

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting

Monday April 9, 2018

6:31 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. Eric Chandler-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. Jeff Derrico, Borough Manager Ms. Denise Lesnock, KLH Engineer Ms. Veronica Bennett, Fire Chief/Public Works Mr. Tom Lawrence and Chief of Police Mr. Alex Coghill.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Greg Gregorakis, 314 Spruce Street, Canonsburg Pa addressed Council regarding his laundry business in which the building has been condemned. He stated he has a letter from a structural engineer and a contracting company stating the building is not in danger of collapsing. Mr. Gregorakis stated he would like Council's help with opening his business. He discussed the monetary value of the equipment in the building as well as the amount of money for repairs. He stated he is not permitted to enter the building. Mr. Bell said Code Enforcement, solicitors and engineers advise Council; they are following the International Building Code. Mr. Bell said he would like to see Mr. Gregorakis in the building; however, it needs to follow code. Ms. Lesnock said it is the Building Inspector that is prohibiting the opening of the business and the Code Enforcement Officer has no jurisdiction at this time. Ms. Lesnock said she will speak to the Building Inspector. Mr. Bell said Council must follow what Code recommends. Mr. Derrico said as a policy matter, Council does not want to interfere with the ordinary operations of their staff. Mr. Derrico said Mr. Gregorakis' Engineer said the building was unsafe until repairs are made; at this point, the repairs need to be done. The Building Inspector said items need to be done to bring the building to Code. Discussion regarding the structure of the building. Mr. Derrico said they have been dealing with this for months and it is not in his hands. The repairs need to be made to bring the building to Code, then it can open.

Mr. Gregorakis stated there are twenty empty store rooms in town. Mr. Derrico said those buildings have been empty for years. Further discussion regarding the compliance of meeting codes. Mr. Gregorakis discussed Lock Boxes. Mr. Chandler said there are codes that have changed. Mr. Bell said they like his business and would like to see the business open.

Agnes Lesniakowski, 201 Crawford Street, Canonsburg Pa addressed Council regarding a correction to a statement she made at a previous meeting regarding the Bove development. She stated previously Terry Bove offered Canonsburg \$42,000; she said after checking her notes, it was \$45,000. She stated this was June 3, 2013. She said Mr. Bove offered \$45,000 to use Crawford Street as a second access road for the proposed development. She said at the Council Meeting at that time, Council said the Planning Commission would study the proposal. She said on June 24, 2013 a large group spoke against the development. She further said North Strabane voted against the development. Ms. Lesnock will

review prior Canonsburg Council minutes to see if Council had voted.

GUESTS:

Eugene Vittone, Washington County District Attorney presented a check for \$636.50 to Chief Coghill and the Police Department. The check is from recovered money from drug dealer arrests in which the District Attorney's office forfeit the money and donates the money back to the Police Department. Mr. Vittone stated he appreciates the Canonsburg Police Department as they are a good group of people. Mr. Vittone said the Opioid Epidemic is an important subject on a national and state level. Mr. Vittone discussed the Coalition meetings with Mayor Rhome and Chief Coghill as well as other members from local hospitals, law enforcement, treatment providers, survivors, and other agencies. They have monthly strategic planning meetings. Overdoses and deaths have decreased in Washington County. On April 24, 2018 at 6:00 pm, Washington County Courthouse Square, there will be a quarterly open meeting with public input. Meetings are 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

Mr. Bell thanked Mr. Vittone for the check and for his time to present the check. Mr. Bell thanked the Police Department for their work.

EJ Kleckner, owner of Rusty Gold Brewing addressed Council regarding a "Red, White and Brew" event on the Fourth of July and the use of the adjacent parking lot. Mr. Kleckner said it is an event to bridge the gap between the end of the parade until the beginning of the fireworks with the goal to keep people in the business district. The parking lot across from the Brewery will be the area used for the event. Flyers were distributed detailing the layout of the event. Mr. Kleckner said he is looking into bringing in food trucks, craft vendors, Rusty Gold Beer, and bands for entertainment. Sponsors will be obtained as well as paid vendors; any additional revenue will be donated to the Youth Armory. Rusty Gold Brewing will be responsible for clean-up. Mr. Bell said he likes the idea to keep people in town. A person in the public stated this will also promote local artists. He said there are several local artists who are interested in this event as well as future events. Mr. Bell said the lot will be operating until 5:00 pm on July 3, 2018 and to check with the Police Department and Public Works to barricade the lot. Council members in favor of the use of the adjacent lot.

