Bentleyville Borough Minutes
Tuesday, September 02, 2025
7:00PM at the Bentleyville Municipal Complex

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present were: Tom Brown, Tim Jansante, Joe Patress, Tim Miller, Kara Shaw-Dearth, Joe Pigeon III and Solicitor Makel. Absent was: Joe Pigeon IV

Council President Stan Glowaski asked for a moment of silence for those that lost their lives at Assumption School in Minneapolis, and for those who were wounded.

Business from the Floor:

Chuck McKeta said the American Legion is not accepting the proposal for the property at the honor roll. He said the borough should insure the property, but not the memorial. He asked if the borough would allow the Legion to put two bumper pipes on the borough's property, to protect the memorial. President Glowaski said council will discuss that at a workshop.

John Antanovich wants to put a home on Wilna Street but said he would need access to the borough's paper alley. Solicitor Makel said he can use the paper alley because it has not been used in 21 years and the borough will not open the road.

Dave Molesky would like a stop sign at Bertram Street and Piersol Avenue. Chief Young said a stop sign is needed there, and he has it on his list of stop signs that need to be placed.

Chief Young would like to address several issues going around and said some of the things stated came from some members of council. Chief Young said it has been stated multiple times, by at least one member of council, that the police department is either pocketing fine money or using it. The magisterial fine money is deposited into the general fund monthly. Over the past 11 years, $413,782.46 has been deposited into the general fund. Another topic is dealing with the police vehicles. The borough has three police vehicles, a 2014, a 2021 and a 2025. Since 2018, the police department purchased two motor vehicles totaling $98,083. In that same span, the public works department has purchased five motor vehicles totaling $306,000.72. The police department and public works have the same number of employees. After the June 9th continued council meeting, a member of council stated that in January the police budget would be cut in half. The current police operating budget is $222,330 and the public works operating budget is $324,562.17. If we cannot fund our own police department, we should not be donating to other organizations. Additionally, two council members stated that the Bentleyville Police Department will be disbanded in January, and one has approached officers in at least two other law enforcement agencies, Charleroi and Centerville Boroughs, to provide police services in our borough. These are all facts that people are willing to write statements or come to a meeting about. Chief Young said whether it is people running for council, or currently on council, it is time that the lies stop. Kerry Pigeon said people are coming up to them saying they want to get rid of the police department, and she said that is not true. She said Rose was heard on video tape saying that. She said Tim's name was mentioned one time too. She said they do not want the police department disbanded. Joe III said he wanted to make it known he will not disband our police department in Bentleyville. Chief Young said the people that have addressed him, named two different people that sit on council, saying they want to disband the police department, and he said it had nothing to do with Mrs. Jansante. Joe III said he does not know of one person on council that wants to do away with the police, and does not know of anybody running for council that wants to do away with the police. Joe III said this town needs more police. Mayor Jansante asked if they were going to be able to have more police if they cut the budget in

half. Joe III said he wants to talk with the person that made that accusation. John Patress said he heard Joe III say he wanted to cut the police budget in half. Joe III said John is lying, he said he would never cut the budget in half. Chief Young said he and Officer Davis are vested in this community, live in this community and are assets. He said the comments and things being said need to stop. Tom said this is very unsettling to hear comments like this. He said Rich, Pete and Delvin are very conscientious, and just made a drug bust, arrested a fugitive right in front of his house. He said they do their job and do it tremendously. He said it is ridiculous to hear of cutting the police department or cutting the budget, this town needs a police department. Joe III agrees and said he has never heard anyone on the council say they did not. Chief Young said it has been stated repeatedly to bring in an outside agency to get more hours of service for a cheaper price, more coverage for less money. He said for any position at the borough you can do that. He said you can farm out the borough workers and have snow removal and grass cutting done, the secretaries' position, we are all in that position, but said we are all vested here and said everyone does a good job. Tom said they brought an outside agency in before and it was terrible. Joe Patress said he appreciates all the service from Chief Young, Pete, and Delvin. To put on a bullet proof vest and not know if you are coming home to your family, that takes a special kind of person. Joe III said nobody has talked about getting rid of the police department. He said people are spreading rumors, if you have something to say, come to him, Rich or Delvin and talk it out. Kerry Pigeon stated she heard rumors that people are afraid to make complaints about the police because they are afraid that the police will retaliate against them. Officer Jaskiewicz said if someone wants to file a complaint, come down and sign the paperwork. He stated if it is founded to be a lie, they will be prosecuted for perjury.

Trevor Blackburn said he lives on Burkhart Street and hopes the work on Carmine Street gets done so he can access the street.

Peter Jaskiewicz said Bentleyville needs a police department. He stated he heard from two sources that Tim Miller went to Charleroi and asked for them to come into Bentleyville Borough. Tim said that is not true. He said he does not want to get rid of the police department, he said they do a good job. Pete asked Joe III what he meant by there being an oversight. Joe III said it is the shifts that the police department work. Solicitor Makel said police shifts and times should be discussed privately. Pete then stated he does not see EMS or the fire department going on calls by themselves, but people complain if there are two police officers working the same shift. The closest backup is at least eight minutes away. Joe III said he would like to have more officers covering more shifts, and said he will never vote to do away with our police department. Pete asked if he would be in favor of increasing the police budget to have more coverage, and Joe III said if it does not cripple the people in this town. President Glowaski said we have local share and act 13 accounts that is used towards the police department. Chief Young stated they might be able to get a few part time officers, but for what the borough pays, they will not be able to get a full-time officer because other departments pay more. President Glowaski said the police department needs to make the decision as to how many officers are on a shift.

