

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday September 12, 2016
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bell at 7:01 pm.

Moment of Silence called by Mr. Bell.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Mr. Paul Sharkady-Present

Mr. John Severine-Present

Mrs. Tina Bails - Present

Mr. Joe McGarry - Vice President-Present

Mrs. Fran Coleman - Present

Mr. Harold Bowman - Present

Mr. Richard Bell –President- Present

Others Present: Solicitor Mr. Patrick Derrico, Borough Manager Ms. Denise Lesnock, Mayor David Rhome, Chief of Police Mr. Alex Coghill, Public Works/Fire Chief Mr. Tom Lawrence and KLH Engineer Mr. Bob Robinson

Mr. Bell stated he would like to start the meeting with Voting Item No. 9: Motion to appoint a new manager. Mr. Bell stated the Borough has been operating without a Borough Manager since March. He stated Ms. Lesnock, the Assistant Borough Manager, has been doing a really great job and Council would like to offer her the job. She has been an employee for sixteen years with the Borough.

Motion to hire Denise Lesnock full time as the Borough Manager.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to hire Denise Lesnock full time as the Borough Manager. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-Yes

Mr. Bell-Yes

7 Yes. 0 No. Motion Carries.

Mr. Bell again stated Ms. Lesnock was doing a good job and doing the job of two people. He stated she deserved to be a Borough Manager. She was congratulated by Council members.

Mayor Rhome stated he and Mr. Severine have been working to qualify Arlington Drive for repaving for the last two years. He stated last year they worked on Arlington Drive, they missed qualifying for a repaving grant due to one home. He stated he and Mr. Severine have been working on getting relief for this street. Mayor Rhome stated some residents from Arlington were present to provide a speech for Council. Last year the street did not qualify for the grant due to being over the medium household income.

GUESTS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Joan Martini, 237 Arlington Drive, Canonsburg, Pa 15317, approached Council regarding the paving of her street. She stated she is a homeowner on Arlington Drive and has lived at the above address for 40 years, is a taxpayer and a registered voter. She stated a short time ago she was approached by a Borough representative to sign a document relating to a grant to repave her street. She stated she was told that everyone had to sign it as it was required for the grant. She stated that not everyone on Arlington Drive was approached to sign the document. She stated she sees other alleys in the Borough have been repaved. She contacted Mayor Rhome who informed the overall income of homeowners was too high; therefore, Arlington did not qualify for the grant. Ms. Martini asked that her street be treated fairly and for Council to issue funds in the upcoming budget to pave her street. She stated the conditions on Arlington on not getting better, but worse. She stated on one side of the street, approximately 4 feet wide, is paving strip from the Water Company after they installed new water lines. On the other side, there are potholes and utility patches. Mrs. Martini stated if Arlington Drive is not eligible for the grant, they would like to be considered for paving. She asked Council to visit Arlington to see the deplorable condition of the street. She stated they are asking for Arlington to be included in the upcoming budget for paving. She said the homeowners take pride in their property and it is time for Council to take action. She thanked Council for their attention. Mr. Severine said he would try again to qualify Arlington Drive for the grant. Ms. Martini asked if Arlington does not qualify for a grant how will they get their street paved. Ms. Lesnock said it would be budget line item. Mr. Bell said Council tries to use grant money or they will discuss at budget time. Mr. Bells stated it is an expensive project. He further stated the alleys and streets picked last year were from previous Council members. He again stated black topping was very expensive and the Borough will look into other ways to fund repaving. Mr. Bell said Council will look at other streets that are in dire need of repaving. He said it is just finding the funds to do it. Mr. Bell stated if residents on a street are above a financial income, the Borough will not be provided the funds. Mr. Severine distributed a paper referencing the income guidelines. Mr. Severine stated he spoke to Kerry Fox with Re-Development regarding the income guidelines. Mrs. Martini inquired about the Water Company giving the Borough money for repaving when they complete a project. Mr. Lawrence stated when a main line is worked on the utility company has to pay curb to curb. At that point in time, they filled up what they had to. Mr. Lawrence said Arlington got lost in the shuffle because they thought Arlington would have qualified for the grant; therefore, the monies were allocated elsewhere. Mr. Bell stated under the old ordinance, the Water Company only had to patch/repave what they have torn up; now, they have to repave from curb to curb. Mr. Bell stated Council will look at it and suggested Mrs. Martini speak to all the residents on Arlington to make them aware someone from Council would be coming to their home to speak to them regarding information for the grant. Mr. Severine stated that he attempted to contact each resident on Arlington; letters were left in the doors of homeowners. Mr. Severine further stated that Washington County counts a residence as "high income" if there is no response. Mayor Rhome said letters are left notifying homeowners they will be coming to speak to them. Mr. Severine stated all neighbors were approached and read the petition. Mr. Bell stated that perhaps neighbors did not answer their door if they were suspicious as to who was at their door. Mr. Bell said someone from Council and/or the Mayor will be coming around real soon and will leave letters. Mrs. Martini said she was told by a neighbor that she was not approached and not asked to sign anything. Mr. Severine said he went to everyone's homes and had them read the paper. A form has to be filled out before signing. Mr. Bell thanked Mrs. Martini.

