

Canonsburg Borough Council Virtual Voting Meeting
Monday, October 12th, 2020
6:30 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. Edward P. Yorke- Present

Mr. Richard Russo- Present

Mr. Harold Bowman - Present

Mr. Richard Bell, President - Present

Others Present: Borough Manager Denise Lesnock, Mayor David Rhome, KLH Engineer Veronica Bennett, Solicitor Joseph Dalfonso, Public Works Director Tom Lawrence, Police Chief Alex Coghill

Absent: None.

GUESTS:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Bell reminded council members that the first budget meeting will be the following day at 6:30 PM.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Rhome reported that he was contacted by a couple who would like to pass out Thanksgiving dinners to those who can afford to do so on their own and would like to find a location for them to set up at. Mayor Rhome asked council to consider allowing them to set up at Town Park where people can drive through and retrieve the sealed containers if the current location falls through. There will also be lightly used coats available for those that need them. Mayor Rhome also reported that there will be a paving project near the Fire Department and that the paving company asked that the Fire Department not drive on the newly paved roads for a certain amount of time so they would like to place the ladder truck at the Greenside Meadows lot during the day and move it next to the Borough lot in the evening just for a couple days beginning tomorrow.

Mr. Bell asked what the date was for the Thanksgiving Dinner handout, Mayor Rhome answered that it would be on November 7th. Mr. Russo explained that the dedication for the new pavilion will also happen on a Saturday in November. Mayor Rhome replied that this would be done in a two hour window and would happen down in the park in the circle near the main playground. Mr. Bell asked that council agree to allow Mayor Rhome to use this location if the primary one falls through, all were in agreement.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Ms. Bennett reported on the following:

1. The 2020 Milling and Resurfacing project has been completed and has come \$10,000 under budget, there have been some changes and issues along the way but were able to save money from a reduction in restoration costs.

2. The plans and specifications for the demolition of the Eagle's building have been completed and an advertisement has been sent to the Borough office to be displayed in the Observer Reporter. Ms. Bennett is waiting to hear back from the Washington County Redevelopment Authority to find out if anything needs to be included on their end in case the Borough receives grant money. Ms. Bennett reported that there is not any asbestos on the property.

Mayor Rhome asked Ms. Bennett about the Craighead sidewalk project, explaining that a resident wanted to do something to his property but that the project had already been completed and the resident was unaware of it beforehand. Ms. Bennett stated the Craighead Street project is not KLH project so she is unsure of the status but it would be too late for this resident to do a sanitary lateral. Discussion was held about contacting the engineer and contractors on the project to find out if there are any possible solutions.

Mr. Russo asked about the retaining wall located behind the Eagle's property that is being held up by the building, Ms. Bennett explained that the wall can be kept there by using backfill.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Dalfonso reported on the following:

1. Reviewed the garbage fee collection ordinance which states that the property owners should be responsible for and receiving the bills, not the tenants.
2. Sent a draft of a food truck and vending ordinance for review.

Mayor Rhome asked Mr. Dalfonso about an ordinance that would allow the Fire Department to seek payment from the insurance company if any of their equipment was damaged during a fire call. Mr. Dalfonso stated that he would provide council a copy of a draft ordinance for review.

3. An updated On-Street Handicap Parking Ordinance has been provided for council's

review.

4. An executive session is needed for a litigation issue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Administration and Finance:** Mr. Yorke stated that he reviewed the bills with Ms. Lesnock and that everything was routine business and was in order. Mr. Yorke explained that there was a bill that came in late and was not included in the warrant list but would like for it to be approved for payment. The bill is for Independent Enterprise for the amount of \$223,606.69 for Pay Request #1.

Mr. Yorke then explained that a big part of the budget is employee overtime and asked that department heads keep an eye on that in the future. Ms. Lesnock explained that a public works employee has been off on workers comp for a few years which has caused the department to be shorthanded. Mr. Yorke then asked about the amount in police overtime which Ms. Lesnock explained that most of that is reimbursed and will be shown in the revenue portion on the budget. Mr. Bell asked that Chief Coghill come to the microphone and explain a program that he was invited to. Chief Coghill explained that he and two other local police chiefs were invited to receive a check that is a portion of 1 million dollars that will be shared among local police and fire departments. This money will be put toward payroll expenses due to the loss of revenue from the school resource officers not providing their services to the school district due to the COVID pandemic. An agreement will be sent that needs to be signed and returned to receive the money and the money needs to be spent by the end of 2020.

