

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday August 13, 2018
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bell at 6:30 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. Lesnock, KLH Engineer Ms. Veronica Bennett, Public Works Mr. Tom Lawrence, Mayor David Rhome and Chief of Police Alex Coghill.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Greg Gregorakis, 314 Spruce Street, Canonsburg Pa addressed Council regarding the International Building codes and the Code Enforcement Officer and Fire Inspector. Mr. Gregorakis stated Council does “good”, however, the Code Enforcement Officer and Fire Inspector “harass” residents and residents are afraid of these two individuals. Mr. Gregorakis asked Council to “get rid” of the inspectors.

2. Manuel Pihakis a resident of Canonsburg addressed Council stating he was disappointed in the two individuals hired to enforce codes. He stated they do not have people skills. They show their badges and make threats. He stated they are disrupting the town more than anyone else in the last thirty years. Mr. Pihakis named businesses that have had issues with these individuals.

3. Devin Orsi with the Last Call approached Council stating the codes are not clear enough to be followed and set guidelines from beginning to end to be set. He discussed fines he has received for a fence on the expanded property for the Last Call. He also discussed the number of parking spaces he is required to have for his expanded restaurant. He stated Code is doing great things; however, their approach is failing. He stated it needed to be reanalyzed with clear set rules and guidelines for implementation. Mr. Chandler stated there is a committee in place addressing ordinances and codes. He also said it is a tedious process.

4. Joan Celento, 317 Spruce Street, Canonsburg Pa 15317 addressed Council. She stated she attended the recent Zoning Hearing Board meeting. She said there was a vote without asking for public opinion. She also said one variance was requested and three were granted. Mr. Derrico stated he recused himself from the Board that evening as he was present as an applicant. He stated three variances were requested and three were granted. He also said it was an oversight that she was not asked to speak prior to the vote. Mr. Derrico stated the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor; Holly Stabile asked the Board if her comments would want them to reconsider their vote. The Board confirmed their vote. Mr. Pihakis stated Ms. Celento wanted to discuss other items not related to her property. He told her at the Zoning Hearing Board that the Board can only address what is in the application of the applicant.

Ms. Celento said no one listens to her. Mr. Bell stated that is a misunderstanding. Mr. Bell said when he

was Police Chief she would speak to him and he always listened to her.

GUESTS:

Mayor Rhome and Mr. Bell recognized with a certificate of accommodation the Canon-McMillan High School Big Mac baseball team for their PIAA State championship win. Head Coach Tim Bruzdewicz and Assistant Coaches Scott Wolf, Dan Devitus and Eric Rosing were present as well as some of the team players. All team players were recognized for their achievement.

Austin Abel
Cameron Walker
Noah Burke
Branden Kline
Gregory Stiller
Casey Checca
Steven Keelon
Nicholas Popielarczyk
Michael Murano
Zachary Rohaley
Mekos Mantalis
Nicholas Gregory
Ian Hess
Jonathon Quinque
Anthony Wuenstal
Connor Flaherty
Nicholas Serafino
Graydon Peichnick
Alec Hannen
Brycen Virgili
Cameron Weston
Cory Didier

1. Mr. Russo discussed a leak at the pool that is in the gutter system leaking 15,000 gallons of water per day. Mr. Lawrence is aware of the leak. The deduct meter for the pool is broken and being repaired. The Park Board will attempt to seek a credit for the leak and not pay sewage. Mr. Russo will attend the CHJA meeting this month to further discuss the procedures for the deduct meter. An informal meeting was held with the water company today. Other communities pay for the water for their community pools. The cost to fill the pool is between \$7,000-\$8,000 per year. The Fire Department does not approve using a fire hydrant to fill the pool.

Mr. Russo stated the Park Board has a list of projects which was provided to Council.

2. Doug McHenry approached Council for permission to construct/pave and fence for three 60x90 pickle ball courts on the Passante lot and DeJohn Pavilion. He stated Mr. Russo from the Park Board approves. Many members from the Pickle Ball group were present at the meeting. Mr. McHenry discussed the donations and his efforts to obtain funding from members/organizations for the project. The estimate is \$40,000. Mr. McHenry said \$34,431.75 has been raised for the project. He stated there may be more donations. Mr. McHenry discussed the three courts, a French drain and four memorial benches for the project. Bids discussed. Mr. McHenry asked permission to enhance the Borough Park. Mr. Chandler asked if the old tennis court area is more suitable. It was stated that area is used for parking for the lower softball field. Mr. Russo stated they are open to discussion of other possible areas.

Mr. McHenry said the advantage of the current area is that it needs repair and the Pickle Ball Court will enhance the park. Discussion held regarding the proposed area will reduce the need for fencing. Mrs. Coleman suggested asking the Friends of the Park for the balance since the Pickle Ball group donated time and money for Dine around the Pool. Mr. McHenry stated youth camps and clinics will be provided at no cost. This was requested by a donor. Mr. Bell stated the Borough does support Pickle Ball. He also discussed the expense of the repairs for College Street. Mr. Bell stated Council does not want to delay the project. Mr. Bell thanked the residents for being involved. Council is meeting with KLH Engineers on August 16, 2018 and will discuss this further. A Special Meeting could be held to vote on approving the project. Mr. Lawrence is in favor of the Pickle Ball Courts but legally needs to know the process. Mr. Russo said the project is not Borough Funds, it is private funds. Mayor Rhome mentioned Bill Schmidt, an Olympian Champion, who has been generous with donations. Mr. McHenry said the Friends of the Park are critical for grant writing. Mr. Bell said Council will be meeting with the Friends of the Park, things came up that Council wanted to review. The community was asking who the Friends of the Park are.