An unnamed person from the public inquired about parking on Arlington. There is no parking on the

right side. He stated in the winter, the homeowners on the left do not want to clean their driveways so they park in the street. Mr. Bowman and Mr. Severine are looking at parking. George DiLeo, 240 North Central Avenue, approached Council to introduce a grass roots coalition, which is God oriented, led by churches, the community and volunteers, for addicts and recovering addicts. He stated he has worked with Star School Programs in which they did programs in schools on teen dating violence and internet safety. About a year ago, the Mayor asked if there was something that can be done due to the heroin overdoses. Mr. DiLeo commended the Canonsburg Police Department as being second police force in the state of Pennsylvania to carry Narcan. Mr. DiLeo said it is a team effort with a school of pharmacy that is doing a website on drug abuse, he also teamed up with Washington Drug and Alcohol and Penn State University. He stated they have had no money, however, they have moved forward. They have a recovering specialist that goes to churches and talks and gives her testimony. He stated they will be opening a recovering social center. It will be a center where addicts can have a place of safety and where they can minister with them. Mr. DiLeo said they are seeing addicts coming out of recovery programs and back to the same habits. He said this will be a safe place where they can be mentored and receive training. The goal is to start building some recovering social centers. Mr. DiLeo stated the first one, with the help of the Armory and J.R Gardner, will be the Old Girl Scout House on Taylor Drive. They will open on September 29, 2016 on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The goal is for a 24 hour place. Mr. DiLeo invited Council to the Open House at 6:30 on September 29, 2016 on Taylor Drive. Mr. DiLeo stated they will go to neighborhoods for their involvement so they can see how professional it is. He said they are getting involved with the Canonsburg Houston Ministerial Group and the Salvation Army. Mr. Bell asked the Mayor if he has checked the ordinances. Mayor Rhome stated he met with the Code Enforcement Officer and has approval. Parking discussed. Mr. DiLeo stated the United Presbyterian Church will allow the use of their parking area. Mr. Bell stated he wanted neighbors to be aware and involved. Mr. Bell said he worked in this his whole career; however, he does not want to see red flags going up do to parking. Mr. McGarry commended Mr. DiLeo. Mr. Bell thanked Mr. DiLeo.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Bell stated he was glad Council has a Borough manager. He also said he was glad to see the public at the meetings and more people in attendance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Police Department monthly report provided to Council for review.
2. Parking Enforcement Monthly report provided to Council.
3. Maronda is not taking care of the tree in a yard on Rose Avenue. Mayor Rhome said he is still working on trying to resolve the issue.
4. Oktoberfest- safety meeting was held with the Chamber of Commerce and everything is in place to keep everyone safe and secure. Mr. McGarry inquired about those businesses on South Central will access their business. Mr. Coghill stated they will access through Water Street.
5. Adams Avenue One Way Project is on the Voting Items agenda
6. New Emergency Management Director is still needed. Mr. Sharkady said Mr. George Coleman would be interested in the position and willing to help anyone wanting to take the position. He was the Coordinator for twenty years.
7. Highland Avenue- Mayor Rhome met with Code Enforcement, the dumpster will be out by September 13, 2016.
8. The hiring of a part time officer did not finalize as Abigail Gailbraith was hired full time in North Strabane. Mayor Rhome stated the Police Department would like to hire Eric Dominick Cersosimo of

Aliquippa Pa as a part time officer. He is a recent graduate from the academy with good references. Mr. Coghill has interviewed the candidate and feels he would be a good candidate for the department. Mr. Severine inquired if he would be moving closer to Canonsburg. Mr. Coghill stated there is no residency requirement and the position was only part time.