Rich Russo, Park Board, addressed Council regarding a DCNR Rehabilitation Grant primarily for the installation of a Pickle Ball Court in the park. The grant must be submitted by the Borough. It is a fifty percent match; The Friends of the Park and the Park Board are contributing \$14,000 and the Borough is being asked to contribute \$14,000. It would not be awarded until 2019 with funds not needed until 2019. The grant is for \$84,000 with \$42,000 matched. Mr. Russo said a letter of support from the Borough is needed for the grant application with the monies from the grant being used to pave the Passante Parking Lot with the Pickle Ball Court. The money from the grant will be used for three items; priority is the Pickle Ball Court and Passante Lot, second for the trails and third for the entrance to the park coming down from the walkway where the old water fountain was located. The Park Rehabilitation grant will be awarded in November or December with a spring of 2019 project. Mr. Lawrence inquired about parking for the pavilion in which Mrs. Bails said there will be parking allocated. Mr. Russo said the Park Board will also make sure there is access to the pavilion. Mr. Chandler inquired about site plans. Mr. Russo will provide a blue print at the next meeting he attends. Mr. Bell reviewed the area on Easter Day. Mr. Lawrence to approve of the site plans. Mr. Russo asked about the security camera for the ball fields being on the network. Chief Coghill said it could be accessed. Mr. Russo said he will review some areas with dead trees with Mr. Lawrence.

President's Comments:

Mr. Bell stated Council is keeping on top of the issues with residents regarding Crawford Street. Mr. Bell discussed the condition of the Canonsburg streets. Mr. Bell said the Borough is involved with

mandated PUC projects from utility companies such as water and gas. Mr. Bell said the weather caused a delay and now the work has resumed. He further stated the roads will be much better once the work is completed. Mr. Lawrence met with parties last week to discuss completing the work as soon as possible. Mr. Bell said it is a positive improvement. Mr. Bell mentioned the WTAE special program about local Police Departments. Sally Wiggins anchored the special that featured Chief Coghill and the Canonsburg Police Department. Mr. Bell said it enlightened people of the Canonsburg Police Department. Mr. Bell and Chief Coghill stated they appreciated the WTAE Special Program.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Rhome was not in attendance.

Chief Coghill discussed the Justice Department/U. S Attorney Office recognizing Detective Chuck Tenney for outstanding investigative work regarding overdose investigations that have led to numerous successful criminal investigations. Also, for the successful investigations and prosecutions of the federal statute for drug delivery causing death or serious bodily injury. There is no date yet, it will be a small ceremony. The Police Department will expand on the recognition of Detective Chuck Tenney. Mr. Bell said the DEA approached the Canonsburg Police Department regarding Mr. Tenney, who now has been with the DEA for six years. Mr. Bell further said Detective Tenney does an excellent job; he is contacted for any opioid death. A member from the public said Canonsburg needs to recognize Detective Tenney for this accomplishments.

Engineer's Report:

Mrs. Bennett reported on the following:

1. Senior Center Roof replacement-The roof project has been delayed due to weather. The work is scheduled to start April 23, 2018. The plans for the electrical upgrades are complete; KLH is waiting on the final report from their engineer.
2. Weight Limits Ordinance-Ms. Bennett consulted with Mr. Robinson who has contacted Trans Associates for their opinion on a weight limit study. The typical process is a full study on roads. Trans Associates has had some clients adopt an ordinance based on a road list; at this point, it has not been challenged. Ms. Bennett said this is an option to make a road list and make a blanket ordinance.
3. McBurney Road Flood Issues-The flooding project issue began in 2015. KLH met with HMT, who were the engineers at the time. Their original design was over the scope and over funded. They have brought their scope down and will have revised plans and specs to submit for permitting in the beginning of May. The work they are doing will not fix the flooding problem. Mr. Lawrence and Ms. Bennett have met with the conservation district to discuss the Dirt Gravel Low Volume Road (DGLVR) grant program that specifically deals with storm water issues. They do feel there are options for the road to do additional storm water management to tie into the part HMT is doing. A proposal will be developed to see if additional grant monies can be awarded. There is 300,000 in the program; KLH will submit a proposal to have something for this year. The DGLVR is not a matching fund grant; the amount of money granted depends on the status of projects. It is the pipe under Pike Street that needs repaired. KLH is looking at different options. Mr. Bell thanked Ms. Bennett ,stating she has been a plus to the Borough.

Solicitor's Report:

The short circuit issue from a year and a half ago is having some progress with negotiations and correspondence. One company has made an offer; it does not cover all the Borough's losses. The other companies have not participated in discussion. Mr. Derrico is anticipating having this resolved or a complaint filed at the end of the month.

Committee Reports:

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

Motion to pay Canonsburg Borough bills.

Mrs. Coleman made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Chandler-Yes

Mr. Bell-Yes

7 Yes. 0 No. Motion Carries.

2. **Code:** Mr. Severine mentioned the removal of a tree blocking the view of a business window. Mr. Severine said the business sign cannot be seen. Mr. Lawrence stated it could be removed. The type of trees throughout the Borough discussed. Discussion held to remove the trees and replace with another type of tree.

Mr. Severine said there are two other potential businesses opening in town.

