

**Canonsburg Borough Council Virtual Voting Meeting**  
Monday, September 14th, 2020  
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. 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:**

Doug McKenery, Canonsburg Pickleball Club - Thanked council members and Mayor Rhome for their support for the last 4 years and for paving the parking lot at the Pickleball Courts. Mr. McKenery also thanked Mr. Lawrence and his Public Works employees for all of their work at the courts and Chief Coghill for the security cameras that have been installed.

Carl Walker Associates - Mrs. Scarmazzi presented Carl Walker Associated who showed a presentation regarding parking garages (printed version of presentation is on file in the Borough

office).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

None.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

None.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Ms. Bennett reported on the following:

1. 2020 Milling and Paving Project - Issues on Hillcrest Drive, road is unstable and the concrete milling was causing more damage so they stopped milling and used a different resurfacing method which costs more than what was estimated but that the other streets do not require much base repair which will save money. East Pitt Street had asphalt that began to peel off of the base so the material that was to be used on Hillcrest will be used on East Pitt to prevent cracking.
2. Pickleball Lot was in better condition than anticipated and a layer of stone was not required.
3. Speed Humps - PennDot has a Traffic Calming Handbook to guide municipalities, a traffic study would need to be completed and if the street is on the liquid fuels list, the Borough may lose funding. The study will require public input and approval and there may be drainage issues or cause traffic issues on other streets.
4. Storm Pipe at Crosby and Pitt - A sinkhole has formed in a driveway on Crosby Drive,

Public Works attempted to televise the line but the pipe had an obstruction. Ms. Bennett recommends an excavation to locate a segment of the pipe that can then be cut and televised for more information and then either repair or re-route. Mr. Lawrence explained that this project will cost more than what remains in his budget. Further discussion was held regarding possible repairs for the issue.

Mr. Bell inquired about the Ridge Avenue curb replacement project, Ms. Bennett explained that it is on course to begin.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Dalfonso reported on the following:

1. Met with the garbage committee the previous week to discuss options for the collection of garbage bills.
2. Two new agreements for ARC to lease the UP Church and Jefferson Avenue parking lots would continue on from a previous lease agreement that is expiring soon. Discussion was held about the previous lease from 2019, Mr. Russo asked to see the previous lease agreement.

### **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 requested an executive session. Executive session was held and Mr. Yorke made a motion to resume the meeting, seconded by Mr. Russo. All in favor. Motion carries.

#### **Motion to approve Canonsburg Borough bills**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

#### **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 an issue with residents in the Borough owning multiple vehicles and causing on-street parking issues, one issue being the Hutchinson Hall apartment building not providing enough spaces for the residents. The current zoning ordinance states two off-street parking spots must be made available but Mr. Dalfonso explained that the building existed before the ordinance existed. Discussion was held about families owning more vehicles than they used to in decades past and spoke about possible fixes to the parking problem including speaking to the Hutchinson Hall property owner to discuss solutions.

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

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

5. **Facilities** - Mr. Russo reported that the directories have been installed on the outside of the building, will be meeting with Mr. Maceiko and Ms. Munch to discuss finalizing them with the suggested updates and has been told that they have been very helpful to residents when visiting the building.

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

1. The construction of the new pavilion is moving along and will report the date of the dedication to the V.F.W. 191 when it has been scheduled which will be around Veteran's Day.
2. Replacing the handicap swing that was damaged.
3. Rich Russo and Tina Bail's terms on the Park Board are due to expire at the end of 2020

and would like to return for another term.

Mr. Chandler inquired as to how the handicap swing was damaged, Ms. Bails explained that it was damaged during the COVID-19 pandemic and the investigation shows that the weight limit of 125 pounds was surpassed by possibly multiple people using it at the same time causing it to crack and the lock not being able to fasten. Mr. Bell complimented the great work that was done by summer help employees at the pool this year under the management of Adam Manion.

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

\*Internet went down and audio cut out\*

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

\*Internet went down and audio cut out\*

#### **VOTING ITEMS:**

##### **1. Motion to approve August 10th, 2020 Borough Council Meeting Minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve August 10th, 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 purchasing a new 2020 Police Ford Interceptor Utility Vehicle at a cost of \$40,571.00 (It will be financed over 3 years at \$14,733.30 annually).**

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve purchasing a new 2020 Police Ford Interceptor Utility Vehicle at a cost of \$40,571.00 (It will be financed over 3 years at \$14,733.30 annually).