3. Jesse Rigby with Friends of the Park addressed Council asking if there were any questions. Mr. Bell said Council is meeting everyone in September. He said there is no adversarial issue. He stated Council has been questioned as to who the Friends of the Park are and was surprised to learn it is two members versus a group of individuals.

President's Comments:

Mr. Bell mentioned the passing away of Dan Briner, who served on a Borough Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Bell stated that Public Comments are set to be limited to 2-3 minutes. However, people come to a meeting therefore he provides the residents a chance to speak.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Rhome reported on the following:

1. The monthly Police Department and Parking Department reports provided to Council.
2. Chartiers Avenue- Mayor Rhome continues to meet with residents with another meeting scheduled in September. The issue should be resolved soon.
3. McEwen and Glenn Street-monitoring the parking continues. Mayor Rhome said things are calmer in the intersection.
4. National Night Out was held on the 300 block of Hawthorne Street, this had a wonderful response.
5. Mayor Rhome said there have been no noise issues with the Last Call and it is a well-run business. Mr. Bell stated he has not experienced excessive noise while dining at the Last Call. Discussion held regarding the home owner complaining of the noise and the length of time he lived in his home.
6. Paper Shredding Event was successful with almost 2 tons recycled.

Chief Coghill discussed the Borough hosting the Simtac Training the week of October 29, 2018. Council was in approval.

Engineer's Report:

Mrs. Bennett reported on the following:

1. Senior Center Electrical Upgrades-The electrical specs have been completed with the project ready to bid. A pre-bid on-site meeting will be held 8-27-2018. Bids will be open September 4, 2018.
2. College Street-Ready to advertise stabilizing the one side of College Street (the culvert). Discussion held regarding grants. Ms. Bennett stated there are no grants for stabilizing the street; however, there

may be a grant for the sidewalk portion. See Voting Items.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Derrico discussed the following:

1. Paper Alley off Richland Avenue-working on a new easement to maintain steps leading to home owner. It will allow the homeowner legal access to her property and to sell her property.
2. Mr. Derrico said an Executive Session is needed to discuss real estate issues.

Committee Reports:

1. Administration and Finance: Mrs. Coleman stated bills and invoices were reviewed with Ms. Lesnock and approved paying bills.

Motion to approve Canonsburg Borough bills.

Mrs. Bails 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 reported on the following:

1. Discussion held regarding codes and variances. Mr. Derrico stated he resides on the Zoning Hearing Board and every application is reviewed. Mr. Derrico stated residents need a relief from codes; therefore, a variance may be needed. Mr. Derrico said a variance is not favoritism as Mr. Severine stated it was showing favoritism. Mr. Bell said Zoning Hearing Boards are state law. Mr. Chandler stated Council adopted the 2015 Codes.

3. Public Safety-Report to be provided next month.

4. Public Works- Mr. McGarry stated Public Works always does a good job.

5. Facilities- Mr. Bell said a meeting is scheduled with KLH to discuss the wall at the pool.

6. Parks and Recreation:

Mrs. Bails stated things are going well at the pool.

7. Redevelopment- Mr. Chandler discussed the following:

1. An inventory of vacant property is needed. Mayor Rhome and Mr. Lawrence referenced an article in the newspaper regarding property owners. Mr. Chandler discussed the statistics/costs to maintain vacant properties.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve July 9, 2018 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve July 9, 2018 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

No questions on the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

2. Motion to approve advertising to solicit bids for residential collection of trash and recyclable materials.

Mr. Chandler made a motion to approve advertising to solicit bids for residential collection of trash and recyclable materials. Second by Mr. Severine.

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.

3. Motion to approve hiring Joshua Smith as a part-time police officer for Canonsburg Borough.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve hiring Joshua Smith as a part-time police officer for Canonsburg Borough. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

Executive Session held from 7:17 pm-7:31 pm.

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.

Mayor Rhome, Chief Coghill and Mr. Bell sworn in Officer Joshua Smith.

4. Motion to approve advertising to solicit bids to stabilize the College Street culvert area.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve advertising to solicit bids to stabilize the College Street culvert area. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

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- Committee to meet again.

2. Weight Limits Ordinance-The committee continues to review.

3. 2018 Fee Schedule- The committee continues review.

4. Ordinance Review-The committee continues to review.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Due to Labor Day, the Agenda Meeting has been cancelled for September 3, 2018.
2. Public Hearing for the transfer of a restaurant liquor license into the Borough of Canonsburg (Shop N Save) hearing will be held Monday, September 10 at 6 pm prior to the regular Council Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session held from 7:17 pm-7:31 pm
Executive Session held from 8:43 pm -9:08 pm

Motion to approve acquiring a piece of real estate within the Borough for approximately \$145,000.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve acquiring a piece of real estate within the Borough for approximately \$145,000. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

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.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. McGarry to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.
All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Enclosures:

A. Year to Date Budget Report.

