

January 9, 2020

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 7:00PM in the Town Hall with James St. Clair presiding.

Members Present: James St. Clair, Matt Smith, Robert Barron, Mariah Fisher, Judy Hoffer, Jeff Craig, Nate Sylvester, & Jr. Council Member Izabella Wentzell.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw, Street Supervisor Ron Ross, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Engineer Ben Faas, Solicitor George Welty, Assistant Police Chief Mike Matrunic, and Fire Chief Corey Blystone, Zoning Officer Rick Schwab. Absent was Code Enforcement Officer Shawn Knepper.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Jeff Craig to approve the minutes of December 12, 2019 as presented. All of Council was in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Judy Hofer to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Jeff Craig and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the Consent Calendar as also presented. The motion carried with all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter was received from the LV Chamber of Commerce thanking Council for their ongoing support and a check in appreciation for \$200 was presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

Parks & Recreation Chair Mariah Fisher reported that TMR Roofing will be building new gutters for the Bandstand which will be installed within the next month or so.

TOWN HALL

Town Hall Chair Judy Hoffer reported that the new phone system has been installed at the Town Hall and is working efficiently with a few minor tweaks.

It was reported that there will be upcoming projects at the Town Hall; a roofing project, and heating and air conditioning. More will be reported when bids come in.

It was announced that Laurel Highlands will be vacating the Town Hall. The office space will be advertised after painting and minor repairs are done by the Public Works Crew.

PUBLIC WORKS

Nothing

PUBLIC SAFETY

Jeff Craig, Chairman of Public Safety introduced new Fire Chief Corey Blystone.

It was reported that LV Police Department finished the year in the black.

The Hill Group was contracted to aide in the search for a new headquarters for LV Police Department along with enough space to accommodate a LV Emergency Management Center.

FINANCE

Chairman Nate Sylvester reported receiving a copy of last year's budget and that he will get together with Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw to review.

PLANNING / PERSONNEL

Chairman Matt Smith reported that the Personnel Committee will begin the New Year searching for a Laborer / Mechanic for the Public Works Department. The job will be posted internally for a few days with the position posted to the public a few days following. Applications should be returned to the Borough office no later than Friday, February 14, 2020. It is hoped to have someone for a mid-March start followed by an approval for hire from Council at the March meeting.

A motion was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Mariah Fisher to permit Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw and Street Supervisor Ron Ross to proceed with the posting and advertising process of hiring a Laborer / Mechanic for the Public Works Department. All of Council was in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Title Transfer of Trailer:

Jeff Craig commented that the Fire Department would like to sell a trailer that was purchased some years ago and the title is in the Borough's name. The title must be transferred back to the Fire Department in order to sell. The Fire Department does have an interested buyer.

A motion was made by Jeff Craig and seconded by Mariah Fisher to transfer the title of the Interstate Trailer from the Borough to Ligonier Volunteer Hose Co. #1. The motion carried with all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Bill Riggs of 244 East Loyalhanna Street commented that he is impressed with the Public Works Department in the way they handle the roads and leaf pick up.

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS

Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw reported that the "Wings" from the Westmoreland Cultural Trust will be on display with a ceremony during ICE FEST the 25th of January at 11AM for the unveiling.

Street Supervisor Ron Ross reported that the parking on Fairfield Street at Ligonier Gynecology / Ligonier Pharmacy has been resolved. The two parking spots are in.

Fire Chief Corey Blystone reported that 6 AED's have been placed in each of the Fire Trucks as well as Fire Chief's vehicle and one in the assistance chief's vehicle from a grant received from the Ligonier Endowment.

Zoning Officer Rick Schwab reported receiving the 1st application under the Borough's new Small Wireless Facilities Ordinance this week for one installation on the corner of N Market and Church Street on an existing pole.

Assistant Police Chief Mike Matrunic reported the LV Police Department is working on purchasing a Ford F150 and a new Ford Explorer.

School Resource Officer (SRO) – Mike Matrunic serves as back up SRO officer. SRO is paid by grant money received. The SRO Officer position has been getting positive response. Officer Shawn Knepper serves as the main SRO officer and rotates between all the LV school buildings.

Mayor Bellas reminded all about shoveling their sidewalks after a snow fall. According to our ordinance snow must be removed within 12 hours for businesses and after the snow event for residents.

Jr. Council Member Izabella Wentzell commented that SRO Officer Knepper does a wonderful job at the school.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Jeff Craig to adjourn the meeting. All of Council was in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Janette Shaw
Secretary-Treasurer