

## **Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting**

Monday, December 9th, 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:** Borough Manager Denise Lesnock, KLH Engineer Veronica Bennett, Solicitor Joseph Dalfonso, Public Works Director Tom Lawrence and Police Chief Alex Coghill, Mayor David Rhome

### **GUESTS:**

Mayor Rhome introduced Phyllis Ligon and explained that on October 14th, Ms. Ligon noticed a woman at the Canonsburg Shop 'N Save and learned that she was homeless. Ms. Ligon and police officers tried to contact family, when family couldn't be reached she paid for her stay in a hotel room for two nights, receiving a ride from a police officer. Mayor Rhome presented Ms. Ligon with a commendation and thanked her on behalf of Borough Council and himself.

Mayor Rhome called upon Ms. Fran Coleman and Mr. Joseph McGarry and announced that their term on the Canonsburg Borough Council had ended and would not be on council next year. Mayor Rhome presented plaques recognizing their exemplary service to the Borough and its citizens. Mrs. Coleman's son and daughter presented flowers and congratulated her on a job well done.

Mayor Rhome invited the head coach and the members of the Canon McMillan girls volleyball team to the front of the room. Mayor Rhome explained that this team had won the WPIAL AAA and Section 2 AAAA championship with a record of 18-3, this being a first time WPIAL win for Canon McMillan. Certificates were handed out to the coaches and individual members of the team. Mayor Rhome then invited the coaches and members of the Canon McMillan boys soccer team to the front of the room. Mayor Rhome explained that this team had won the 2019 WPIAL championship with a record 15-4-1. Certificates were handed out to the coaches and individual members of the team.

At this time, pictures were taken with Mrs. Coleman, Mr. McGarry, members of council and family members.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

1. None

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

1. Congratulations to Mrs. Coleman and Mr. McGarry for their service to the Borough and told them they would be missed.
2. A meeting was held with County Hauling about issues surrounding the services issues in the area with trash pickup. An agreement was reached that should help with better service in the future. Mr. Chandler asked what time frame was given to County Hauling as to when changes would be made to which Mr. Bell replied they hoped to see changes within 90 days. It was agreed that residents were to call County Hauling directly instead of calling the Borough offices so that the company can track the calls on their end. Mr. Severine mentioned a complaint he received from a resident about the garbage company not picking up trash bags that they deemed too heavy and Mr. Severine had the resident call the Borough office about it.
3. Mr. Bell mentioned that there have been many new businesses that have opened in Canonsburg during Mrs. Coleman and Mr. McGarry's time on council, read by Mrs. Bails: Rusty Gold Brewery.

The Bar Association, C. May Interiors, Keystone Barber Shop, Amerisource, 10x the Glam, War Zone, Crown of Glory Salon, K9 Dog Grooming, Cricket Wireless, Woodcraft, AC Coy, Washington Hospital. Mr. Severine mentioned A&S Landscaping putting seven new businesses on Strabane Avenue.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Rhome reported on the following:

1. Monthly Reports of the Police and Parking Enforcement
2. Letter received regarding the Canonsburg and Upper Saint Clair Police Departments working together to locate a stolen car.
3. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Mr. Bell thanked everyone who was a part of the Old Fashioned Christmas Celebration.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Ms. Bennett reported on the following:

1. Ordinance Updates - Zoning, Street Opening and Subdivision and Land Development ordinances are all in the process of being updated. A new proposed zoning map was passed out at the beginning of the meeting, Ms. Bennett explained they they got rid of transitional use and made it mixed use area and expanded the Central Business District. Along with the proposed map, Ms. Bennett passed out a packet explaining what can be done in each of the zoning districts and included her notes she would like council to look over. The area behind Sarris that was zoned to where no one could build a residential structure will be changed to Mixed Use that will allow businesses and homes. Mr. Severine asked Ms. Bennett about a couple of the areas on the proposed zoning map. Mr. Chandler stated that he sat down with Ms. Bennett, Mr. Dalfonso, the code officer and the zoning officer and found out where the issues are on the map and inconsistencies are in the ordinance and would like for council to look over everything and email code/zoning with any comments. Ms. Bennett explained that this is just step one of the process.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:**

Mr. Dalfonso stated that most of his report was covered in the Engineer’s report and that he had a matter to discuss in Executive Session regarding litigation and property.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **Administration and Finance:** Mrs. Coleman stated she reviewed bills and invoices with Ms. Lesnock and approves paying the 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. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

2. **Code** - Code is doing an excellent job and following up on everything. Mr. Severine stated that the community as a whole has to look out and report things to the code office because some things are being looked over.

3. **Public Works-** Mr. McGarry presented the November 2019 Public Works Report and complimented the “best public works department of all time” and they deserve all the credit they get. Mr. Lawrence thanked Mr. McGarry and Mrs. Coleman.

4. **Public Safety-** Mr. Bowman reported the following:

The Canonsburg Volunteer Fire Department in the month of November 2019 responded to 27 calls consisting of:

- 1 Accident Control Center Activation
- 4 Hazardous Condition Calls
- 4 Good Intent Calls
- 1 Fire Calls
- 7 Service Calls
- 2 False Alarms
- 0 Special Intent
- 0 Rescue Call
- 2 Other Calls

Average 7 firefighters per call, 1 hour, 26 minutes per call. \$0 in damage.

