

Canonsburg Borough Council Virtual Voting Meeting
Monday, May 11th, 2020
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bell at 6:38 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 and Police Chief Alex Coghill

Absent: None.

GUESTS:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Bell reported that everything has been going as well as possible and that Pennsylvania will be moving into a yellow phase on Friday, May 15th.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Rhome reported that the call volume has been up in the Police Department and there will be a couple voting items to take care of later in the meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Ms. Bennett reported on the following:

1. The road paving list has been finalized and can be found on the Engineer's Report. The estimate for the project comes in around \$344,000 which includes a 10% contingency in case prices come in higher than expected. A quote was completed to pave the rest of the Pickleball court, the amount is around \$20,000, this would make the road paving project around \$365,000. This price would be over the original budget but could come in lower when and on budget when it goes out for bid. The streets that were chosen were deemed the worst in the Borough using the Roadbotics program.
2. The sanitary sewers on Jefferson Avenue have been CCTVed but the problem was not yet found, there are infiltration issues. KLH Engineers will have a survey crew come to locate the line and do a hydraulic profile to see if it is a grade issue and where the capacity is limited. By the next meeting there should be a fix or an idea as to what the main issue is.
3. Ms. Bennett has been in touch with Columbia Gas regarding the Ridge Avenue curb replacement project and Columbia Gas has verbally agreed to commit a $\frac{2}{3}$ share of the responsibility. Currently, Ms. Bennett is working on necessary permitting through PennDOT before putting the project out to bid.

Mr. Bell stated that he believes the Pickleball court should be included in the Road Paving Project and that other members of council would most likely agree.

Mr. Severine asked about if the North Jefferson property that is having flooding issues could be an elevation issue, Ms. Bennett explained that it will be considered by the survey crew and if it is, the property owner having a backflow preventer on it is a good

start but there is also the option of rerunning the plumbing.

Motion to advertise for bids for the Road Paving project.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to advertise for bids for the Road Paving project. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

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. All in favor. Motion carries.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Dalfonso reported on the following:

1. Executive sessions have been held every Monday regarding personnel and continuity of operations during COVID-19.
2. Met with the Code committee to discuss the codification packet, the final packet is due July 24th, 2020. This should make the permitting process more organized.
3. Has worked with Washington County Redevelopment Authority to draft a Hold Harmless Agreement regarding the properties on Craighead Avenue that have retaining walls that will be affected during the sidewalk replacement project. Letters were drafted and mailed out along with the Hold Harmless agreements to the property owners.
4. There will be two items to vote on later in the evening regarding the advertising of the street excavation ordinance and the sewage tap ordinance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Administration and Finance:** Mr. Yorke stated he reviewed the bills and invoices with Ms. Lesnock and was in touch with Mrs. Bails. Mr. Yorke stated that he found that everything was routine business and approved paying the bills. Mrs. Bails stated that she had a couple invoices that she looked into but her questions were answered by Chief Coghill.

Motion to approve Canonsburg Borough bills.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to pay the bills. 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.

2. **Code** - Mr. Severine reported that Code Officer, Josh Smith, drove through the Borough and issued around 20-30 letters regarding high grass. Mr. Severine also mentioned sending Mr. Smith to school for building permitting/inspections and the issue of zoning and building permits being displayed in windows which will now be a requirement included in the ordinance. Mr. Chandler stated that he is looking forward to the codification updates and the fact that they will be available online.

Mr. Russo inquired about the RV issue on Moore Avenue, Mr. Severine asked Ms. Bennett for an update. Ms. Bennett explained that she was told by Mr. Smith that the owners of the RV were dumping their sewage into their sewer lateral. Mr. Dalfonso stated the RV owners do not own the property it is located on, but that Mr. Smith has sent the property owner a notification. Mr. Russo

then asked Ms. Bennett to further explain, Ms. Bennett replied that she was first alerted that the waste was being dumped in the storm sewer but it was then reported that it was being dumped into the sewer line. Mr. Russo asked if there were any other issues with the RV, Mr. Dalfonso said that Mr. Smith is going through the process and contacting the property owner. Mr. Chandler asked for Mr. Smith to give email updates.

3. **Public Works** - Mr. Bowman presented the April 2020 Public Works report.

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

The Canonsburg Volunteer Fire Department in the month of April 2020 responded to 9 calls consisting of:

1 Fire Calls

2 Hazardous Condition Calls

0 Good Intent Calls

1 Service Calls

2 False Alarms

3 Rescue Calls

0 Special Incident Call

0 Alarm Calls

Average 11 firefighters per call, 38 minutes per call. \$3,500 in damage.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, there has been limited activity at the station consisting of fire calls only. Annual hose and ladder testing was completed, which is required by insurance.

Cleanings have been completed to keep the building and equipment ready for use and have decontaminated police vehicles. The Fire Department has offered to use their equipment to also decontaminate the entire Borough building before opening to the public.

Mr. Russo asked Mr. Bowman to announce that the Public Works employees will be back to work full time the following Monday. Mr. Lawrence stated that he and his employees are ready to get back to work and asked if there are any restrictions or guidelines and asked if he is able to hire for summer help. Mr. Yorke said if there is work to do for them then he believes there should be no issue. Mr. Russo stated the money for summer help is in the budget. Mr. Lawrence

stated that with full time and summer help employees, there will be around 10 people total at the Public Works garage and asked if that followed COVID-19 guidelines, Mr. Dalfonso explained that he has been discussing this with Ms. Lesnock and as long as proper distancing procedures are followed, there should be no issues. Mr. Lawrence asked if his employees should sign off on a checklist with symptoms, Mr. Dalfonso stated that could be discussed.

