

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting

Monday January 9, 2017

6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bell at 6:31 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, Fire Chief/Public Works Mr. Tom Lawrence, Chief of Police Mr. Alex Coghill and KLH Engineer Mr. Bob Robinson

PUBIC COMMENTS.

1. Christopher Grimm, 311 Munnell Street, Canonsburg, Pa 15317, approached Council to discuss the letter he received regarding no on street parking beginning January 2, 2017. He stated he has enough parking space in his driveway, however, his family from out of state visits frequently and they will need parking. Mr. Bell stated Council will amend the current parking situation which will not affect him.
2. Lonnie Flood, owner of Miss Maddy's Boutique, Canonsburg, Pa 15317 approached Council regarding a weekly Farmer's Market in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. She stated it will be held in the North West Savings Bank private parking lot from May until the end of October. The event would be every Friday from 3:30-7:00 pm and one Friday a month, to include a Car Cruise. She stated she and the Chamber would like to bring the town together and bring business into town. Several vendors have been contacted such as Simmons Market and Bedner Farms as well as other vendors. She stated the vendors will not have to pay a fee this year. The vendors will have insurance through the Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Flood stated she was asking for approval to use the adjacent parking lot for parking; the parking lot is by permit only. Kim, also with the Chamber and manager of North West Savings Bank, stated the Chamber carries their own insurance policy. Vendors will pay a small fee, rider, to the Chamber to cover the insurance. Mr. Derrico stated this is not covered under the Borough insurance as it is not on a public street. Ms. Flood clarified that the Farmer's Market will be set up in front of North West Bank and the car cruise will park along the street into town. Mrs. Bails said it may cause problems for those that are working and paid for a permit. Ms. Flood stated that a letter could be sent to those individuals. Mr. Severine stated it will take away one day of permit parking to allow free parking for the Farmer's Market. Mr. Severine stated the Farmers Market is catering to the five businesses' in a small area and will only be helping Ms. Flood's plaza and not the rest of town. Ms. Flood said it is bringing people back into town. Kim, with the Chamber, stated it is the Chamber's full intention to bring business to the town. She stated there is a lot of traffic flow on Pike Street. She would like to capture that traffic/people. She said it is the intention to have people get out of their car and look around. Mr. Severine inquired why it would not be held in the Sarris Library parking lot on a Saturday, stating it caters to below and above town. Ms. Flood stated there is nothing held near her end

of town and it still caters to everyone in town. Ms. Flood said other things can be held at the library. Ms. Flood continued to say it is not all about her but about the whole town. Mr. Severine stated if the Car Cruise was on the street, those are meters and can affect revenue. Mr. Bell suggested the car cruise from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Ms. Flood said it will support local businesses in town as well as the new businesses in town. Mr. Bell said it was a good idea and cited the Oktoberfest and Fourth of July Parade. Mayor Rhome stated Council members and members of the community are welcomed to discuss this with the Chamber and are welcomed to get involved. Ms. Flood suggested raffle tickets to benefit the park. Kim stated she is hoping to gain the support of Council members, the Borough and the Mayor, to gain attention to the town and use their contacts for support. Mrs. Coleman stated it should be given a chance. Mr. Sharkady stated a Farmer's Market was tried several years ago and was not successful and dissolved after several months. Mr. Sharkady suggested a trial period. Ms. Flood stated it will grow. Mr. Sharkady inquired if the vendors will have to pay a solicitor's fee. Mr. Bell stated they did not if it is sponsored by the Chamber. Ms. Flood said other vendors include the selling of soaps, jewelry, clothing, wreaths and baked goods and J& D Winery. Ms. Bails said it was bucking what the park is trying to do last year and this would take away from the Borough. Ms. Flood stated it would not interfere with the park, in particular because the Chamber event would be on another day of the week. Mr. Bell stated the Chamber will need insurance and other qualifications Mr. Sharkady asked for a copy of the Chamber's insurance. Mr. Bell asked the Chamber to provide a copy to Ms. Lesnock. Mr. Bell asked Ms. Flood to come back next month to update the Borough.