Motion to approve Canonsburg Borough bills including a bill in the amount of \$223,606.69 to Independent Enterprises.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to pay the bills including a bill in the amount of \$223,606.69 to Independent Enterprises. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

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

2. **Code** - Mr. Severine reported that Code Officer, Josh Smith, and Fire Inspector, Cliff Jones, are doing a great job making the buildings in Canonsburg a safer place.

3. **Public Works** - Mr. Bowman presented the October 2020 Public Works Report.

4. **Public Safety**- Mr. Bowman presented the October 2020 Fire Department Report.

5. **Facilities** - Mr. Russo thanked Ms. Munch for her work on the building directories that have been placed on the exterior of the building. Mr. Bell agreed that they looked good and were much needed.

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

1. In the process of redoing the Woodland Road park entrance sign
2. Cindy Hines is in the process of applying for an LSA grant, the Borough has previously approved a matching amount of \$7,500.
3. The new pavilion is still in the process of being built but there have been many delays, if the contractor does not finish the project by October 26th, they will be fined \$1,000/day.
4. Handicap Swing replacement - Looking into finding a better quality swing to replace the handicap swing that was damaged.
5. Bonfire and Pavilion Dedication - May be cancelled due to COVID precautions.
6. Looking into lights at the softball field, possibly including the cost in a pathways grant.
7. Pool Manager, Adam Manion, and his staff were honored for their work at the park and

pool this year.

8. List of completed park projects were announced.
9. Thanked Public Works employees for all of their help at the park and pool.
10. A little library structure will be placed in the park and in front of the senior citizen's building.
11. A girl scout troop would like to do a service project at the park.

Mr. Russo explained that the tentative date for the new pavilion dedication will be on November 14th at 10:00 AM. The pavilion will be dedicated to the VFW 191.

Mr. Chandler inquired about the pathways grant, Mr. Russo explained there is an engineered plan and listed the grants that have been applied for. Further discussion was held regarding park projects and how to finance them.

7. **Re-Development** - Mr. Chandler reported on the following:

1. Parking study is not yet completed.
2. The specifications for the demolition of the Eagle's building has been completed and will be advertised for bids.
3. Met with a gentleman regarding the Blight Task Force, drove around to show blighted properties, this gentleman will then put together a comprehensive plan including maps.

Mr. Russo stated that the sale of the Greenside lot has been put on hold pending the result of the parking study. Mr. Chandler complimented Mrs. Scarmazzi for working with potential business owners who are looking to open a location in Canonsburg.

8. **Sewer Authority:** Mr. Yorke reported on the following:

1. The CHJSA meeting minutes were provided in the meeting packets.

Mr. Severine stated that North Strabane representatives attend Sewer Authority meetings, Mr. Yorke explained that it is an open meeting. Mr. Severine then stated that it would be smart to have a Canonburg representative attend the meetings instead of reading the minutes in case a council member has a question. Mr. Yorke replied that he

can answer questions that are asked of him.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve September 14th, 2020 Borough Council Meeting Minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve September 14th, 2020 Borough Council Meeting Minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

No questions on the motion.

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

2. Motion to approve September 21st, 2020 Borough Council Special Meeting Minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Mr. Bowman made a motion to approve September 21st, 2020 Borough Council Special Meeting Minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council. Seconded by Mr. Yorke.

No questions on the motion.

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

3. Motion to approve the elimination of on street parking from 126 to 142 East Pike Street.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve the elimination of on street parking from 126 to 142 East Pike Street. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

Mr. Russo asked if the curbs would be painted yellow or if signs would be erected. Mr. Bell suggested painting the curbs, Mr. Chandler agreed and asked that letters be sent to homeowners beforehand.

