

**CONNELLSVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES – DECEMBER 15, 2020**

This regular meeting of the Connellsville City Council was held virtually this evening at 6:00 PM. Attending this meeting was Mayor Lincoln, Council members Keedy, Tzan, Karpiak and Topper. Also attending was City Clerk Ohler and Solicitor Witt.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

**REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**CITY TREASURER’S REPORT:**

**CITY CONTROLLER’S REPORT:**

Councilman Keedy added the financial numbers ended good for the year 2020.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**Resolution No. 12-1-2020:** “To approve the minutes from the November 17, 2020 City Council Meeting.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 12-2-2020:** “To waive the Four-Day Resolution Rule to allow for items submitted after the Four-Day Rule to be read at the meeting tonight, such Resolutions will be marked with an asterisk.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**MAYOR LINCOLN:**

**Police Department Report**

Mayor Lincoln noted the Police Chief Hammerle will have November’s Police Department Report emailed out to Council within a week.

**REMINDERS:**

December 18<sup>th</sup>, Deadline for Christmas Home Decorating Contest. Mayor Lincoln thanked Colebrook Chocolate for the 3 \$25 gift cards for the winners.

Santa Around Town:

December 18<sup>th</sup> from 8 PM – 9 PM, North End

December 19<sup>th</sup> from 7 PM – 9 PM, East Side

December 20<sup>th</sup> from 7 PM – 9 PM, South Side

December 21<sup>st</sup> from 7 PM – 9 PM, West Side

Mayor Lincoln added they will make every attempt to hit every street. He thanked the members of New Haven Hose for all they do.

City Hall will be closed at Noon on December 24<sup>th</sup> and closed December 25<sup>th</sup>

Mayor Lincoln extended his love, thoughts and prayers to Janine Brooks and her family for the loss of her father, Ronnie Rozell. Mayor Lincoln added he was a life-long City resident. He further added he was a good friend to his family and he knew Mr. Rozell his entire life.

**Resolution No. 12-3-2020:** “To appoint Ethan Keedy as City of Connellsville delegate to the Southwest Regional Tax Bureau and Marilyn Weaver alternate, effective immediately; terms to expire January 2022.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 12-4-2020:** “To set the 2021 City Council Meetings for the following dates: January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 21, 2021; meetings will begin at 6:00 PM.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Mayor Lincoln announced Mr. Edwards at the Redevelopment Authority emailed him regarding the DCED notification of an \$8,000 increase in the 2020 CDBG monies because of Greensburg dropping out of the program. He added since the stormwater project on East Crawford Avenue was allocated at \$75,000 which is below what will be needed, they will increase that by \$8,000.

**COUNCILMAN KEEDY:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-5-2020:** “To adopt Bill No. 3 of 2020, Ordinance #1549: An ordinance of the City of Connellsville, County of Fayette and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the salaries payable by the City of Connellsville for the various positions enumerated herein for the fiscal year 2021, and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-6-2020:** "To adopt Bill No. 4 of 2020, Ordinance #1550: An ordinance of the City of Connellsville, County of Fayette and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate and Residence Tax Rate for all City purposes for the fiscal year 2021, and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith."

Councilman Keedy announced there is no tax increase for 2021.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-7-2020:** "To adopt Bill No. 5 of 2020, Ordinance #1551: An ordinance of the City of Connellsville, County of Fayette and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, showing the estimated receipts, expenditures and liabilities of every kind of all the funds for fiscal year 2021 with the balance of unexpended appropriations as the basis for fixing the levy and tax rate for said fiscal year appropriating the various amounts shown as proposed expenditures herein for the expenses of the City for said fiscal year from the revenue available for said fiscal year for the departments, bureaus and specific purposes set forth herein, and the repealing of all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-8-2020:** "To enter into a contract with Unifirst for rugs at City Hall; Cost for one-year (12 months) at a monthly rate of \$97.26; money to be taken from line item 409.250."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Councilman Keedy announced they closed the PNC Accounts. He added closing the account with PNC was one of the hardest things he has had to do. He noted he called corporate and expressed his frustrations with having to close the account with all the charges. Councilman Keedy stated it is closed the City doesn't have to worry about the charges anymore.

**COUNCILMAN KARPIAK:**

Public Works Report

Councilman Karpiak stated the Public Works is finished collecting leaves for the year and it now has a spreader and plow on it. He expressed that he wants residents to park on the even side of the road on even days and the odd side of the street on odd numbered days. Councilman Karpiak noted this will help the plows get through the tight roads on places like the south side and west side.

Councilman Karpiak added they are working with South Connellsville and Connellsville Township to clear the roads.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-9-2020:** "To adopt Bill No. 6 of 2020, Ordinance #1552: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CONNELLSVILLE FURTHER AMENDING AND RESTATING ORDINANCE NO. 999, ENACTED JULY 10, 1967; ORDINANCE NO. 1110, ENACTED NOVEMBER 12, 1974; ORDINANCE NO. 1214, ENACTED DECEMBER 28, 1981; ORDINANCE NO. 1247, ENACTED OCTOBER 11, 1985; ORDINANCE NO. 1457, ENACTED FEBRUARY 13, 2007; AND ORDINANCE NO. 500, ENACTED JULY 18, 2013; THE CITY'S STREET CUTTING AND DIGGING ORDINANCES; EXEMPTING ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS FROM THE REQUIREMENT OF OBTAINING A PERMIT TO DIG OR EXCAVATE CITY SIDEWALKS AND GRASSPLOTS AND INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS."

Mayor Lincoln thanked City Clerk Ohler for getting this done. He noted that now the City's streets will have to be fixed curb to curb and look nice.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Councilman Karpiak wished everyone a Merry Christmas and happy New Years.

Mayor Lincoln announced the Polar Bear Plunge is canceled this year.

Mayor Lincoln also announced he shared the "Snow Plow" routes and it is on the City's Page as well. He added "Anywhere you go you will only have to go a short distance to get on a clear road."

**COUNCILWOMAN TZAN:**

Councilwoman Tzan wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**COUNCILMAN TOPPER:**

Health/Code Officer's Report  
New Haven Hose Report

Councilman Topper stated the property at the corner of Prospect and Wills Road is now torn down and began tearing down the property on North Pittsburgh Street. He added he is happy to get this next one torn down and it is an eye sore.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-10-2020:** “To forward the Board of Health’s Order to abate the public nuisance known as 436 East Crawford Avenue, Parcel ID 05-09-0183 by demolishing the structure and to forward this order to the Connellsville Redevelopment Authority to execute said order.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Councilman Topper and Code Officer Tom Currey for working on this, noting he understands they went through.

Councilman Topper wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilman Topper reminded residents it is the property owners’ responsibility to clear the sidewalks in front of your property.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Councilman Keedy for coming up with the toy drive. He also thanked New Haven Hose and Fayette EMS and the Police Department and CSX Foundation. He further noted it was a huge success for Community Ministries.

Mayor Lincoln wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-11-2020:** “That this meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Karpiak, Tzan and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.