9. Grant accepted from the North Central Highway Safety Network.

10. The Morganza and Weavertown Road Project will begin spring 2017.

11. Arlington Avenue Project already discussed.

12. North Jefferson Avenue- the 200-300 block is deplorable, the resident's have asked for consideration for 2017 budget

13. School Resource Officer at the Middle School-Officer Fetchko has had in-service training for all teachers at the Middle School. He has reviewed policy and procedures

14. Drug Take Back Program-Canonsburg's was number one for collection in Washington County with 651 pounds collected recently and 1,631 pounds collected from April 30 2016 drive. It is a successful program.

15. West Penn Power and the burned out street lights-The Mayor has been working on this for the last three months. The Mayor stated it has been difficult as West Penn wants them to go out and get all the pole numbers, in which the Mayor said, is not a problem. They want a ribbon tied around each pole for location purposes. They have started to put new heads on all the street lights; resident's should see new lighting soon which will be a substantial savings for taxpayers and the Borough.

16. St. Thomas Episcopal Church celebrated 150 years and was presented a citation.

Mayor Rhome asked for a moment of silence for the tragedy losing residents from the Champion Academy and Central Christian Academy.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Robinson reported on the following:

1. 2015 Street Improvements Projects- Holbein Incorporated is the subcontractor for Russell Standard, which should begin work by the third week of September.

2. Flood Protection-Chartiers Creek Flood program-plans and specs are ready for large tree removal, waiting for access agreement from the railroad. McBurney and Water Alley grants-recommend HMT proposal

3. Water Issue 100 block West Pike Street is getting worse. A meeting to be scheduled with HMT to meet behind the PNC area. The video is not a true video, it is pictures only, therefore it does not show much. Mr. Bell said this issue needs to be resolved. Ms. Lesnock to schedule a meeting Wednesday or Thursday this week.

4. Apple Hill Phase 4-Mr. Robinson completed an inspection three weeks ago at a request to release the remaining funds. There are substantial improvements that need to be done before the funds can be released. The main issues are with the detention facility such as the main flow channel is washed out, the access road is washed out and manholes are buried. The contractor is to meet with Mr. Robinson. Mr. Bell stated he would like to know about the property that was donated for a playground. Mr. Robinson said he can review the developers plan.

5. Senior Center evaluation- Mr. Robinson will provide a written report upon reviewing the evaluation. Mr. Severine asked about Little Joe's. Mr. Robison said it is a private matter, he looked at it and a suggestion is to take a pipe beyond the walls or a detention facility to the stream channel. That would be a joint permit and would take an excess of a year. Mr. Sharkady said a resident told him that two members of the UP Church and a Council member approached him regarding this issue. It was not a member of Council.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Derrico stated a motion is needed for the Sanpietro EBay property. He has already received \$5,000 from the Re-Development Program.

Committee Reports:

1. Administration and Finance:

Mrs. Coleman reported that she and Ms. Lesnock reviewed all bills and invoices last week and they are ready for approval.

Motion by Mrs. Coleman to pay the bills. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

Roll Call:

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Bell-Yes

6 Yes. 1 No. Motion Carries.

2. Code: Mr. Severine discussed cell towers and PNC Bank. Mr. Severine provided Council with a handout of ordinances for vacant buildings. Council to review for next month.

3. Public Works and Public Safety-report provided last week

4. Facilities, Energy and Technology-No report.

5. Parks and Recreation: Mrs. Bails reported on the following:

-The pool was closed on Labor Day with the help of five lifeguards and the President of the Park Board, Mr. Reynolds.