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. 0 Absent. All in favor. Motion carries.

**3. Motion to authorize Chief Coghill to renew the “Tactical Diversion Squad Task Force Agreement” between the Canonsburg Police Department and the DEA Pittsburgh Tactical Diversion Squad Task Force Philadelphia Field Division, effective the 1st day of October 2020 and expiring August 31, 2021.**

Mr. Bowman made a motion to authorize Chief Coghill to renew the “Tactical Diversion Squad Task Force Agreement” between the Canonsburg Police Department and the DEA Pittsburgh Tactical Diversion Squad Task Force Philadelphia Field Division, effective the 1st day of October 2020 and expiring August 31, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - No

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

6 Yes, 1 No. 0 Absent. Motion carries.

**4. Motion to approve having a parking study done at an approximate cost of \$5,000.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve having a parking study done at an approximate cost of \$5,000. 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. All in favor. Motion carries.

**5. Motion to approve KLH to proceed with plans, specs, and advertising for bids to demolish the building at 122 N. Central Avenue (Former Eagles building).**

Mr. Chandler made a motion to approve KLH to proceed with plans, specs, and advertising for bids to demolish the building at 122 N. Central Avenue (Former Eagles building). 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.

**6. Motion to approve hiring Margaret Lisa Froyd as a part-time parking enforcement officer effective September 15, 2020 upon completion of a police background check.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve hiring Margaret Lisa Froyd as a part-time parking enforcement officer effective September 15, 2020 upon completion of a police background check. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Bowman-Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Abstain

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

**7. Motion to approve hiring David DeLuca as a part-time parking enforcement officer effective September 15, 2020 upon completion of a police background check.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve hiring David DeLuca as a part-time parking enforcement officer effective September 15, 2020 upon completion of a police background check. 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.

**8. Motion to approve a handicapped parking space at 215 Hutchinson Ave.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to table the approval of a handicapped parking space at 215

Hutchinson Ave. Seconded by Mr. Bowman.

All in favor. Motion carries.

**9. Motion to approve a handicapped parking space at 611 Marple Ave.**

Mr. Chandler made a motion to table the approval of a handicapped parking space at 611 Marple

Ave. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Motion carries.

**10. Motion to approve advertising an ordinance 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 advertising an ordinance 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.

**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.

**11. Motion to approve advertising an ordinance regulating noise and welfare shall not be abridged by public nuisances from disturbing, excessive or offensive noises in the Borough of Canonsburg.**

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve advertising an ordinance regulating noise and welfare shall not be abridged by public nuisances from disturbing, excessive or offensive noises in the Borough of Canonsburg. 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.

**12. Motion to approve advertising an ordinance providing for the permitting of parades, special events and public gatherings.**

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve advertising an ordinance providing for the permitting of parades, special events and public gatherings. 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, 0 Absent. Motion carries.

**13. Motion to approve patrolman David Meiers as a regular Canonsburg Borough full-time police officer pending completion of the probationary period ending effective midnight October 1, 2020.**

Mr. Bowman made a motion to approve patrolman David Meiers as a regular Canonsburg Borough full-time police officer pending completion of the probationary period ending effective midnight October 1, 2020. 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.

**14. Motion to approve advertising the Borough owned lot at 119 Greenside Avenue is for sale.**

Mr. Chandler made a motion to approve advertising the Borough owned lot at 119 Greenside Avenue is for sale. Seconded by Mr. Yorke.

**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.

**15. Motion to approve Friend's of the Park's LSA request for a grant match of \$7,500.**

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve Friend's of the Park's LSA request for a grant match of \$7,500. 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.

**16. Motion to approve advertising in the Observer Reporter for sale on Muncibid the following items: 2008 Chevrolet 3500HD Dump and 2009 Ford Explorer.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve advertising in the Observer Reporter for sale on Muncibid the following items: 2008 Chevrolet 3500HD Dump and 2009 Ford Explorer. 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.

