agreement, the topic of an alarm system for the Borough has been tabled.

The Engineer had nothing to report.

Zoning Officer Ronald Bogart reported that one permit was issued in July for solar panels. Ronald responded to a complaint regarding high grass which was promptly resolved. Ronald spoke with Mr. Berlin regarding issues that need to be resolved at Lot 8 on Sparrow Drive in order for the mobile home to no longer be condemned. He also spoke with George Lynn regarding an electrical inspection on a building however, Mr. Lynn informed Ronald that he plans on demolishing the building and replacing it with a prefab style building. Ronald also met with Mr. Berlin and Jennifer Kulesza to inspect the condemned mobile home and he discussed a complaint that the Borough received of no stop sign at the mobile home park's egress onto Park Road. Mr. Berlin agreed to install a stop sign.

Mayor Vernel Creveling report that the Berwick Area Drug Alliance will meet Monday, August 8 at 6:00 PM and the topic of discussion will be Drug Court. The Mayor spoke with the Pennsylvania State Police and was informed that finger prints and DNA evidence from the robberies of the Berwick Area Swimming Pool and the Briar Creek Borough Office are still being processed. Council and the Mayor discussed police presence in the Borough. It was noted the State Police responded to the robberies

within ten minutes. Drug busts in Berwick were discussed. Jennifer Kulesza informed Council that Dollar General Employees said that no arrest was made for the robbery at the store.

The Borough Secretary, Amy Evans reported that there are two CDs that will mature in August and that in addition to the list of bills, Berwick Borough needs to paid \$2,000 for their fire protection services and that the Berwick Area Swimming Pool is due \$5,000 for the Borough's 2016 contribution. Amy will shop for the best interest rates on new CDs.

On motion of Ed Fenton, and seconded by James Seeley, with the rest of Council in agreement, the Secretary's report has been accepted and the bills shall be paid as presented.

The Law and Finance Committee reported that the Borough Solicitor requested a meeting with Council during the day where he will have a power point presentation.

Bruce Michael stressed to Council that the Borough must be consistent regarding zoning violation issues. Ronald will visit Mrs. Davis regarding mobile home park licensing.

James Long reported that the officer that is handling the case for the Borough robbery suggested that we attend the sentencing once an arrest is made in order to speak about the loss to the taxpayers.

The Highway and Streets Committee reported that the roads have been trimmed and mowed and that some of the shoulders need to be touched up. James Long said that Front Street needs to be swept again and Emery Seeley will visit Penn DOT to attend to their inlets on Route 11.

The Building and Grounds Committee reported that the fencing has been installed and the electrical box has been installed on the flag pole. Council discussed the old Borough sign. Mayor Creveling reported to the Committee that there are telephone wires that are getting worn from weed whacking, Emery Seeley will wire tie them.

James Long reported that the Berwick Area Swimming Pool is open and that business is good particularly on weekends and that there is an Aqua Zumba class.

James Seeley reported that the Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority Work Session is tomorrow and that the items on the Agenda include the Berwick Area Swimming Pool, the sewer trucks and bonds.

Secretary Amy Evans reported that the Columbia County Tax Committee now only meets once per year.

Council discussed the request from the Berwick Area Boat Club to lease the Hess property.

On motion of Ed Fenton, and seconded by Jennifer Kulesza, with the rest of Council in agreement, the issue of leasing the Hess property from the Borough is tabled until the Berwick Area Boat Club provides Council with written plans to review for their project.

It was further discussed that the plan should include a sketch and should also be reviewed by the Planning Commission and Briar Creek Township. In addition, the use of the property cannot be

exclusive. Ed Fenton suggested that Borough residents should have free membership. Jennifer Kulesza reminded Council that Jim Shotwell also discussed a possible walking trail.

Jennifer Kulesza reported to Council that the Briar Committee has arranged for a family film night in the mobile home park. They will be watching The Sand Lot.

Mayor Creveling reported that Bill Morie has not yet responded to questions from the Hope Center regarding the request to use the Borough Hall.

Bruce Michael addressed Council regarding a sprinkler system for the Borough. Council discussed items that are kept at the Borough and need to be protected.

The Borough Secretary will contact Columbia County to find out how and where maps, plans, and other documents are stored and accessed at the Courthouse.

Council and the Mayor discussed the Junior Councilmen, Casey Curtin and Ronald Parker. Ronald Parker no longer lives in Briar Creek Borough and Casey Curtin has graduated from high school. They are no longer eligible to serve as Junior Council. The Borough Secretary will send a letter to Casey inviting him to serve on the Planning Commission.

Jennifer Kulesza discussed possible banners to celebrate the centennial. The Planning Commission will meet October 19 at 7:00 PM to plan for the centennial. It was noted that Planning Commission Meetings are open to the public and public input is encouraged. The Borough Secretary will contact Berwick Borough for more information.

On motion of Ed Fenton, and seconded by Emery Seeley, with the rest of Council in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Amy Evans
Borough Secretary