3. **Public Safety-** March 2018 the Canonsburg Voluntary Fire Department responded to 21 calls consisting of:

5 rescue EMS calls

3 hazardous condition calls

5 false alarms

3 good intent

5 structure calls

There was an average of eight men per call spending an average of forty-three minutes per call.

\$177,500 damage due to severe structure calls.

Mr. McGarry asked Mr. Lawrence about calls this year compared from last year. Mr. Lawrence said the first of the year, they went to an automatic alarm system, therefore, anytime there is a structure fire call they are going into North Strabane and Cecil. This is the same for the other fire departments responding to Canonsburg. Mr. Chandler asked if there is a pattern to the cause of fires. Mr. Lawrence said the number one cause is electrical.

4. **Public Works-** Mr. McGarry stated the report was provided at the Agenda Meeting. Report to be provided at the Voting Meeting moving forward.

5. **Facilities-** Mr. Bell stated he is working with the park on the pool house, the Pickle Ball court as well as work at the Senior Center.

6. Parks and Recreation:

Mrs. Bails reported on the following:

1. Adam Manion has been hired as the Pool Director; he is a teacher at the Middle School.

2. EJ Kleckner has leased the concession stand at the pool.

3. The Softball Association is making some additions to the softball fields; a hot water tank has been added to the plumbing, looking at new fencing. The Softball Association is reviewing various grant options.

4. The roof repair at the pool house is on hold due to the weather. The funds are from money raised

from the Dine around the Pool event held last year.

5. Council to vote on matching funds for the DCNR grant for the Pickle Ball Court and trail and culvert. The Park Board has voted to match the funds.

6. Park Board considering benches with nameplates for fundraising. Any money raised will go towards Friends of the Park for renovations.

8. A slide is closed in the pool area. The Park Board has voted to replace and fund a new slide.

9. Fountain and step enhancements, this is a priority.

Mr. Bell suggested Adam Manion attend the next meeting to welcome him. Mr. Bell said the Park Board should have consulted the insurance carrier first prior to voting to replace the slide. Especially since there is a current lawsuit and the insurance carrier recommends an enclosed slide.

7. Redevelopment: Mr. Chandler stated he completed a 12-week local government academy program. The classes were held in multiple municipalities throughout the city. Mr. Chandler graduated and received a certificate. Council congratulated Mr. Chandler.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve March 12, 2018 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve March 12, 2018 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

Correction in minutes from Mr. Tumble to Mr. Humble in Public Comments.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

2. Motion to approve Resolution #04-18 (Granting right of way to Verizon Pennsylvania LLC, providing for the construction of underground facilities on Borough property located along Yoney Drive)

Mr. Bowman made a motion to approve Resolution #04-18 (Granting right of way to Verizon Pennsylvania LLC, providing for the construction of underground facilities on Borough property located along Yoney Drive). Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Discussion held to investigate if Verizon will pay the Borough. Mr. Derrico suggested inviting a representative from the company to a meeting to discuss their plans for the community.

Mr. Bowman rescinded his motion. Mrs. Coleman rescinded her motion.

Motion Tabled.

3. Motion to support the Park Board's application for a DCNR Grant for park rehabilitation and allocate \$14,000 towards the grant match.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to support the Park Board's application for a DCNR Grant for park rehabilitation and allocate \$14,000 towards the grant match. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Bails-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Chandler-Yes

Mr. Bell-Yes

7 Yes. 0 No. Motion Carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Park By-laws/Hiring a Pool Manager-Adam Manion is the new manager. Mr. Manion to be invited to

the Agenda meeting next month.

2. Weight Limits Ordinance-The Engineer addressed.
3. 2018 Fee Schedule- The committee to meet April 10, 2018 at 11:00 am.
4. Ordinance Review-Committee to meet on April 17, 2018.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Severine showed Council members, Chief Coghill and Mr. Lawrence a picture from his cell phone regarding garbage behind a private residence's garage for the last two weeks. Mr. Severine stated everyone needs to work together as this should have been noticed by others within the Borough. Mr. Bell stated it should have been reported before two weeks. Mr. Chandler said it is a community effort. 2. Mr. Bell appointed a committee to meet with the Canonsburg Houston Joint Sewer Authority. Committee members consist of Mrs. Coleman, Mr. Bowman and Mr. McGarry. Mr. Derrico and Ms. Lesnock will be present as well. The committee is to report to Council. The committee will meet with the CHJSA President and Solicitor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. McGarry to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm. Seconded by Mr. Chandler. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Enclosures:

- A. Park Board Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2018.
- B. Zoning Hearing Board Minutes April 2, 2018.
- C. Police Department Report March 2018
- D. Resolution #04-18 Right of Way Grant to Verizon for underground facilities along Yoney Drive Canonsburg.
- E. Budget Reports through March 2018.

Submitted by: Michelle LoBello

