

**May 12, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, May 12, 2016 @ 7:00 PM in the Ligonier Town Hall with James McDonnell presiding.

**Members Present:** James McDonnell, Judy Hoffer, Robert Helterbran, Chick Cicconi, Matt Smith, Pat Scanlon, & Terry Murphy.

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the special meeting minutes of May 2, 2016. All of Council was in favor.

#### **BILLS PAYABLE**

**A motion** was made by Robert Helterbran and seconded by Terry Murphy to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Robert Helterbran to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. All were in favor.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **Joint Comprehensive Plan / Agreement**

The topic was deferred until next month's meeting pending further review.

##### **Memorandum of Understanding with Ligonier Township**

The Memorandum of Understanding is between Ligonier Borough and Ligonier Township to share leaf and wood compost recycling services. The Township will provide space to service vegetative materials from the Borough at the old Rte. 30 storage site owned by the Township. The Borough will allow Township Supervisors to use the leaf composting site near the MAWC's sewage treatment plant along Rte. 30 East. No grass clippings will be permitted except subject to DEP permitting. The township will also utilize the service area along Rte. 30 for the burning of wood and chipping of wood that cannot be done by the Borough.

Public Works Director Paul Fry explained that the reasoning for this came about because DEP does not permit any burning of yard waste at our designated compost site behind the wastewater treatment plant and sent letters to the Borough stating such. After looking at other sites the township was very cooperative and willing to work with the Borough. Fry stated that he has been working with this with the Township and that it is working well.

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve Memorandum of Understanding with the Township. All of Council was in favor.

##### **Designation of Agent Resolution for FEMA**

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Terry Murphy to ratify May 2, 2016 Designation of Agent Paul Fry to execute Winter Storm Jonas on behalf of Westmoreland County. The motion carried with all in favor.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Temporary Sign Permit Application received from Pioneer PCA to hang a vinyl 3'x4' banner on the front porch of the church from May 16, 2016-June 17, 2016 to promote Vacation Bible School.

**A motion** was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the banner for Pioneer PCA. The motion carried unanimously.

Letter received from Amber Noel of Helping Hearts & Healing Tails Animal Rescue asking permission to close North Fairfield Street from West Church Street to Main Street Sunday, August 7, 2016 from 12pm – 5pm to hold a benefit fundraiser at the Ligonier Volunteer Hose Co. #1.

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve Fairfield Street closing Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 12-5. All were in favor.

Request from VFW to detour Diamond traffic during Memorial Day Ceremony on 5/30/16.

**A motion** was made by Robert Helterbran and seconded by Pat Scanlon to approve request to detour traffic around the Diamond on May 30, 2016 and activate the fire police. The motion carried with all in favor.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PARKS & RECREATION**

Chairman Matt Smith reported that the Friendship Park Committee has received their grant from the RK Mellon Foundation in the amount of \$165,000. They are almost to their goal and are working very hard to get all tools & materials ready to go as the build day is fast approaching.

Tree planting April 30, 2016 went very well with approximately 50 volunteers present. Thirty trees were planted within 2 hours.

Thirty new Gator bags were received to water the trees over a period of 3-5 days during drought for the next year. Each bags hold approximately 20 gallons of water.

### **TOWN HALL**

It was reported that the fire inspection at town hall went well.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Chairman, Pat Scanlon reported that the Public Works crew has been finishing up the line painting and trimming trees and vegetation in preparation of seal coating the streets. Scanlon reported that the Public Works crew has also been busy mowing the parks twice a week due to all the rain we have been getting. Monthly service of Borough equipment has also been completed.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY / PERSONNEL**

Chairman Chick Cicconi reported that the Fire Department's internet was updated to Laurel Highlands Telephone at a monthly fee of \$61.95 for television, telephone and internet.

Cicconi reported that radar speed sign has been installed on Walnut Street.

Nothing to report on Personnel Committee.

## **FINANCE**

Terry Murphy reported that the Town Hall Fund is up 6%. Parking income is up from last year. Murphy reported that the Borough may be getting a rebate from Workman's Compensation due to having no pay out from the previous year.

## **PLANNING**

Chairman Robert Helterbran reported that there was no meeting this month. Helterbran asked that any concerns be brought to the committee for review a week prior to the scheduled meeting or they are also welcome to show up at the meeting with concerns and questions.

Helterbran stated that the results of the Comprehensive Plan Questionnaire have been compiled and the committee will comprise a list of approximately 15 of the most critical questions from the 26 returned questionnaires and have to it available hopefully for the next Council meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

N/A

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Marsha Hudock from Walnut Street thanked Council for the radar sign recently installed. Hudock feels the sign has helped somewhat but would like to see a stop sign between Main Street and Vincent Street to help the speeding on the street. Chief Berger stated that a study would need to be done.

## **Voting Polls**

Richard Flickinger provided an update on the combined voting districts for the Borough. Flickinger said that combined voting districts look hopeful for next year.

Flickinger suggested that changes to ordinances could be placed in the Echo as well as the Borough website.

Flickinger commended the Borough for approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough and Township to share leaf and wood compost recycling services and would like to see the two municipalities working together more on other things as well.

Lastly Flickinger thanked the Borough for the recent tree planted in front of his house.

Barbara Glista of Heritage United Methodist Church approached Council for approval of a **Dinner in White** fundraiser for the Church's Community Building Project to be held on the Diamond area including the street around bandstand Saturday, August 20, 2016 7:00 to 11:00 PM. Also requested is to block off traffic to vehicles in order to create a safe, peaceful and elegant atmosphere with assistance requested from the fire police. Placement of tables and chairs will be kept clear for public right of way. Each attendee is responsible for their table, seating, food, beverages, and clean up, leaving no trace. Incorporation of Diamond District food offerings into advance ordering for the dinner. No cash exchanged during the event, all fees will be prepaid. Glista will work with businesses to provide restrooms during the event. Each ticket will act as a contract with the Dinner in White attendee. Ticket contract will specify no alcohol to be permitted in the event area. Candlelight will be limited to candles in containers or flameless as appropriate. Sound system is requested to add to the ambiance of event. There will be no signage, decorations or balloons. Heritage personnel will ensure there is absolutely no trace left by behind by providing extra trash bins and clean-up crew on standby. Glista is asking approval to contact Penn Dot to pursue permit to reroute traffic for the duration of the event as well.

President McDonnell expressed the need for Council to table the topic until next month's meeting to discuss in greater detail.

**COMMENDATIONS and COMMENTS from OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS**

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry stated that he sent an email out to Council that the new LED Street Lights have been installed in the Borough.

Fire Chief Steve Barron spoke about a sign permit issue from a request presented from Ligonier Hose Co. #1 to erect a sign at corner of Mellon Park.

Damian Hart questioned why the Borough is turning it down now. Hart stated the Mayor is in favor of this.

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Robert Helterbran to approve the placement of the sign at Mellon Park between the hedges and the sidewalk from May 13 until June 11, 2016. All of Council was in favor.

EADS Engineer Jake Bolby asked Council if there were any changes to be made on the final design for the Diamond Project to let EADS know within a month.

Mayor Bellas thanked Council for approving the sign for the Fire Department.

President James McDonnell stated that the next meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council will be held Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM.

President McDonnell asked for a brief executive session on litigation @ 8:24 PM.

Council returned from executive session at 8:48 PM. Nothing to report on the executive session for litigation.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Robert Helterbran to adjourn the meeting. All of Council was in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A Fry  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Office Manager