5. Facilities - Mr. Bell reported that research is being done on how to disinfect the building before it is open to the public. Mr. Russo stated that a plan for reopening the building will be put together now that PA is in the yellow phase and local businesses are beginning to reopen for face to face business.

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

1. Discussions have been held about the opening of the pool and that it will not be open by Memorial Day as usual. Mrs. Bails asked if a workshop could be scheduled after the next State update and stated that with Public Works going back to work full time, the pool will be properly cleaned. Mrs. Bails explained that Mr. Manion is worried about holding his pool employees from finding other summer employment in case the pool does not open but that some employees will be needed to maintain the pool. Discussion was held about holding a workshop to discuss all these issues surrounding the opening of the pool. Mr. Russo stated that if the guidelines continue being 25 people that opening the pool to only that amount would not make sense.
2. The sale of pool passes and rentals of the pavilions need to be paused, if the pool does open soon the price will have to be paid at the daily rate instead.
3. Continuation of the employment of Mr. Manion needs to be discussed, the Park Board does not want to lose him as the pool manager so there is a possibility that he can continue to maintain the pool during the summer.
4. The Pickleball club would like to open the courts.
5. Officer Fetcko could possibly drive through the park to monitor that guidelines are being followed.

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

1. The committee has been meeting once a week to discuss the Economic Development Coordinator position and would like to set up a workshop meeting on May 18th at 6:30 PM.

Mr. Russo asked that if council has the opportunity, to look at the multi-use lot in Washington that is across from the Union Grill and consider that an opportunity for the location that the Eagles building is located at. Mr. Chandler explained that lot is very useful.

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

1. Litigation was discussed earlier in the executive session.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve April 13th, 2020 Borough Council Meeting Minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve April 13th, 2020 Borough Council Meeting Minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council. Seconded by Mr. Yorke.

No questions on the motion.

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

2. Motion to approve advertising an ordinance amending Chapter 149, Article 1 - Street Excavations, section 149-1 through 149-16 of the Borough Code.

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve advertising an ordinance amending Chapter 149, Article 1 - Street Excavations, section 149-1 through 149-16 of the Borough Code. Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

No questions on the motion.

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

3. Motion to approve advertising an ordinance providing for procedures, rules and regulations and imposition and collection of certain fees for new connections to the

Borough sewer system.

Mr. Russo made a motion to approve advertising an ordinance providing for procedures, rules and regulations and imposition and collection of certain fees for new connections to the Borough sewer system. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

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. All in favor. Motion carries.

4. Motion to approve ratifying the Tactical Diversion Task Force Agreement made on December 1, 2019 between the US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration and the Canonsburg Police Department.

Mr. Bowman made a motion to approve ratifying the Tactical Diversion Task Force Agreement made on December 1, 2019 between the US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration and the Canonsburg Police Department. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

Mr. Yorke stated that he would have liked to see a copy of the agreement before the vote and would like to see a quarterly report going forward. Mrs. Bails asked that if there were any changes to the agreement, Chief Coghill replied that the agreement has not changed in 8 years.

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. All in favor. Motion carries.

5. Motion to approve police officer Scott Kanotz, as a full time Canonsburg Borough Police Officer effective May 25th, 2020 at midnight providing he fulfills the remainder of his probationary period.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve police officer Scott Kanotz, as a full time Canonsburg Borough Police Officer effective May 25th, 2020 at midnight providing he fulfills the remainder of his probationary period. Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

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. All in favor. Motion carries.

6. Motion to purchase a 2020 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$40,571 to be used by the Police Department (to replace Unit 6930 that was recently totaled).

Mr. Yorke made a motion to purchase a 2020 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$40,571 to be used by the Police Department (to replace Unit 69-30 that was recently totaled). 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. All in favor. Motion carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Town Park Pool House - In the process
2. Zoning Map Revisions - In the process

Mr. Chandler stated that he has been reviewing the zoning revisions.

Mrs. Bails asked Ms. Bennett if the amount that was estimated for the Pool House could be lowered in any way. Ms. Bennett explained that the amount is a cost estimate based on previous projects and is detailed down to the smallest of items but once the project is bid out it could come in anywhere from \$600,000 to \$1.5 million. Ms. Bennett explained that the cost estimate could be lowered if the locker room areas were smaller and the party room was removed.

Another costly detail was the building's masonry work. Mr. Severine stated that the party room should be kept and would be a big asset to the pool. Mr. Russo explained that the party room wouldn't be very large and that the pool wouldn't have enough parking to handle anything that large anyways, he also explained that making any major changes to the plans would incur a lot in the way of engineering fees. Mr. Russo also mentioned renovating the current building for a much smaller price.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Lesnock reported that County Hauling will be beginning to take bulk items again, Mr. Bell mentioned sending a Reverse 911 phone call to that effect or mentioning that in the newspaper so that residents are aware.

Mr. Lawrence reported that he received a proposal of \$4,800 to repair the storm drain issue in front of Guntown Beer right away and that if Public Works were to take on the project it will take much longer to complete (around 3 weeks) but at a cost of around \$2,200. Mr. Severine and Mr. Yorke both agreed that the project could be completed by Public Works in time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mrs. Bails to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM. Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Submitted by:

Callie Munch