3. Christine Lazorchak, residing on the corner of Arlington Drive and Columbia, Canonsburg, Pa 15317 approached Council regarding the no parking on Arlington. She stated she is a twenty-year resident of Arlington Drive. She stated the minutes from a previous Borough meeting stated Mr. Severine and Mr. Bowman were to review Arlington. She said there are no problems on Arlington and asked what was the reasoning and/or traffic studies to make Arlington Drive no parking. She said there are no more than four or five cars on the street at one time. Mr. Bell said there was discussion about the winter months. Last month a resident had concerns which prompted the Mayor, Mr. Severine and Mr. Bowman to review the street. Mayor Rhome said there were initial complaints regarding Ms. Lazorchak's daughter parking on the street. There has been another complaint on another section of Arlington. In the winter, the residents cannot get out of their driveways safely. Mayor Rhome stated the recommendation that he, Mr. Bowman and Mr. Severine has for Council is no parking on both sides of Arlington for 90 days. Mayor Rhome said there is not a way to satisfy everyone. Discussion regarding the one resident that does not have a driveway. Ms. Lazorcak said in the twenty years residing on Arlington she has not had a difficult time getting through nor has a UPS truck or emergency vehicles. She sated the problem is a neighbor on the hill who would blow his horn and yell obscenities when her daughter parked on the street. Mr. Severine stated that was not the concern, it was the low and high side of the street and in the winter, those on the low side parked on the high side to they do not have to clean their driveways. Those on the high side could not pull out of their driveways. Ms. Lazorchak inquired about visitor parking. Mayor Rhome stated to call the police department to make them aware. Mr. Bell said it is an old town with narrow streets.

4. Amanda Toner, 215 Arlington, Canonsburg, Pa 15317 approached Council stating she lives on the hillside and parks above her home. She stated her driveway is a hill and it is easier to park on the hill, especially with her young children and she is a school student. She said it is difficult to shovel and salt if she has to leave her home at 5 or 6 am. She stated she has had neighbors complaining about blocking their driveways as they have many visitors that park on the street. She said she does not block anyone's driveway. Mayor Rhome stated to make the police aware of the visitors and they will not be penalized for parking on the street. Mr. Severine stated to make sure that others driveways are not blocked. Discussion held regarding parking on property with tires on the road. Mr. Severine said she is permitted

to park on her property. Mr. Bell said it will not create a problem.

5. Ron Adams, 214 Arlington, Canonsburg Pa 15317, stated his driveway was widened to have his vehicle off the road. He stated he has invested money in his lawn and a car ran through is yard resulting in needing a new pipe. Ms. Toner stated a construction truck ran through his yard, however, Mr. Adams stated the car tracks came out Ms. Toner's driveway. Mr. Bell said Council is trying to work with everyone.

Chief of Police, Mr. Alex Coghill asked several residents of Arlington to leave the meeting due to being disruptive.

6. Cheryl Homerosky, 217 Arlington, Canonsburg, Pa 15317 approached Council regarding parking. She stated her driveway is not safe to park in when there is ice. She asked if it was permissible to have two tires on the black top and two in her yard when there is an ice storm. Mr. Bell said that was not a problem.

7. Gina Nestor with Canonsburg Cats approached Council regarding Coyotes being seen in the park. She also said there are missing cats. She also discussed animals being poisoned such as the cats and deer. She said if a dead animal is found to call her so the animal can be tested to determine if it was poisoned. Mr. Bell thanked her for her report.

GUESTS:

Robert Simonin from Robert Simonin Insurance Company presented Mr. Alex Coghill and Mayor Rhome with 6 tactical ballistic vests which he donated for the Police Department. The vests are designed to stop rounds from high powered rifles. Mr. Coghill read a letter from Emily Cancilla whose husband is a Canonsburg Police officer. The donation was initiated due to the recent tragedy and fallen officer Scott Bashioum. Council thanked Mr. Simonin.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Bell wished everyone a Happy New Year. He stated Council is looking for more involvement in the community. He thanked everyone that was in attendance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Rhome reported on the following:

