

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday October 9, 2017
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bell at 6:35 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-Absent

Mrs. Fran Coleman - Present

Mr. Harold Bowman - Present

Mr. Richard Bell –President- Present

Others Present: Solicitor Mr. Jeff 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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

GUESTS:

1. Barbara Somma, Frank Sarris Public Library, discussed the new “I Learn to Read” program at the library. The goal is for every Kindergartener in the school district to have their own library card. Ms. Somma visited all the open houses in all the elementary buildings. She is also visiting all the Kindergartener classes in the school district including St. Patrick’s School.

Story time has started with 27 children in one of the programs. Ms. Somma discussed the Halloween Bash: October 28, 2017 from 11 am - 2 pm; there will be games and crafts. Costumes are welcomed. She visited local downtown businesses for donations. Businesses will be recognized for their donation. Flyers provided to Council.

New computer equipment was ordered due to a generous donation. This consists of new computers for patrons, new access points for WIFI, new desk computers and launch pads for children. The launch pads resemble a tablet, do not use WIFI and have educational programs already loaded. The launch pads can be checked out for two weeks. These will be ordered in 2018. Mr. Derrico said the donation was made by the Estate of Edward Andrasik who was a Canonsburg resident. He passed away several years ago; his estate permitted making gifts to libraries and museums.

2. Peter Schwiegerant with the Miller Valentine Group (MV Group) addressed Council to discuss the Canonsburg Senior Lofts development. He stated they have been to Council previously as well as the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board for approval for the various related zoning requirements. MV Group is ready to move forward with the application for funding. Mr. Schwiegerant mentioned the Voting Item for the economic incentive that he said is very crucial to allow their tax credit application to be competitive. He discussed their scoring and competitiveness as it related to their ability to contribute to local planning/development/revitalization efforts. Mr. Schwiegerant also mentioned a third party that conducted a housing study. The area was assessed for housing: what does

the existing market have, where are the needs and gaps as well as where and what sites are available for future development. Mr. Schwiegerant said this can be used as a tool for the Borough to identify, encourage and target future housing development. Mr. Schwiegerant asked Council to consider a motion to recognize the housing study as a tool to be used to encourage future housing development. This will allow competing better at the state level. No objections to make a motion.

President's Comments:

Mr. Bell said everything is going well as far as the road work. Mr. Bell said sewer lines, gas lines, and water lines are being dug. Mr. Bell asked for the residents of town to be patient. This is moving along well.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Rhome reported on the following:

1. March Police Report was included in the Board's package for review. Over 500 calls responded to.
2. Parking Enforcement Report was included in the Board's package for review.
3. November 11, 2017, at approximately 10 am, in front of the Municipal Building, there will be a dedication for Doctor Letterman. He was the pioneer for emergency services and triage services dating back to the Civil War. The Borough has been working with the University of Waynesburg regarding Dr. Letterman and the dedication. There will be a marquee in front of the Municipal Building where he resided. The dedication is open to the public and will last approximately 30-40 minutes.
4. The DEP will visit the DOE (Department of Energy) site on October 12, 2017 at 8 am.
5. The DEA officer with the assistance of the Department of Justice and the U.S attorney has convicted a person for contributing to the death, by over dose, of another. This person can be sentenced up to twenty years for contributing to the death of an individual.
6. November 3, 2017, in Station Square the Amen Corner will recognize the deceased, Officer Bashoum and the officers from Cecil and Peter's Township.
7. Halloween Parade in Houston is October 14, 2017 at 10:00 am.
8. Domestic Violence recognition is the month of October. October 12, 2017 at 10:30 am there will be a grave side vigil for Dalia Sabae. Representatives from Domestic Violence will be in attendance.
9. Fire Prevention Week is going on in the schools. New for this year, all the Fire Departments in the Canon McMillan School District have joined together to work with the schools. Mayor Rhome honored the Chief for his leadership.
10. Mayor Rhome complimented the work on the Mid-Town parking lot.
11. Mayor Rhome said the Chief is back from the Great Lakes Leadership Program. Mayor Rhome thanked Chief Coghill for his efforts to be gone a week for the conference.

Chief Coghill addressed the following:

1. Amen Corner-Chief Coghill discussed seating arrangements.
2. Testing on SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures)-most of the officers passed the exam without consulting the SOP giving testament to the officers studying the SOP.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Robinson reported on the following:

1. North Central Avenue, Elm Alley and Yoney Drive Sanitary Sewer Repair Rehabilitation-Most of the work is completed on North Central. There were two buried manholes that were discovered. A cost was negotiated to adjust those manholes to grade. A final adjusting change order will be completed by next month. Next is Elm Alley.

2. Mid-town Parking Lot is substantially completed. The curbs and joints need sealed. This should have been done prior to painting. Mr. Robinson said it will be an inconvenience to close the parking lot area again. Mr. Robinson said one spot will be lost because of ADA requirements.

3. 2018 LSA Grant Application-KLH submitted the grant application for electrical improvements to the Senior Center. The total application was for \$88,000 in which \$73,000 was requested for LSA. The remaining \$15,000 will be local matching funds.

Mr. Severine asked about CDBG projects as the water company is working on some of the streets and they do curb to curb. Mr. Robinson said those were older projects that KLH did cost estimates and not necessarily CDBG projects. Mr. Severine asked if it is too late in the season to asphalt. Mr. Robinson said as long as 40 degrees, dry and rising temperatures the asphalt companies will be open.