**17. Motion to approve the planning commission's recommendation to approve the application of George Loutsion to consolidate the lots located at 10 N. Jefferson Avenue.**

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve the planning commission's recommendation to approve the application of George Loutsion to consolidate the lots located at 10 N. Jefferson Avenue.

Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

No questions on the motion

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

**18. Motion to approve the planning commission's recommendation to hold a conditional use hearing regarding George Loutsion's property at 10 N. Jefferson Avenue contingent on the applicant submitting a site plan.**

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve the planning commission's recommendation to hold a conditional use hearing regarding George Loutsion's property at 10 N. Jefferson Avenue contingent on the applicant submitting a site plan. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

No questions on the motion

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

**19. Motion to authorize the Mayor to apply for a road closure permit from PennDot to close E. Pike Street between Central and Greenside for the purpose of Fire Prevention/Expo (date will be announced in October).**

Mr. Bowman made a motion to authorize the Mayor to apply for a road closure permit from PennDot to close E. Pike Street between Central and Greenside for the purpose of Fire Prevention/Expo. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

Mr. Chandler asked what a Fire Expo is comprised of, Mayor Rhome explained that the Fire Prevention team consisting of the Canonsburg, North Strabane and Cecil Fire Departments do fire prevention programs at the Canon McMillan schools but due to COVID-19, they have been

unable to go into the schools to do so. Mayor Rhome explained that each department would bring some apparatuses and teach children the importance of fire prevention outside of the school setting and would like to keep it in Canonsburg. Mr. Russo asked if it would be open to the public and expressed his concerns about the issue of COVID-19 and having so many people in one area, Mayor Rhome explained that he did not believe there would be anywhere near the amount of people that would cause a concern. Mr. Dalfonso explained that the current limit of an outdoor gathering is 250 people. Mr. Russo stated that both the Fourth of July parade and Oktoberfest were cancelled, asked how the event would be limited to 250 people and how to prevent the possible spread of the coronavirus. Mayor Rhome explained that he is asking council to approve the road closure to begin the process of working with the committee and figuring out how to put the CDC guidelines in place for the event. Discussion was held at length about events held during COVID-19, other possible venues and crowd control issues.

Mr. Russo made a motion to table the authorize for the Mayor to apply for a road closure permit from PennDot to close E. Pike Street between Central and Greenside for the purpose of Fire Prevention/Expo. Seconded by Mr. Chandler.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Mr. Russo asked for more information, including event guidelines, to be presented at a later date and the motion will be reconsidered at a special meeting if needed.

Ms. Lesnock explained that there was one more voting item that needed attention. EJ Kleckner, owner of Rusty Gold Brewery would like to close off and use half of the midtown parking lot closest to his building for a mini-Oktoberfest event like in 2019. The dates would be September 25th and September 26th. Mr. Dalfonso explained that normally Mr. Kleckner would only need to get a permit through the Borough office, but it was explained that it is coming to a council vote to close half of the parking lot. Mr. Russo explained that Mr. Kleckner needs to present a plan and fill out paperwork at the Borough office.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Zoning Map
2. Garbage rates
3. Garbage bill collection - Meeting to be scheduled.
4. Halloween/Trick or Treat - Surrounding communities have been contacted but none have any concrete plans. Mr. Bell suggested waiting until the October meeting to decide. It was discussed that Trick or Treat will be held by residents whether the Borough sponsors it or not.
5. Parking lot lease with ARC - Mr. Russo stated that he would like to compare the 2019 and 2020 lease agreements and see the minutes where the 2019 agreement was voted on.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Tom Lawrence asked that if anyone meets with the garbage company, to bring attention to the tail end of the garbage trucks are dragging on streets like Marple Avenue, Thorn Alley and West Howard Street and causing damage.

Mr. Lawrence also inquired if there was any further discussion with County Hauling regarding making all trash pickup on the street and not a street/alley pickup hybrid issue throughout the Borough. Mr. Russo stated that there are a few streets where they pick up on both the street and alley, County Hauling is to provide the Borough with a list of those streets and decide where the pickup should be. Mr. Lawrence explained that the alleys are being destroyed by the trucks and some alleys have been recently paved and are already being damaged again. This will be discussed further at the October meeting.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Held earlier in the meeting during committee reports.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Mr. Chandler to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 PM. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:02 PM.

Submitted by:

Callie Munch