**5. Facilities-** Mr. Bell stated the Borough is under contract to purchase the Eagles building on Central Avenue. Mr. Dalfonso stated that the closing will be soon. Mr. Bell explained that council purchased the Eagles and the nursing home on Greenside to demolish both buildings for development and parking. Mr. Severine asked when the nursing home was to be demolished. Mr, Bell explained that we receive money through the county for demolitions but that the job had to be put out to bid.

**6. Parks and Recreation -** Mrs. Bails reported on the following:

1. There has been no park board meeting in December as of yet, meeting will be held December 16th to open bids for the new pavilion.
2. Park Board vacancy - letters of interest can be submitted to the Borough office
3. Pickleball courts closed and locked up for the season.
4. Thanked Public Works and Police for their help for the Christmas Celebration and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Mr. Bell explained that we are the only community where Hallmark comes and spend money on for Christmas.

Mr. Chandler asked Mrs. Bails about the new pavilion being constructed having a red roof due to the fact that the new logo was green. Mrs. Bails explained that the signage will be green and that the

other option for the roof was too purple so they went with the more natural brick red.

**7. Re-Development:**

Mr. Chandler reported on the following:

1. A busy year full of progress, recodification of ordinances.
2. Eagles and nursing home were discussed earlier
3. Land Bank/Blighted Property list will be available next month.

Mr. Bell complimented Mr. Chandler's work this year in redevelopment.

**VOTING ITEMS:**

**1. Motion to approve the November 12th, 2019 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve the November 12th, 2019 meeting minutes of Canonsburg Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes. 0 No. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**2. Motion to approve 2020 Final Budget.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve 2020 Final Budget. 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. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**3. Motion to approve 2020 Salary Ordinance #1340.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve 2020 Salary Ordinance #1340. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No question 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.0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**4. Motion to approve 2020 Tax Ordinance #1341.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve 2020 Tax Ordinance #1341. Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

No question 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.0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**5. Motion to approve Resolution #03-19 reducing the Police employees' pension contribution rate from the mandated rate of 5% to 4% of compensation for 2020.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve Resolution #03-19 reducing the Police employees' pension contribution rate from the mandated rate of 5% to 4% of compensation for 2020. 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.0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**6. Motion to approve CDBG Resolution #04-19 (allocation of \$100,000 for home rehabilitations, \$78,000 for code enforcement demolition, \$70,000 for handicap curbs and \$150,000 for Murdock Street Reconstruction).**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve CDBG Resolution #04-19 (allocation of \$100,000 for home rehabilitations, \$78,000 for code enforcement demolition, \$70,000 for handicap curbs and \$150,000 for Murdock Street Reconstruction). Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

Mr. Chandler asked about the process of the home rehabilitation loans and how much money was used in the past, Ms. Lesnock explained that many people don't take advantage of the program. Mr. Bell stated that many people don't know about it.

**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.0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**7. Motion to accept the resignation of Scott Galbraith as the EMA Director.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to accept the resignation of Scott Galbraith as the EMA Director. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes. 0 No. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**8. Motion to approve Mark Mazzeo as the new EMA Director.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve Mark Mazzeo as the new EMA Director. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes. 0 No. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**9. Motion to advertise for candidates interested in serving on the following boards: Parks and Recreation, Sewer Authority and Zoning Hearing Board.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to advertise for candidates interested in serving on the following boards: Parks and Recreation, Sewer Authority and Zoning Hearing Board. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes. 0 No. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**10. Motion to approve a handicap parking sign at 411 Spruce Street.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve a handicap parking sign at 411 Spruce Street. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes. 0 No. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**11. Motion to approve the Greenwood Village plan to use Crawford Street on the applicant altering the plan to utilize the Crawford Street connections as means for emergency access to the Greenwood Village development plan.**

Mrs. Coleman made a motion to approve the Greenwood Village plan to use Crawford Street on the applicant altering the plan to utilize the Crawford Street connections as means for emergency access to the Greenwood Village development plan. Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

Mr. Severine asked if there would be a gate, to which Mr. Dalfonso stated it was one of the conditions.

7 Yes. 0 No. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

Voting item to be addressed in executive session before voting.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Town Park Pool House - Set up a meeting with the committee.
2. Zoning Map Revisions - Discussed earlier during engineer's report
5. Meeting with Little Joe's Market - Cancelled meeting for today before the scheduled council meeting. Mr. Chandler asked if it was possible to go to them instead of them coming to council. Mr. Bell explained that the responsibility is on the owners of Little Joe's Market to address the situation involving the creek on their property. Mr. Severine asked about the vegetation that was removed along the creek after the UP Church parking lot paving project. Mr. Bell asked that someone try to reach out to the owners again and that if they don't plan on coming to a meeting that Mr. Dalfonso will send a letter.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Chandler inquired about getting involved with the Junior Councilperson Program and reviewing the Borough's comprehensive plan. Mr. Bell asked Mr. Chandler if he could contact Kerry Fox at Washington County to get some guidance about development the area where the two buildings are to be demolished.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Executive Sessions requested from Mr. Dalfonso and Mr. Lawrence.

Executive Session held from 8:05 pm to 9:05 pm.

**Motion to approve a parking lot lease agreement for the Jefferson Avenue parking lot with ARC Human Services.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve a parking lot lease agreement for the Jefferson Avenue parking lot with ARC Human Services. 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. 0 Absent. Motion Carries.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Mrs. McGarry to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Submitted by:

Callie Munch