

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday, March 11, 2019
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. Denise Lesnock, KLH Engineer Ms. Veronica Bennett, Public Works Mr. Tom Lawrence, and Mayor David Rhome.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bernie Price, 615 Highland Avenue, Canonsburg Pa 15317 approached Council regarding the border for the Canonsburg Annex. He stated he is running for the School Board. He stated he lives in East End and can only go over to Moore Avenue and Perry Como. He said the Annex is voted for the Cecil Township School Director. Mr. Price said those living in the Borough of Canonsburg are voting for a Cecil School Director. Mr. Price said the Tax Office said the only way this can be changed is for the Borough to approach Elections to change the borders. Mr. Price said this is only for the School Board. Mr. Bell said the Borough will look into this.

GUESTS:

Lisa Scarmazzi, Director Canonsburg Christmas Celebration, approached the Board regarding updates and plans for this year's Old Fashioned Christmas celebration. She provided handouts. Ms. Scarmazzi stated the committee has been meeting monthly. The celebration will take place on December 6 and December 7, 2019. The committee has the following already established:

- Truck logo has been established.
- Website is Canonsburgchristmas.com. Via the website, people can register to volunteer, register for sponsorship and donations and to apply to become a vendor for the Christmas Market. Schedule of events will be provided as well as a photo gallery.
- Face Book page with close to 2,000 fans.
- Attractions include the lighting of Pike Street businesses to include streets and parking lots, Sarris tree and the town bridge. The committee has purchased lights and custom-made ornaments with Commercial grade lights and ornaments. They will install, take down and store the lights and ornaments.
- Candy Cane Land will be held in the Senior Center. Santa will be available for photos.
- Hot Cocoa Hut will be held in the outside Pavilion, St. John Baptist Orthodox Church is donating the hot cocoa.
- Kids Corner will be held in the Borough Building parking lot.
- Christmas Parade.

- Horse drawn Sleigh rides or an equivalent.
- Christmas Market.
- Christmas Food Court will be located in the Rite Aid parking lot.
- Choir and entertainment center stage.
- Pike Street Ginger Bread House display for fundraising. This will be offered to companies to decorate for a \$500 donation.
- Community Gingerbread House Contest. The Hidden Treasure Store will set this up as well as a train display in the window.
- Business window displays.

The estimate is between \$37,000 to \$40,000 with a big cost being the lights and ornaments for the first year. Current sponsors are Scarmazzi Homes, Washington Financial, Slovenian Savings and Loan, Zoom Corporation, Quality Printers, Family First Chiropractic and McMurray Heating and Cooling. To date, the committee has approximately \$15,000. Ms. Scarmazzi said she has applied for grants and feels \$30,000 can be reached easily.

Mr. Bell complimented Ms. Scarmazzi and the committee for their plans and fundraising. Mr. Bell expressed his appreciation. Ms. Scarmazzi said all the attractions are offered for free.

Rich Russo with the Park Board provided an update on the park.

1. Park Board minutes will be provided to the Board.
 2. New Dumpster installed
 3. Steps to be installed at the bottom of the hill. This is funded.
 4. LSA Grant money to be used for a design and building of a new pavilion. The location will be near Woodland Road and Park Drive. This will be completed this year.
 5. The Pickle Ball Court will have asphalt soon. Mr. Lawrence will be addressing drainage issues. This will begin in the Spring.
 6. New dug outs at the lower ball field.
 7. Security Camera system at the Skateboard Park to be evaluated. The new cameras at the basketball and softball court are working well. Chief Coghil has been meeting with Mr. Russo.
 8. Mr. Russo said Co-Star which is a State Organization can package the Pavilion. Mr. Russo said he will work with Mr. Lawrence who has access to the organization to see the list of vendors. KLH has used this program.
 9. Mr. Russo said the Park Board is willing to meet with the Building Committee in regards to the pool house.
- Mr. Bell said he would like a meeting with the Pool Manager.

President's Comments:

Mr. Bell stated the previous Assisted Living facility on Greenside was purchased by the Borough: it will be demolished through Re-Development. Next week the Fire Department and the Police Department will use the building for training.

Items in the house are for sale. Mr. Bell said the Borough purchased the building to bring businesses into town.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Rhome reported the following:

1. Monthly Parking and Police reports provided to Council for review. The Police Department had four hundred and eight seven 911 calls in the month of February.
2. School Resource Officer Fetchko completed Alice drills (Active Shooter) at the Middle School. This

program had positive feedback.