1. December Police Report was included in the Board's package for review. The Police Department responded to 6,349 incidents last year.
2. Parking Enforcement Report was included in the Board's package for review.
3. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation for the Canon McMillan School District contacted the Mayor regarding a bridge and walkway near the stadium. The school has closed this area for renovations. The area the school owns will be enclosed and will include a fence. There is 100 ft area from the bridge in which the ownership is not certain. The school is prepared to remove the black top and add grass. Mr. Severine said is owned by the Borough. Mr. Lawrence said the pathway is in poor condition and recommends allowing the school to make the improvements as the fenced in area will close the path. Mayor Rhome said the school does not want ownership; they just want to take the black top up, add grass and make the area eye appealing.
4. The Mayor discussed several streets that will be voted on in Voting Items.
5. Grand Opening was held for Metro PCS in Canonsburg on December 19, 2016. Mr. Bell asked that he and Council made aware of these events. Ms. Lesnock to check with the Chamber of Commerce for a list of Grand Openings and for the Chamber to also email Council in advance of events. Mr. Bell asked that Mr. Severine also notify Council.
6. Canonsburg Light Up Night was well attended.

7. Armory Youth Network held a New Year's Eve celebration. The Borough parking lot area was left very clean. They will ask Council to have the celebration again this year.

8. There will be an awards program on January 21, 2017 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Southpointe to honor fallen officer Scott Bashoum and others. The event is 4pm to midnight; tickets are \$35 per person.

Mr. Severine mentioned a spaghetti dinner that the police department was supposedly hosting in honor of officer Bashoum. Mr. Coghill stated this was not a Canonsburg Police Department event. Mr. Alex Coghill later provided proof this was not a Canonsburg Police Department event; it is not the Canonsburg Police Department's telephone number nor email. Mr. Coghill stated to Mr. Severine to make sure facts are accurate as it implies impropriety.

9. A handicap space request on 600 Giffin Avenue discussed as a resident would like to move the handicap space. Discussion held that this resident has a driveway and the request is not reasonable. The recommendation is the request is not reasonable; it will be voted on.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Robinson reported on the following:

1. Chartiers Creek- 4 bids opened on December 19, 2017. The lowest bid was for \$92,750 with the high bid at \$138,800. All bids were significantly over budget. Mr. Robinson recommended rejecting the bids and re-bidding. Mr. Robinson stated better pricing may be received with landscapers.

2. Apple Hill Phase IV-Maintenance Bond -waiting for formal written request from the developer.

3. LSA Grant received for the Senior Center.

Mr. Severine inquired about property near Little Joe's stating there will be a bigger problem if nothing is done. Mr. Robinson stated it is private property, if the Borough wanted to make it public then drainage easements and rebuilding the wall can be done.

Solicitor's Report:

No report

Committee Reports

1. **Administration and Finance:** Mrs. Coleman stated bills were reviewed and made a motion to approve paying bills.

Motion to approve Canonsburg Borough bills.

Mrs. Coleman made a motion to pay the bills. Second by Mr. Bowman.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Bell-Yes

6 Yes. 1 No. Motion Carries.

2. **Code:** Mr. Bell and Mr. Severine met with A&S Landscaping regarding property on Strabane Avenue; still working on this.

3. **Public Works and Public Safety-** Mr. McGarry thanked Mr. Bowman for reporting last week.

4. **Facilities, Energy and Technology-** No report

5. **Parks and Recreation:**

Mrs. Bails reported on the following:

1. Thursday meeting cancelled due to weather. However, a 7-way call was conducted with the Committee.
 2. VFW 911 confirmed they will install a permanent dusk to dawn light to illuminate the flag at the park.
 3. The basketball court is operational with just the hoops needing installed.
 4. Re-organization of the Committee will occur. There will be a workshop meeting. Ms. Bails stated Mr. Russo has been the Treasurer and is requesting a Treasurer's report detailing how Council's money is being spent. The President rescinded her sabbatical. Emergency meeting to be held Thursday January 12, 2017 at 2:00 pm. The workshop will be January 12, 2017 at 2:00 in the Conference room. Mr. Sharkady will be unavailable and Mr. McGarry was not certain if he could make the meeting. Mrs. Bails asked Mr. Derrico to assist with bylaws.
 5. removing more Ash trees
 6. Some trees crossing utility lines. Mr. Lawrence stated that will be taken care of.
- Mr. Severine inquired about having the basketball court insured; Ms. Lesnock will provide the paperwork.

