

**January 14, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, January 14, 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, and Terry Murphy.

**Others Present:** Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Fire Chief Steve Barron, and Zoning Officer Rick Schwab.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion** was made by Robert Helterbran and seconded by Pat Scanlon to approve special meeting minutes and regular meeting minutes of December 10, 2015 as presented. All were in favor.

#### **BILLS PAYABLE**

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Robert Helterbran to approve the Bills Payable. All of Council was in favor.

President McDonnell introduced new Fire Chief Steve Barron and Code Enforcement Officer for both Ligonier Borough and Ligonier Township.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. All were in favor.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **Vacancy Board Chairman:**

Solicitor Welty explained that in the event of a vacancy position on Council, Council has 30 days to fill the position. (In the event of a tie, the Mayor will vote to break the tie) Should Council not be able to fill the position the Vacancy Board, comprised of the remaining council members along with a Vacancy Board Chairman, has 15 days to fill the position. The Vacancy Board Chairman, who is a registered elector of the Borough, will vote to break the tie. (The Mayor does not vote in this circumstance.)

**A motion** was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Pat Scanlon to appoint resident Robert Bell to Vacancy Board Chairman. All of Council was in favor.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Request received from the YMCA to hang a 4' x 2' banner in front of the YMCA entry door January 15-22, 2016 to advertise Membership Drive.

**A motion** was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the request from the YMCA. All were in favor.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **PARKS & RECREATION / SHADE TREE**

Chairman Matt Smith reported receiving a digital copy of the report for the Shade Tree. Smith hopes to have an update on Friendship Park project for next month's council meeting. Smith has no updates for Diamond project.

#### **TOWN HALL**

Chair Judy Hoffer reported that the Town Hall's 20 year old ice machine has broken down and is no longer repairable. A quote was received from Eastern Refrigeration in Greensburg for

\$3,340. It is a commercial grade and Eastern Refrigeration will service the machine. The model is a Manitowoc Ice Machine.

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Pat Scanlon to purchase the Ice Machine for Town Hall at a price of \$3,340. All were in favor.

Hoffer also reported on a Town Hall roof valley that is leaking. Town Hall committee is waiting on an estimate as well as appropriate weather to repair.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Chairman of Public Works Committee Pat Scanlon reported that a load of salt was delivered yesterday and that the crew has been out plowing.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY / PERSONNEL**

Chick Cicconi reported that the Public Safety committee had its first meeting recently at the police station with both chief Berger and Mayor Bellas attending.

It was reported that the security monitor is failing and will be replaced with money that has already been budgeted.

The committee discussed the need to have the police vehicle protected from the elements during the winter months. The option of moving the antique fire engine to another storage facility to make space for the police car was discussed. The fire department also wishes to have the fire engine in a heated storage space. The committee is looking for a heated space that would hopefully be donated for the antique fire engine.

Memorial money received for Chief Berger's father James Berger totaled \$1,000. In Jim's memory it is Chief Berger's wish to have the carpet replaced as well as the countertop in the police station.

The Committee walked across the street to visit the firemen and to view the new lounge. Chick Cicconi also reported that the consensus was to continue to Phase Two on the Police Consolidation agreement.

### **FINANCE**

Chairman Terry Murphy presented a budget comparison for 2014-2015.

Letter received from Guyasuta Investments for Town Hall noting that we started with 2.5 million for Town Hall and through 32 years the Town Hall fund has had withdrawals that have equaled to approximately 9 million. Added to current value in the account it totals to approximately 13 million. The Town Hall Fund is doing well.

### **PLANNING**

Nothing to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

N/A

### **PUBIC COMMENT**

Richard Flickinger spoke about the two election polling sites for Ligonier Borough. Flickinger stated that the idea has been brought up about changing to one election polling site for the Borough. A petition would need to be presented to the Board of Elections from Ligonier Borough Council for this to proceed. Flickinger asked Council's thoughts on the matter.

**A motion** was made by Terry Murphy and seconded by Judy Hoffer to pursue at Ligonier Borough Council meeting in February. All were in favor.

Flickinger also asked when the next Planning Committee would be.

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry answered that the meetings were advertised and placed on the website. The next meeting will be in February.

**COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICIERS & DEPARTMENTS**

Eads Engineer Ben Faas reported that the draft storm water ordinance is pending.

Police Chief John Berger thanked the Public Works crew for painting the hallway at the station. Public Works is currently painting Chief Berger's office. Chief Berger is to begin looking for carpet and countertops.

Chief Berger stated that he may soon have to talk about hiring a part-time officer.

Mayor Bellas reported that passing a snow plow truck is against the law. Violators will be ticketed.

President James McDonnell reported receiving 16 replies to the questionnaire. McDonnell hopes for more input from residents regarding the comprehensive plan with Ligonier Township.

President McDonnell thanked everyone for coming and noted that the next meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council will be February 11, 2016 @ 7:00 PM.

**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. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pau A Fry  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Office Manager