7 Yes, 0 No. 0 Absent. Motion carries.

4. Motion to approve Ordinance #1344 amending Chapter 92: Construction codes, uniform

of the Borough code of ordinances establishing regulations governing the display of building permits.

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve Ordinance #1344 amending Chapter 92: Construction codes, uniform of the Borough code of ordinances establishing regulations governing the display of building permits. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in favor. Motion carries.

5. Motion to approve Ordinance #1346 repealing and replacing Chapter 121 of the Canonsburg Code of ordinances and providing for regulations regarding the parking and storage of nuisance and junk vehicles.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve Ordinance #1346 repealing and replacing Chapter 121 of the Canonsburg Code of ordinances and providing for regulations regarding the parking and storage of nuisance and junk vehicles. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

6. Motion to approve Ordinance #1347 regulating noise and welfare shall not be abridged by public nuisances from disturbing, excessive or offensive noises in the Borough of Canonsburg.

Mr. Chandler made a motion to approve Ordinance #1347 regulating noise and welfare shall not be abridged by public nuisances from disturbing, excessive or offensive noises in the Borough of Canonsburg. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

Mr. Yorke inquired about a group of cars on Saturday afternoon that went through town. Mayor Rhome explained that there was a caravan of cars that drove through for a Joe Biden event. Mr. Yorke explained that a neighbor had told him that he called 911 because the cars drove through a

red light.

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

7. Motion to approve Ordinance #1348 providing for the permitting of parades, special events and public gatherings.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve Ordinance #1348 providing for the permitting of parades, special events and public gatherings.. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

8. Motion to approve the Parking Lot Lease Agreement (Jefferson lot) between ARC Human Services, Inc. and the Borough of Canonsburg.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve the Parking Lot Lease Agreement (Jefferson lot) between ARC Human Services, Inc. and the Borough of Canonsburg. Seconded by Mr. Yorke.

No questions on the motion

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

9. Motion to approve the Parking Lot Sublease Agreement (UP Church lot) between ARC Human Services, Inc. and the Borough of Canonsburg.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve the Parking Lot Sublease Agreement (UP Church lot) between ARC Human Services, Inc. and the Borough of Canonsburg. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

No questions on the motion

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

10. Motion to approve Resolution #04-2020 authorizing Borough Solicitor and confirming the support of filing a petition seeking an exemption from Section 493(34) of the Pennsylvania Liquor Code.

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve Resolution #04-2020 authorizing Borough Solicitor and confirming the support of filing a petition seeking an exemption from Section 493(34) of the Pennsylvania Liquor Code. Seconded by Mr. Yorke.

No questions on the motion.

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

11. Motion to approve Trick or Treat to be held October 31st from 6:00-7:30 PM and request that everyone participating follow CDC guidelines.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve Trick or Treat to be held October 31st from 6:00-7:30 PM and request that everyone participating follow CDC guidelines. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

12. Motion to approve allowing Jordan Tax Service to use the Sheriff's office to recover liens from garbage bill collection in accordance with Borough ordinances and State law.

Mr. Chandler made a motion to approve allowing Jordan Tax Service to use the Sheriff's office to recover liens from garbage bill collection in accordance with Borough ordinances and State law. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

13. Motion to approve George Loutsion's application requesting a restaurant at 10 North Jefferson Avenue, which is a T-1 (transitional zone) contingent with finalizing with the Borough Engineer.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve George Loutsion's application requesting a restaurant at 10 North Jefferson Avenue, which is a T-1 (transitional zone) contingent with finalizing with the Borough Engineer. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

Mr. Chandler asked Ms. Bennett if Mr. Loutsion provided the updated drawing that shows parking to the public hearing held prior to the council meeting. Ms. Bennett and Mr. Bell replied

that he had.

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Zoning Map - Next meeting to be scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bid opening will be held on November 6th for the Eagle's building demolition project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive session was held at 7:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. Yorke to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM for an executive session. Seconded by Mr. Chandler .

All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM for an executive session. No action will be taken after executive session.

Submitted by:

Callie Munch