Michael McGarry said he has been in law enforcement for 30 years and said issues are verbalized, complaints are written. He said Bentleyville United Methodist Church is having another blood drive on October 06, 2025 and is asking for people to donate. He questioned who sets the speed limit on Lincoln Avenue. It was explained that the state handles that. Solicitor Makel said he can request a lower speed limit with Penndot, but Penndot would have to do a traffic study. There was discussion about signs on telephone poles. Chief Young said he was in contact with West Penn Power and the signs will be removed.

Lori Organischak of 1209 Main Street said after paving, they left a cut off on the edge of the street and would like that repaired. Joe III said he looked at this, and it will be fixed. They are going to use millings and tap it down.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Tom, seconded by Kara, to approve the August 05, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion carried.

Two sets of quotes were received for the air conditioning units at the Civic Center. Solicitor Makel said to table this until the third set of quotes are received.

There was discussion about the millage increase from the last meeting. Stan said the motion needs to be rescinded until the budget meeting is held. A motion was made by Tom, seconded by Tim, to rescind the motion. Roll Call of the votes: Stan: Yea, Tom: Yea, Joe Patress: Yea, Tim: Yea, Kara: Yea, Joe III: Yea. Tally of votes: 6 Yeas and 0 Nays. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

A motion was made by Joe Patress, seconded by Stan, to approve the Brown subdivision. Tom abstained from the vote. The motion carried.

Kerry Krider said Coen Markets wants to transfer their liquor license from a Washington restaurant location to Bentleyville Borough. Coen Markets is purchasing Pilot and they will put in their own kitchen and will sell beer and wine. This will need to be advertised, then approved. A motion was made by Tom, seconded by Tim to allow Coen Markets to advertise the transfer of the license. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim, seconded by Joe Patress, to have fireworks on Saturday, July 04, 2026 using B & D Fireworks. The motion carried.

Carmine Street has drainage issues and the road needs repaired. Joe III said they have the pipe and stone for the project. He said he has an easement signed by one property owner, and the other property owner agreed to sign the easement. A motion was made by Joe III, seconded by Joe Patress, to approve the signed easements and to do the repairs. The motion carried.

Chief Young was approached by a few parents for a school bus stop ahead sign be placed in the 1000 block of Main Street. They approached the state because it is a state road, and the state wants us to approve it, then send it back over to the state. After approval, they will give the placement of where the sign can be located. Wayne Nicholson said cars are blowing the gate. Chief Young said there have been no violations, as per a couple days prior. A motion was made by Kara, seconded by Tim, to approve the school bus stop ahead sign. The motion carried.

The budget meeting will be held on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 6:30PM.

Other new business:

Secretary's Report: Tammy talked about the police fine money. She ran a report from July 2014 when Chief Young started the department, to current date, and said $413,782.46 was all deposited into the general fund account. Also, when the police department was opened, it was decided they would be funded by the local share and act 13 accounts. The 2021 SUV was paid in full from the local share account, and the 2025 SUV was paid in full by the CARES account, we have no vehicle payments. At the end of the year, police expenses are reimbursed by the local share and act 13 accounts. The secretary continues to follow suit how the prior secretary did things.

Animal Control Report: None

Code enforcement Report: None

Engineers Report: None

Solicitor's Report: None

Mayor's Report: Mayor Jansante said on August 11th the police department received a call about an unresponsive male at 101 Gosai Drive, the Best Western. The caller did not know whether that person was breathing. Chief Young responded to the call, accessed the situation, and administered Narcan and stayed with that person until he was revived. The mayor thanked Chief Young for that response.

Committee Reports:

Building & Borough Properties – Tim Miller, Chair: None

Streets & Bridges – Joe Pigeon III, Chair: Joe said they will be working by the bowling alley putting the millings down. The FITS workers (Furlough Into Service Program, for non-violent offenders), will be working on September 5th cleaning up. He also said they will be closing the parking lot on Friday night for Vendors coming in for the Halloween Parade. He also stated Locust Street was fixed.

Police & Lights – Tom Brown, Chair: Tom asked Clifford Blackburn if the streetlight he talked about had a transformer on it, and Clifford said no.

Health & Sanitation – Kara Shaw-Dearth, Chair: Kara questioned Tim Miller about comments he made to her coworkers about our police department while at a roast in Hiller. She stated they are willing to make statements. President Glowaski said we are under committee reports and cannot get back into this.

Redevelopment – Joe Patress, Chair: Joe said the Redevelopment Authority has not released any money for demolishing. President Glowaski asked Kerry Krider if they will be releasing any money and Kerry said a lot of money was released to demolish the mall. Chief Young asked about the playground equipment grant. Tim Miller said they cannot get a grant for it; he said the funding was not available. Kerry said we applied for a statewide grant for this, but have not heard back yet. President Glowaski said we allocated the redevelopment money towards that.

Finance & Purchases – Joe Pigeon IV, Chair: None

Other Business:

A motion to pay the bills was made by Stan, seconded by Joe Patress. The motion carried.

A motion to accept the receipts was made by Kara, seconded by Tom. The motion carried.

A motion to continue the meeting to Monday, September 15, 2025 at 6:30PM was made by Tim, seconded by Joe III. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Stamm

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