-Mrs. Rose Campus attended the Park meeting stating she writes grants and will apply for a Tree Restoration grant. Her husband is an arborist and will remove trees at no cost. They will also look for a grant for the drinking fountains.

-The last concert is Sunday September 11, 2016.

6. Redevelopment: Street Project will begin.

7. Sewer Authority/Water/Sewage: Report provided last week.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve the August 8, 2016 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to approve the August 8, 2016 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

2. Motion to award bid for lawn/ground maintenance to Mow Mulch and More.

Motion by Mr. Severine to award bid for lawn/ground maintenance to Mow Mulch and More.

Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

Roll call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-Yes

Mr. Bell-Yes

7 Yes. 0 No. Motion Carries.

Sealed bids were opened last week The committee members, Mr. Bowman, Mr. Severine and Mr. Sharkady made sure the lowest bid company were qualified with references in order. Mr. Bowman checked references. Ms. Lesnock read the bids:

Mow Mulch and More- bid for three years \$85,800.00. Years 2020 and 2021 \$57,200.00.

Bob's Landscaping-\$111,825.00 for three years. For years 2020 ad 2021 \$78,277.00

3. Motion to approve subdivision/consolidation of lots located at 108 South Central Avenue based on recommendation from the Planning Commission.

Motion by Mr. Bowman to approve subdivision/consolidation of lots located at 108 South Central Avenue based on recommendation from the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Sharkady.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

4. Motion to approve a handicap sign at 528 Giffin Avenue.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve a handicap sign at 528 Giffin Avenue. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

5. Motion to approve a handicap sign at 418 Duquesne Avenue.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve a handicap sign at 418 Duquesne Avenue. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

6. Motion to approve a 90 day trial making Adams Avenue one way (going East from Adams to Perry Como to Chartiers)

Motion by Mr. Bowman to approve a 90 day trial making Adams Avenue one way (going East from Adams to Perry Como to Chartiers). Seconded by Mr. Severine.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

7. Motion to approve paying Mr. Sanpietro \$17,000 for the property that was known as the EBay Store.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to approve paying Mr. Sanpietro \$17,000 for the property that was known as the EBay Store. Seconded by Mr. Sharkady.

Roll Call:

Mr. Sharkady-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Bell-Yes

7 Yes. 0 No. Motion Carries.

8. Motion to approve lease with Canon-Mac Youth Girls Softball Association.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to approve the lease with Canon-Mac Youth Girls Softball Association. Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

9. Motion to appoint a new manager.

Voted on earlier

10. Motion to approve the hiring of Eric Dominick Cercosimo as a part-time Police Officer.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve the hiring of Eric Dominck Cercosimo as a part-time Police

Officer. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

11. Motion to apply for a 2017 LSA grant for major renovations to the Canonsburg Senior Center at 30 East Pike Street, Canonsburg, Pa 15317.

Mr. Severine made the motion to apply for a 2017 LSA grant for major renovations to the Canonsburg Senior Center at 30 East Pike Street, Canonsburg, Pa 15317. Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-Yes

Mr. Bell-Yes

7 Yes. 0 No. Motion Carries.

12. Motion to approve Trick or Treat October 31, 2016 from the hours of 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Motion by Mr. Severine to approve Trick or Treat October 31, 2016 from the hours of 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Water issue on 100 block of West Pike Street- discussed previously

2. Senior Citizen's Building- discussed previously

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Severine discussed obtaining a grant for a permanent stop light on 980 through a grant called Green Light Go Grant Program. Application needs to be completed by the end of the month.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to move forward with the application for the Green Light Go grant. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

2. Mr. Severine stated he spoke to Camera Bartolotta's office about the light near the microbrewery as it is too expensive to keep repairing. Mr. Severine stated Ms. Bartolotta stated to call Will to assist with the repair.

3. Discussion held regarding a conference call regarding cell towers. The call is to be arranged during budget time.

4. Budget workshop is Tuesday September, 27, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

5. Mr. Eric Chandler inquired when the meeting with the Borough, Zoning and Planning Commission will be held. The meeting will be held September 27, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No Executive Session held.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. McGarry to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.
All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Enclosures:

A. Budget Report

Submitted by: Michelle LoBello

