

April 9, 2015

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, April 9, 2105 @ 7:00 PM in the Town Hall with Robert Helterbran presiding.

Members Present: Robert Helterbran, James McDonnell, Margaret Garland, Judy Hoffer, Matt Smith, Pat Scanlon and Mike Bieterman.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Engineer Ben Faas, Solicitor George Welty. Absent was Police Chief John Berger and Fire Chief Paul Church.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the minutes as presented for March 12, 2015. The motion carried 7-0.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the Bills Payable. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Pat Scanlon to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. All of Council was in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council letter to Ligonier Township with concerns on New Zoning Ordinance:

A motion was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Pat Scanlon to ratify Council's letter sent to Ligonier Township with concerns on New Zoning Ordinance. All of Council was in favor.

Diamond Repair Update:

Engineer Ben Faas will conduct a survey of Diamond. A turning radius study should be complete by the middle of next week. A meeting will then be scheduled for specifications. Engineer Ben Faas got the approval to order the bollards for the Diamond.

CORRESPONDENCE

Application for Use of Diamond and Bandstand received from the VFW for Memorial Day Service, Monday May 25, 2015 @ 11:00 AM. Also requested is use of PA system and podium as well as to have police protection for traffic control.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the request and activate the fire police. All of Council was in favor.

Request for a Temporary Sign Permit Application was received from LV Library to hang 12 square foot vinyl banner at Library for Novel art April 20-May 5, 2015.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the request from the LV Library. All were in favor.

Letter received from Leonard M. Kostley, DMD of 201 South Fairfield Street, Ligonier requesting two parking spaces reserved for his older patients as well as for the older patients at the Spa which shares the same location.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Mike Bieterman to deny the request. All of Council was in favor.

Request from LV Hose Co. #1 to close the section of N. Fairfield Street in front of Fire Hall (Bank Alley to W. Church Street) from 7:30 AM until 4:00 PM Saturday, June 6, 2015 for their Annual Auction.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the request from LV Hose. Co. #1 for the Annual Auction. The motion carried unanimously.

An executive session was called for personnel by Council President Robert Helterbran@ 7:51 PM with no action expected to be taken. Council returned from executive session at 8:05 PM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

Committee chair, James McDonnell gave an updated report on Friendship Park. The playground will be done in phases with this year being devoted to fundraising and securing grants. Next year a sum of money will be paid for the design of the new playground. After receipt of that, bids will be received from contractors.

Paul Fry added that May 12, 2015 has been designated by Rotary Chairman of Friendship Park project Doug Welty as a community meeting at the Town Hall for public input.

TOWN HALL

N/A

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Chair Margaret Garland reported that the public works crew has been busy sweeping and cleaning up the town and parks and repairing storm catch basins. It was also noted that the plows have been put away and the mowers will soon come out.

PUBLIC SAFETY / SHADE TREE

Matt Smith reported that it was discussed to make College Alley one way as there seems to be problems there with the wall on the East side of the alley and cars parked on Main. It is difficult to see traffic coming from the west on Main Street.

Smith also suggested to remove the last metered parking spot on West Main Street in front of Somerset Trust Bank. When you pull out at Dice Alley onto Main Street you cannot see. It was suggested to remove this parking spot and make it No Parking.

other suggestions public safety is considering is to place "Compact Car Parking Only" signs at first parking space entering Diamond from North and South Market Street and to relocate handicap parking at Citizen's Bank

The above will be discussed more within the Public Safety Committee.

FINANCE

N/A

PERSONNEL / PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairman Pat Scanlon announced the resignation of Dale Show from the Zoning Hearing Board upon his move out of the Borough. Paul Fry is to send a letter thanking Show for his service. Scanlon added that the Borough will be looking for a new appointee to serve on the Zoning Hearing Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Laurel Highlands Telephone Franchise Agreement:

James Kail CEO and Jeff Stough Plant Manager of Laurel Highland Television in Stahlstown were present and explained proposed agreement to provide service to Ligonier and compete with Comcast and Verizon. Kail explained that he is looking for permission to enter into Ligonier.

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the agreement with Laurel Highlands Telephone for a 15 year term. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Roberta Graham was present at the meeting and represented the Association of Churches and presented National Day of Prayer information.

COMMENDATIONS and COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Engineer Ben Faas reported that he will order the bollards tomorrow.

Mayor Ormond “Butch” Bellas reported that Chief John Berger’s father is very ill.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Margaret Garland to adjourn the meeting. All of Council was in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A Fry
Secretary-Treasurer
Office Manager