3. UP Church parking lot is a work in progress.

4. Handicap parking spots to be added to Voting Items.:

123 East College Street. Information approved.

514 Giffin Avenue. Information approved.

414 Duquesne Avenue Apartment #3 is denied. There are too many handicap parking spaces in this area. If a handicap parking space becomes available, this will be next in line.

5. An Executive Session is requested.

Engineer's Report:

Ms. Bennett reported on the following:

1. Senior Center Electrical Upgrades-KLH completed their inspection. Two items needed fixed: the exterior light needed fixed and the circuit breaker box needed labeled. Once this is completed, KLH will complete a last inspection and close the project. An electrical inspection was completed and everything is up to Code.

2. Ridge Avenue-KLH, Mr. Lawrence and the Gas Company met onsite. The Water Company remains non-responsive. KLH will reach out to the Water Company again; if they do not respond another route will be developed to determine their responsibility. Ms. Bennett said she, Mr. Lawrence and the Gas Company will develop a plan for the curbs. Discussion held regarding the Water Company's non-responsiveness. One section is clearly the Water Companies' responsibility. The Borough will send a letter to the Water Company if needed. Representative O'Neil stated his office would assist if needed in contacting the Water Company.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Derrico discussed the following:

1. Alley Parking Lot and Smith Street-This is a town home development. It is not determined if the pathway between the parking spots is privately or publicly owned. The property that was conveyed to the developer describes the outer boundary of the property which involved a public alley. When it was conveyed by Redevelopment to the developer it was described and conveyed as one parcel with no mention of a public alley running through the middle of it. The tax map shows it as a public alley. There is no evidence on record that it was accepted by the Borough. There are two certificates of completion on record that mention an agreement through the Re-Development which goes back to 1984. There is no evidence that the Borough has accepted responsibility. Further discussion regarding the conveyances from Re-Development to the developer. It appears Re-Development sold it as one parcel to the developer. Mr. Bell stated it appears the Borough is not responsible for that area. The Borough has plowed that area. The developer has passed away. Ms. Lesnock said this has been researched twice and both times there is nothing indicating the Borough is responsible. Mr. Chandler said the Borough has been plowing as a courtesy. He further said with the condition the area is in now the Borough should not say it is on them now. Mrs. Coleman stated she agreed with Mr. Chandler. Mr. Bell stated it will be expensive for the Borough to blacktop the area.

Committee Reports:

1. **Administration and Finance:** Mrs. Coleman stated she and Ms. Lesnock reviewed bills and invoices and approve paying bills.

Motion to approve 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 stated the committee will meet within a week to review the new and old code. Mr. Severine inquired about collecting mechanical device fees. Ms. Lesnock said this is handled towards the end of the year. A Fire Inspector will be hired.

3. Public Safety- Mr. Bowman reported the following:

The Canonsburg Voluntary Fire Department in the month of February 2019 responded to 18 calls consisting of:

2 Rescue/EMS calls
6 Hazardous Condition Calls
5 Good Intent Calls
3 Fire Calls
2 Service Calls

Average 8 men per call, 42 minutes per call. \$0 in damage.

4. Public Works- Mr. McGarry thanked Public Works for the prompt cleaning of snow. Mrs. Bails commended Mr. Lawrence and his department for how well the Borough is maintained. Mr. Lawrence said the Police Department deserves credit as well. Mr. Bell asked if the rust can be removed from the trucks. Mr. Lawrence said the new trucks do not rust. Mr. Lawrence discussed seeking grant money to build a wash bay.

5. Facilities- Mr. Bell said the Pool Building is in the infancy stage. The design and affordability is the focus.

6. Parks and Recreation:

Mrs. Bails stated Mr. Russo discussed the Park.

7. Re-Development:

Mr. Chandler reported on the following:

1. Community Conversation dates for April, July and October will be revealed soon.
2. Re-Development working on new businesses in town. Mr. Bell said Mr. Chandler has been busy meeting with business people wanting to come to Canonsburg.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve February 11, 2019 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting.

Mr. Chandler made a motion to approve February 11, 2019 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Bails.

#No questions on the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

2#. Motion to approve awarding Contract No 2018-02 Re-bid (College Street Culvert Rehab) to Strnisha Excavation in the amount of \$85,000.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve awarding Contract No 2018-02 Re-bid (College Street Culvert Rehab) to Strnisha Excavation in the amount of \$85,000. 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.

3. Motion to approve reappointing Anthony Trona to the Zoning Hearing Board for a period of three years (ending 12/20/21).

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve reappointing Anthony Trona to the Zoning Hearing Board for a period of three years (ending 12/20/21). Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

Mr. Severine stated this is a two-year term. Ms. Lesnock will verify.

