

**December 8, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, December 8, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the Ligonier Town Hall with James McDonnell presiding.

**Members Present:** James McDonnell, Gus Breegle, Chick Cicconi, Judy Hoffer, Matt Smith, Pat Scanlon and Terry Murphy.

**Others Present:** Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Engineer Ben Faas, Greg Elliot, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Zoning Officer Rick Schwab. Absent was Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Fire Chief Steve Barron, and Code Enforcement Officer Rick Bell.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the minutes of November 10, 2016 as presented. All of Council was in favor.

#### **BILLS PAYABLE**

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Gus Breegle to approve the Bills Payable as also presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President McDonnell called for a brief executive session for an update on litigation at 7:01 PM. Council returned from executive session at 7:25 PM with no action taken.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the Consent Calendar. All of Council was in favor.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **Ordinance 566:**

An Ordinance to amend section 89-10 of the Fort Ligonier Days Ordinance of the Code of the Borough of Ligonier.

Solicitor Welty explained that Ordinance 566 deletes a sentence in Section 89-10 of the Code of the Borough of Ligonier: "The Advisory Committee hereunder shall be Fort Ligonier Days, Inc."; and the following sentence is substituted for the above deleted sentence. "The Advisory Committee hereunder shall be comprised of two members appointed by Fort Ligonier Days, Inc.; two members appointed by the Ligonier Valley Chamber of Commerce and one member of Borough Council appointed by Ligonier Borough Council."

**A motion** was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Judy Hoffer to Ordinance 566 amending Ordinance 556. All of Council was in favor.

##### **Budget 2017**

**A motion** was made by Terry Murphy and seconded by Chick Cicconi to approve Budget 2017 with no tax increase. The motion carried 7-0.

##### **2017 Tax Ordinance**

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Pat Scanlon to adopt 2017 Tax Ordinance. The motion carried with all in favor.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter received from the LV Library thanking Council for the \$1,200 donation

Letter was received from the LV Chamber of Commerce requesting to have 4 meters bagged in front of the Library for Hanson's Original Kettle Korn to set up from 1PM Friday until 9 AM Saturday for ICE FEST January 21 and then 2 meters on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5PM. Also requested is to bag the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> meters on East Main Street along the side of Town Hall for the entertainers to load and unload their equipment Saturday from 9:30AM-4:00PM and Sunday 9:00AM-2:30PM. As well as the first 4 meters on Fairfield St. beside the YMCA from 8:00AM-4:00PM Saturday and Sunday for Misty Haven Carriage to park their horse trailer and truck.

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the request from the LV Chamber of Commerce. All of Council was in favor.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PARK & RECREATION / SHADE TREE**

Nothing to report.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

### **TOWN HALL**

N/A

Judy Hoffer also wished everyone a safe and Happy New Year.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Chairman Gus Breegle reported that the Public Works have picked up approximately 80 truckloads of leaves. Today is the last day of leaf pick up from the curb with the leaf vac, however they can still be picked up if bagged. Biodegradable paper bags can be purchased at Agway or Lowes.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Gus Breegle to remove officers Kevin Smith and Sean Knepper from probation. All of Council was in favor.

### **FINANCE**

Chairman Terry Murphy reported that the Town Hall Fund is at a positive 13.3% investment return.

President McDonnell added that the finance committee needs to go to work on coming up with a recommendation for billing to impose on Fort Ligonier Days Inc. for use of public property.

### **PLANNING / PERSONNEL**

Chairman Chick Cicconi reported that the Joint Comprehensive Plan workshop is set for January 16, 17, and 18 for the Focus groups to meet. January 19<sup>th</sup> an update on the Focus groups will be given by EADS representatives.

Cicconi reported that there are changes in the Borough's Planning Committee meeting times for 2017 will be moved to the 4<sup>th</sup> Tues of each month except November and December which then will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday.

Cicconi added that he intends to have the Planning Commission re-established and fully functional for the Council meeting in April of 2017.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Solo/ Fennell Subdivision:**

Adam Davis of Ross Surveying presented to Council the plans to propose to create two lots (Lot 1 & lot 2) from a 5,592 square foot parcel. Lot #2 is intended to be lot addition to the Solo parcel, and shall not be constructed upon or conveyed separately from the said property of Stephen P and Kimberly Solo parcel without prior approval by the Ligonier Borough Council.

Also the existing shed on Lot #1 will be replaced with a shed no greater than 120 square foot and no closer than 3; to the proposed property line.

**A motion** was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Pat Scanlon to approve the Solo/Fennell Subdivision as presented. All of Council was in favor.

**Blighted Property:**

Property is located on Hickory Alley and immediately behind Borough Garage.

It was reported that the matter was turned over to the Code Enforcement Officer. The property will be cited with various code violations.

**Camo Kennels:**

Camo Kennels have not been used for the past 6 months. The Borough still has services available by Officer Amber Noel as the Borough's Animal Control Officer. A cooperative agreement was entered with Ligonier Township for 6 months for the service.

**A motion** was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Terry Murphy to terminate agreement with Camo Kennels at end of December 2016. All of Council was in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Richard Flickinger thanked Councilman Chick Cicconi for his intentions to re-establish the Planning Commission.

Flickinger also thanked Council for supporting the LV Library.

Flickinger noted that the hearing to consolidate the voting districts in Ligonier Borough will be December 13, 2016 at 1:30PM with Judge McCormick.

**COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS**

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked Council for the opportunity to work for Ligonier Borough.

Solicitor George Welty reported that the Borough has received a letter of tax appeal for a property on Hemlock Square. Welty advised to let the County handle this matter.

Zoning Officer Rick Schwab commented on still seeing Election signs up and that they should be removed.

Engineer Ben Faas reported that the Route 30 Storm line is progressing. Faas also reported that the Armory Flood Plain has been removed.

Engineer Greg Elliot showed new rendering of Diamond Park.

Police Chief John Berger thanked Council for removing probationary period from officers Shawn Knepper and Kevin Smith.

Chief Berger added that he has recently received a letter from Charles Detling making a donation to the Ligonier Police Department for \$1,500.00. Chief Berger stated that he would like to order more patrol rifles.

**A motion** was made by Terry Murphy and seconded by Judy Hoffer to order patrol rifles for the Police Department. All were in favor.

President McDonnell wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

McDonnell remarked on how nice the Diamond looks decorated for Christmas and publically thanked all those who volunteered to decorate it.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Gus Breegle to adjourn. All of Council was in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A Fry  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Office Manager