Solicitor's Report:

1. At the request of the Borough Manager, Mr. Derrico drafted a Tax Abatement Resolution. A copy was provided to Council for review.

2. A draft letter of agreement regarding 24-26 West Pike Street to allow the business owner, who owns the adjacent property to the vacant lot, to collect his run off rain water and discharge it on to the Borough vacant lot property to determine if that would avoid the flooding problem he has had. If this temporary measure is effective, then the Borough can give permission to run a permanent line underground. Mr. Derrico has not heard back on the results yet.

3. A few months ago, Mr. Derrico spoke to the Borough Insurance agent about the short circuit that blew out all traffic lights which resulted in a \$15,000 loss. Calls made to West Penn Power. A claim was filed with the company pulling cables for Comcast. West Penn Power has not gotten far in their claim against this company. Mr. Derrico spoke to Robert Simonin regarding possible litigation.

Mrs. Bails asked if any further information regarding the Cell Towers. Mr. Derrico has not heard a response.

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. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Absent

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Bell-Yes

5 Yes. 1 No. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

2. **Code:** No report.

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:

1. Monthly Park Board meeting was held.

2. The Softball Association informed the Park Board they received an \$8,000 grant through the Pirates. They will replace the back stop fencing on the upper and lower field. Mrs. Bails said they are producing revenue at the ball fields.
 3. The field to be closed by November 4, 2017. Water will need to be shut off. Mr. Lawrence said the weather will determine the date to shut the water off.
 4. Repairs are being done to the main Pavilion. Costs are broken down for the budget.
 5. Concerts have been completed.
 6. Changing signs to "Dawn to Dusk" rather than a specific time. This will be changed at the Skateboard Park and throughout the Park for consistency.
 7. Basketball Court signs wording is being reviewed due to concerns of residents in Woodland Heights. The signs will address profanity and the times for use of the courts.
 8. The Park Board applied for a LSA Grant. The Park Board will know results in four weeks.
 9. Discussion regarding the Skateboard Park being relocated to allow for more green space or parking for pool area. The location being considered is the valley below Yoney Pavilion. The idea is to use concrete, instead of metal, which is less noisy.
 10. An election of officers was held. Rich Russo was unanimously elected as President. Jess Rigby was elected as Vice President and Leanna Coyle will stay on as Secretary. Treasurer was placed on hold for now.
 11. The Park Board will proceed with repairs on the main pavilion and look at heating the pavilion. Mrs. Bails stated the Park Board invites volunteers and those that would like to be on the Park Board. Mrs. Bails thanked Mr. Lawrence and Mike for the good job at the park. She also thanked Chief Coghill for the officers patrolling the park frequently. Mr. Bell asked about if the past president resigned. Mrs. Bails said she did resign but will be on the Park Board. She may help with the Friends of the Park if she cannot commit to the time as a Park Board member. Council wishes to send a "thank you" letter for her service.
- 6. Redevelopment:** Mr. Severine asked about a list of streets. Ms. Lesnock stated she will provide it to Mr. Severine.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve September 11, 2017 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council, with the 2 corrections. Page #1 Name spelling was corrected (Wilma Piechnick) Page #6 under Committee Reports #5 "Mrs. Bails asked" should read "Mrs. Coleman asked."

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve the September 11, 2017 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council, with the 2 corrections. Page #1 Name spelling was corrected (Wilma Piechnick) Page #6 under Committee Reports #5 "Mrs. Bails asked" should read "Mrs. Coleman asked." Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

No questions on the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

2. Motion to approve setting date and time for Halloween/Trick or Treat for October 31, 2017 from 6-8 pm.

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve setting date and time for Halloween/Trick or Treat for October 31, 2017 from 6-8 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

Mrs. Coleman asked if other municipalities such as North Strabane had the same time. Ms. Lesnock and Mr. Bell said, "yes".

All in favor. Motion Carries.

3. Motion to approve Resolution #02-17 giving a 50% real estate tax exemption for the years of 2018,2019,2020,2021 and 2022 for the Senior Lofts Project (803 First Street).

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve Resolution #02-17 giving a 50% real estate tax exemption for the years of 2018,2019,2020,2021 and 2022 for the Senior Lofts Project (803 First Street). Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Sharkady-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Absent

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Bell-Yes

6 Yes. 0 No. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

4. Motion to recognize The Canonsburg Housing Assessment Study as a tool to guide further housing development within the Borough of Canonsburg.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to recognize The Canonsburg Housing Assessment Study as a tool to guide further housing development within the Borough of Canonsburg. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Mr. Bell said it is a plus to the community as well as will be a useful tool for developers. Mr. Bell thanked Mr. Schwiegerant for the study.

No questions on the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

5. Motion to approve advertising for a part time police officer.

Mr. Bowman made a motion to approve advertising for a part time police officer. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

No questions on the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

6. Motion to approve the Civil Service Commission to meet and update the Civil Service List.

Mrs. Coleman made a motion to approve the Civil Service Commission to meet and update the Civil Service List. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

No questions on the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Park By-laws- Need to set a date.
2. Vacant building ordinance-Will be discussed in Executive Session.
3. Weight Limits Ordinance-Still working on.
4. Amendment for Cell Tower Ordinance-Still working on.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget meeting October 30, 2017 at 6:30 in Council Chambers. This will be advertised.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session held from 7:18 pm to 8:04 pm. Personnel and financial matters discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Coleman to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Enclosures:

None

Submitted by: Michelle LoBello

