

July 13, 2017

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall with James McDonnell presiding.

Members Present: James McDonnell, Gus Breegle, Chick Cicconi, Judy Hoffer, Matt Smith, Pat Scanlon, and Terry Murphy.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Engineer Greg Elliott, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Fire Chief Steve Barron, Zoning Officer Rick Schwab. Absent was code enforcement officer Rick Bell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Gus Breegle to approve the minutes of June 2017 as presented. All of Council was in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Terry Murphy to approve the Bills Payable as also presented. The motion carried will all in favor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Terry Murphy to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance #568: An ordinance to amend chapter 145 and chapter 21 of the code of ordinances of the Borough of Ligonier.

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Judy Hoffer to adopt #568 Parking Fine Ordinance to amend the parking fine fee; Parked between 3 & 5 AM Wednesday and Friday from \$15.00 to \$25.00 The amendment also changes the late fee from \$10 to \$20 if a ticket not paid within 48 hours. The motion carried with all in favor.

Emergency Management Plan: Resolution #2017-1

Gene Stouffer, Emergency Management Coordinator presented Council with an Emergency Management Plan. The purpose of the emergency plan is to outline what officials need to do when disaster strikes and how to inform residents where to go for help.

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Terry Murphy to approve Resolution 2017-1 Emergency Management Plan for Ligonier Borough. All of Council was in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from Arlene Lowry of the LV Education Trust requesting use of the Town Hall Courtyard during the Ligonier Stroll for pie sales Friday, August 11, 2017 from 4:30 pm until 9:00 pm to sell pies entered into the Annual Pie Baking Contest.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Chick Cicconi to approve the request. The motion carried unanimously.

Letter received from Dunnegan McKay requesting to close a portion of Fairfield St. from W. Main to Cherry Way from 5pm – 9 pm Saturday, August 19th for a charity event.

A motion was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Gus Breegle to approve the street closure as described above pending on receiving a certificate of liability insurance. The motion carried with all in favor.

President McDonnell called for an executive session for personnel @ 7:19 pm. Council returned from executive session at 8:02 with no action taken.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION / SHADE TREE

Matt Smith reported that the parks are busy and look good.

TOWN HALL

Town Hall Chair Judy Hoffer reminded all employees and tenants to lock Town Hall doors on weekends when exiting the building. Hoffer also reported that the committee is looking into security for Town Hall.

PUBLIC WORKS

Chairman Gus Breegle reported public works has been prepping for seal coating 6 am on July 19, 2017. The public works crew has been painting curbs and no parking spots on the streets.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Pat Scanlon, chairman of Public Safety reported of ongoing talks for regionalization of the Borough police with Ligonier Township police.

FINANCE

Chairman Terry Murphy reported that the 2016 audit has recently been finished. Murphy also reported that the committee is looking into saving revenue by replacing approximately 150 old parking meters with digital meters.

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Chick Cicconi to purchase 150 new meters. All of Council was in favor.

PLANNING / PERSONNEL

Chairman Chick Cicconi reported that 3 members of the **Planning Commission**, himself and James McDonnell attended a Joint Comprehensive meeting at Ligonier Township. A new schedule was released with one meeting to be held every month between now and February with the exception of November. A final public informational meeting will be held in February.

Personnel: June 28th a meeting was held with the Union Employees labor union. An agreement was finalized.

The One Year contract will replace the existing contract which expires November 31, 2017. The new contract is for 1 year and may be viewed as an extension of current contract as benefits are almost identical. A pay increase of .35 an hour will be given. There is a minor change for one employee to eliminate a restriction on date of hire to give him more vacation time.

A motion was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Pat Scanlon to adopt the recently negotiated laborers union contract for 2018. The motion carried with all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Ed Yeager was present at the meeting to question any updates and status of the storm drain along Boyd Street.

Robert McCoy questioned why the meters were approved at last month's meeting to be bagged from 1-9PM for the upcoming Stroll in August. McCoy stated this poses a concern with several businesses in town. McCoy asked for a compromise.

Susan Grunstra, Chamber director gave a brief history of the Stroll. Grunstra offered to try bagging the meters at 2pm with detour by Borough police to detour traffic at 4:30pm.

Emergency Management Coordinator Gene Stouffer approached Council with his concerns with fire safety regarding several buildings in the Borough.

Bill Clark of West Church Street was present and again asked Council what determines what the front of a house is. Clark's concern is with the new house being built on West Church Street.

Paul Fry answered that according to the Westmoreland County Public Safety the street address determines the front of a house. The street address of the house in question is 317 West Church Street.

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Solicitor George Welty stated that Paul Fry will advertise the legal ad for the Conditional Use Hearing for Kim McLaughlin August 10th at 6:30pm and notify court reporter Bonnie Bell.

EADS Engineer Gregg Elliott reported a traffic signal plan has been prepared to submit to Penn Dot. No delays are expected regarding permits. Bids will be solicited in November.

Police Chief John Berger stated that he will be sending out letters within the next two weeks for Fort Ligonier Days.

Chief Berger publically thanked private donors for his new computer for his office.

Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas thanked Council for not increasing the \$7.00 parking fines. Mayor Bellas reminded all to keep their lawns mowed and to also pick up after their dogs.

President McDonnell thanked Rick Schwab for his efforts with stray cats.

McDonnell asked everyone for ideas to generate revenue for the Borough.

The next meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council will be held August 10th, 2017 beginning at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall with a Conditional Use Hearing.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A **motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Judy Hoffer to adjourn the meeting. All of Council was in favor. The meeting was adjourned @ 9:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Paul A Fry
Secretary-Treasurer
Office Manager