6. Redevelopment: Mayor Rhome will discuss streets.

7. Sewer Authority/Water/Sewage: Mr. Sharkady provided his report the week prior. Mr. Sharkady discussed a list of questions/comments:

1. increased rates are unwarranted at this time as the Authority has not done anything to warrant the increases. Users not getting any benefits until Phase I construction is completed. Mr. Sharkady said the CHJSA did borrow the money and has to make payments.
2. CHJSA borrowed \$23 million for Phase I and \$50-\$60 million for Phase II. Mr. Sharkady asked if that was legal for the Authority to borrow without any use. He stated Phase II has no plans nor estimated costs and users will pay the bill.
3. The Authority promised no rate increase and they want back on the promise as there is a rate increase for the next five years.
4. Wade Trim did not participate in the plans for Phase II with the Administration Building or the locker room.
5. Mr. Sharkady stated the locker/shower room should be in the same building instead of costing \$500,000 for both buildings.
6. Mr. Sharkady said Mr. Robertson is an engineer with KLH yet he does not update the Borough on what is going on behind the scenes with the Authority. Mr. Robertson said he is not up to speed with what the Authority is doing but will forward the questions to his office.
7. The Authority hired appraisers for the building, the property and renovations which will cause increased taxes. Mr. Sharkady stated the Borough owns the plant but it is in Cecil Township.
8. Canonsburg and Houston are property owners of the plant, what happens as far as insurance if there is a death or serious injury at the plant.
9. Service Agreements- some of the municipalities do not agree with.
10. The Authority has more unanswered problems that could arise with the management of the Authority and the Borough should be more aware of what they are doing.
11. Mr. Michael Alterio is the only engineer on the Authority and would like to reappoint him as his term expired 12-31-16.
12. Mr. Sharkady inquired if the Solicitor can challenge the increased rates on behalf of the Borough and Houston. Mr. Derrico said the time limit to challenge the rate increases is sixty days. Mr. Sharkady said there is time to make the challenge.
13. Mr. Sharkady asked if money can be borrowed that is not needed or going to be used and invest it.

Mr. Derrico said that would be unusual and normally the money is borrowed with the idea to build. Mr. Sharkady asked if that is arbitrage. Mr. Derrico said it is typical for a short period but not for extended years. Mr. Sharkady asked if it is unusual as there are no plans drawn or estimated costs. Mr. Derrico agreed and stated he does not know what their plans are. Mr. Severine asked how the Borough can move forward. Mr. Derrico stated to attend meetings and ask questions. Mr. Severine stated the Authority's regular meetings only last minutes and the rest is Executive Meeting. Mr. Derrico stated Mr. Sharkady has the right to ask questions. Mr. Severine asked if the questions are not answered how can the Borough move forward. Mrs. Bails asked if they have the right to borrow the money for locker rooms. Mr. Derrico stated they have the right to borrow the money. Mr. Robertson stated a locker room is standard. Mr. Severine stated he suggested last month leasing the land. Mr. Derrico stated he does not have record if the deed was transferred to the Authority. Mr. Severine stated they were just given the operation of the plant and not the land or the buildings. Mr. Bell said this still has to be determined who owns the land. Ms. Lesnok to check the 2015 minutes to see if the property ownership was discussed.

14. Mr. Sharkady asked if the Borough can get a copy of the state submission for the borrowing of the money. Ms. Lesnock to formally request a copy of the submission from the Authority.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to allow the school district to remove the black top on the pathway of North Jefferson Avenue, 100 feet in, and install a grassy area. This area is owned by the Borough.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to allow the school district to remove the black top on the pathway of North Jefferson Avenue, 100 feet in, and install a grassy area. This area is owned by the Borough. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in Favor. Motion Carries.

2. Motion to make all of Arlington Drive, both sides, no parking for a 90 day trial period from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to make all of Arlington Drive, both sides, no parking for a 90 day trial period from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

3. Motion to send letters to residents of Chartiers Avenue to participate with Council and Public Safety to engage to make one sided parking either on the North or South Side.