4. Motion to #approve appointing Donna J. Bails as an alternate to the Civil Service Commission (replacing Jeff Smith who filled Dan Brier's chair) for a period of 6 years.

Ms. Donna Bails background was discussed. She is highly recommended by the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission and is very active in the community. She is a life long resident of Canonsburg.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve appointing Donna J. Bails as an alternate to the Civil Service Commission (replacing Jeff Smith who filled Dan Brier's chair) for a period of 6 years. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Mrs. Coleman.

#All in favor. Motion Carries.

5. Motion to approve the re-hire of Thomas O'Rourke as a part-time Police Officer for the Borough of Canonsburg.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve the re-hire of Tomas O'Rourke as a part-time Police Officer for the Borough of Canonsburg. 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.

6. Motion to approve handicap parking space at 123 East College Street.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve handicap parking space at 123 East College Street. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

No questions on the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

7. Motion to approve handicap parking space at 514 Giffin.

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve handicap parking space at 514 Giffin. Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

No questions on the motion.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

8. Motion to #support the Fire Department with a purchase of a new truck for safety in the Borough at a cost of \$40,000 a year starting in approximately two years. The Fire Department will be responsible for making the down payment for the truck.

Mr. Bowman made a motion to support the Fire Department with a purchase of a new truck for safety in the Borough at a cost of \$40,000 a year starting in approximately two years. The Fire Department will be responsible for making the down payment for the truck. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Discussion this should go to committee. Mr. Bowman said it takes two years to build a new fire truck. Mr. Bell said Council has met with the Fire Department several times, however, finances was not discussed. Discussion that taxes will be raised and there would be a referendum on the ballot for the money. It was reiterated the Fire Department would make the down payment and the Borough would make monthly payment starting in two years. Mr. Severine said this is making the government pay for a nonprofit organization. Mr. Lawrence said the Fire Department is not just a nonprofit organization. Mr. Lawrence said the Fire Department is a department of the Borough, with volunteers that provide a service. Mr. Bell emphasized the importance of the volunteer service. Mr. Chandler asked if this could be tabled until further discussion is held until budget time. Further discussion held regarding the funding and raising taxes \$7 per house hold. Mr. Bell said he thought this was to go to committee. A meeting with the Fire Department will be arranged for next month. Mr. Bell said there is no question for the need of a new truck or needing the Fire Department. Mrs. Coleman said the Chief of the Fire Department explained the need of a new truck. The pumping capacity of the trucks discussed. Mr. Bowman rescinded his motion. Mrs. Coleman rescinded her motion.
Motion tabled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance Review-A meeting was held with General Code; they will provide a bid to move forward. Mr. Chandler mentioned obtaining another bid.
4. Appointment of a member to the Planning Commission (replacing Dan Briner) - some people may be interested.
5. UP Church parking lot contract-The estimate to repave lot is \$60,000. This will be discussed next month.
6. Town Park Pool House-The committee met and decided to tour other facilities for ideas. Mrs. Bails inquired about the new garbage company. She stated she receives complaints. Ms. Lesnock stated things are starting to work out with lower volume of complaint calls. The previous company, Waste Management has not picked up their dumpsters.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Lawrence and Ms. Lesnock discussed street projects that do not qualify for Re-Development money. Money from Act 13 and Liquid Fuel Money will be used for street projects. Mr. Lawrence stated the following streets need a cost estimate from KLH for repairs that would need to go out to bid next month:
Four Coins
DeBlasio
Arlington
Morgan
2nd Street
Bottom of Elm Street to Townview

Hillcrest
Hooks Lane
Gladden
McEwen
Alleys requiring tar
and chipping.

Mr. Lawrence discussed money in I&I. Mr. Lawrence said he would like to camera the town's lines. He discussed projects for South Central and College Street. Mr. Lawrence discussed the flooding issues. Re-Development money discussed. Road Robotics discussed as well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session #1 #held from 6:33 pm-7:19 pm
Executive Session #2 held from 8:57 pm -9:50 pm

Motion #to approve the placement of a Police Officer in the South Central School for the remaining 53 days of 2018/2019 school year contingent upon payment by the School District to the Borough of agreed cost subject to the Borough's available man power and execution of an appropriate contract.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve the placement of a Police Officer in the South Central School for the remaining 53 days of 2018/2019 school year contingent upon payment by the School District to the Borough of agreed cost subject to the Borough's available man power and execution of an appropriate contract. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

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.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mrs. Bails to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 pm. Seconded by Mr. McGarry.
All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:53 pm.

Enclosures:

A. Police/Parking Enforcement Report of February 2019.

Submitted by:

Michelle LoBello