Motion by Mr. Bowman to send letters to residents of Chartiers Avenue to participate with Council and Public Safety to engage to make one sided parking either on the North or South Side. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

6 Yes, 1 No. (Mr. Sharkady) Motion Carries.

Mr. Sharkady asked why other streets are not given the opportunity to meet with Council. Discussion held between Mr. Sharkady and Mr. Severine regarding other streets.

4. Motion to make North side of Duquesne Avenue on the 500 block one sided parking.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to make North side of Duquesne Avenue on the 500 block one sided parking. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

5. Motion to deny request for handicap parking at 600 Giffin Avenue, as recommended by Council and Public Safety, as there is ample parking on the resident's property.

Motion by Mrs. Coleman to deny request for handicap parking at 600 Giffin Avenue, as recommended by Council and Public safety, as there is ample parking on the resident's property. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

6. Motion to approve the December 12, 2016 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve the December 9, 2016 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

7. Motion to reject bids and rebid contract number 2016-1 Chartiers Creek Stream tree removal (Bids were opened December 19th)

Mrs. Coleman made the motion to reject bids and rebid contract number 2016-1 Chartiers Creek Stream tree removal (Bids were opened December 19th). Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

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.

8. Motion to place “No Solicitation without permit” signs at the entrances to town.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to place “No Solicitation without permit” signs at the entrances to town.

Seconded by Mr. Severine.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

Mr. Severine asked how many signs were needed and can the signs indicate a permit is required. Mr. Lawrence stated 6 signs. Mr. Robertson stated he did not think it was necessary to add the permit needed to the signage.

9. Motion to approve Resolution #17-01 reducing Planning Commission Board from 7 members to 5 members with 1 alternate.

Motion by Mrs. Coleman to approve Resolution #17-01 reducing Planning Commission Board from 7 members to 5 members with 1 alternate. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

10. Motion to reappoint Jesse Rigby to the Park Board term ending 12/31/21 (5 years).

Motion by Mr. Severine to reappoint Jesse Rigby to the Park Board term ending 12/21/21 (five years).

Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

11. Motion to reappoint Lou Gadani to the Park Board term ending 12/31/19 (3 years).

Motion by Mr. McGarry to reappoint Lou Gadani to the Park Board term ending 12/31/19 (3 years).

Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

12. Motion to reappoint CHJSA Board Member Michael Alterio to the CHJSA with term ending 12/31/21 (5 years).

Motion by Mr. Sharkady to reappoint CHJSA Board Member Michael Alterio to the CHJSA with term ending 12/31/21 (5 years). Seconded by Mr. Severine.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

13. Motion to reappoint Manuel Pihakis to the Zoning Hearing Board with term ending 12/31/19 (3 years)

Motion by Mr. McGarry to reappoint Manuel Pihakis to the Zoning Hearing Board with term ending 12/31/19. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

14. Motion to amend motion made on December 12, 2016 regarding no parking on Munnell Street. The only section of Munnell Street to be no parking is the 200 block.

Motion by Mrs. Bails to amend motion made on December 12, 2016 regarding no parking on Munnell Street. The only section of Munnell Street to be no parking is the 200 block. Seconded by Mr. Sharkady.

All in favor. Motion Carries

15. Motion to support the Farmer's Market contingent upon receiving certificate from its vendor.

Motion by Mrs. Coleman to support the Farmer's Market contingent upon receiving certificate from its vendor. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Zoom Corporation Update- no new update
 2. Senior Citizen's Building -LSA funding is \$50,000. Mr. Kerry Fox will be the supervisor of the grant. Will have to bid. This can be paid through the grant or by the Borough and then reimbursed
 - .
 3. Arlington Drive Parking- already discussed
 4. Munnell Street Parking- already discussed.
 5. Blighted property ordinance- will be on the agenda for next month's meeting.
- Mr. Severine distributed a handout that will be reviewed at a workshop. The workshop will be advertised for January 25, 2107 at 2:00pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion held to invite Cohen Law group to the Council workshop on January 25th, 2017 to discuss the towers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Mc Garry to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.
All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Enclosures:

- A. Police and Parking Enforcement Report of December 2016.
- B. Park Board Minutes of December 1, 2016.
- C. Resolution 17-01-regarding number of Planning Commission Members

Submitted by: Michelle LoBello

