

**Connellsville City Council
Minutes
March 18, 2014**

This regular meeting of the Connellsville City Council was held this evening at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, Connellsville, PA. Attending this meeting was Mayor Lincoln, Council members Karpiak, Zolbrod, Geyer and Ritch. Also attending this meeting was Solicitor Witt. Absent was City Clerk Tesauro.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Geyer asked that each remember Ralph Wombacker and his family
Pastor Don Smith led invocation

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

David Ferguson, Advan Outdoor Media, appeal Sign Ordinance and requested Council approve his application.

Karpiak asked how many signs will be on the billboard and how high above code it will be.

Ferguson answered 4 faces on the billboard and 30-32 feet above and 24 feet wide.

Karpiak questioned how far from the bridge it will be and if it is lighted.

Ferguson answered 25 feet setback from the State right of way and it is lighted.

Zolbrod asked if the base is close to any homes.

Ferguson answered no.

Mayor Lincoln asked if he has a lease in place and once it is built, what happens if he stops paying on the lease. Lincoln also questioned if Wilderness Voyagers will take it over.

Ferguson stated there is a lease in place and Wilderness will take it over if the lease is broken.

Lincoln questioned what would happen if Wilderness does not want to take it over.

Ferguson replied the billboard would then be taken down. He noted they are bolted together units with a pole concreted into the ground which is 5 feet diameter. He then explained a crane would be brought it, all four pieces would be unbolted and placed on the crane and the pole cut and the hole filled in.

Karpiak questioned Tom Currey, Code Officer, as to how many signs is the City over what they are legally allowed to have.

Currey answered nine.

Karpiak stated his concerns are the hotel that possibly will happen where Ferguson wants to put the sign and how bright the billboard would be. He noted one of the things attractive to that area is the visibility.

Ferguson stated the lighting will be skirted from the bottom and shields from the sides so it will not distract drivers.

Geyer questioned if the billboard meets Penn DOT specifications.

Ferguson answered yes.

Jim Gebicki, Advanced Disposal, Requested Council approve a rate increase in garbage bills to cover Fuel Tax that began in January. Gebicki stated it is a 2.3% across the board increase which is 28 cents a year per customer or 7 cents per quarter.

Geyer stated there has been customer feedback of being disappointed in the service they are getting. He noted he would have a difficult time approving a rate increase when there are other items in their contract that has not been lived up to as well. Geyer also stated the public has not been informed as to when their recycling will be picked up.

Karpiak stated the City only gets notified of rate increases does not get rate decreases.
Zolbrod stated they are asking the City for \$924.00 for the year. He added that he agrees with Geyer, when people are not satisfied with the service, why pay more money.
Ritch questioned if the contract was up this year.
Tom Currey answered yes.

Lucy King, Downtown Connellsville update and bike lanes

Melissa Tzan, Recreation Board updates. Stated she is in favor of the curfew, not the billboard

Judy Keller, Litter problem must be solved and "Don't trash my turf"

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 3-4-2014: "To approve the minutes from the February 18, 2014 City Council Meeting."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-5-2014: "To approve the minutes from the March 4, 2014 City Council Meeting."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-6-2014: "To approve the minutes from the March 6, 2014 City Council Meeting."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-7-2014: "To waive the 4-day Resolution Rule to allow for items submitted after the 4-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 Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Connellsville Patriots Auction, May 8, 2014

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Police Department Report

Resolution No. 3-11-2014: "Introducing proposed Bill No. 1, Ordinance No. 1506, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A CURFEW FOR MINORS DURING NIGHT AND SCHOOL HOURS; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES; ESTABLISHING UNLAWFUL CONDUCT OF MINORS, PARENTS, AND ESTABLISHMENT OPERATORS; DEFINING EXCEPTIONS TO UNLAWFUL CONDUCT; ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT."

Lincoln explained they are lowering the times children under 18 are allowed to be on the streets. Solicitor Witt stated parents can be cited for allowing their children to violate the ordinance.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-8-2014: "To reappoint Jami Cross to the Zoning Hearing Board; term to expire the first Monday of 2019."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-9-2014: "To approve and enter into that certain First Amendment to the current Police Officers' Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, a copy of which First Amendment is attached hereto as Exhibit A, in order to permit the City to pay uniform allowances and sick leave buy back on or before May 1 of each year."

Lincoln explained this is to allow the City more time to have the money to pay for the uniform allowance to the Police Department.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-10-2014: "To permit James Stevenson, Indiana University of Pennsylvania Police Academy Student, to perform his Law Enforcement internship with the Connellsville Police Department on March 28 and 29, 2014 and April 4 and 5, 2014."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

REMINDER:

March 22nd, The Ice Mine, Professional Hockey, 7:00 PM, 724-626-4423

March 24th, Board of Health, 6:45 PM

April 1st, Highlands Hospital Autism Day, 724-628-1500

April 4th, River's Casino Fundraiser for RDH 12, Contact Phyllis and Ted Kovall at 724-628-6078

April 4, 5 and 6, Connellsville Jr. High School, Peter Pan Jr., 7 PM on Friday and Saturday & 2 PM Sunday. Tickets on sale Tuesday and Wednesday from 3 PM to 5 PM and Saturday from 9 AM to 12 noon at the Jr. High Auditorium. All seats are \$7. Cash only.

Crime Watch, April 9th

April 12th, Clean-up Connellsville Day, 10 AM – 2 PM

April 26th, Wesley United Methodist Church's "all you can eat" Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner, Adults \$7 – Children 12 and under \$3, 4 PM – 7 PM, take-outs and curbside available
CAHS Patriots, Annual Auction, May 8th, For information call 724-322-1494

Please email Shelley your events at connellsvillesecretary@gmail.com or contact her at 724-628-2020 ext. 201

Lincoln stated Ralph Wombacker, who passed away, helped develop Woodruff Park, Mountz Creek, Yough Park and seeking money for the bike trail. Lincoln stated he helped with the Senior Center.

GEYER:

Geyer noted many projects that Ralph Wombacker had been involved in as Redevelopment Authority Director and was responsible for. He stated how he could be called upon to answer questions at any time.

Resolution No. 3-12-2014: "To accept the bid of McClure and Wolf, LLP for the annual audit for the City of Connellsville for the fiscal year(s) 2013, 2014 and 2015."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Karpiak thanked Steven Patchen for all the work that he has done on the Bicycle Plan.

Resolution No. 3-13-2014: "To adopt and approve the Connellsville Bicycle Master Plan as prepared by Steven Patchen; contingent upon funding and subject to amendment by the Connellsville City Council."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-14-2014: "To advertise for the hiring of two summer workers for the Public Works Department at a rate of \$7.50 per hour for a maximum of 35 hours per week for a maximum of twelve weeks, such cost to be taken from line item 01430-145."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

RITCH:

Resolution No. 3-15-2014: "To open bids received for the rental of the concession stand at Yough Park; the City reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Bids were opened as follows:

Stephen Bigham, \$350 per month from May through October 14th
White Night Management, \$175 per month
Jeff Bisher, \$500 per month from May through October
James Allen Moore, \$150 per month from May through September
Bart Yeagla, Sr., \$210 per month

Resolution No. 3-16-2014: "To table the bid of all for the rental of the concession stand at Yough Park."

Ritch stated he would like for the bids to be turned over to Melissa Tzan, President of the Recreation Board. He stated he will go over the bids with Tzan and Tom Currey. Ritch stated a decision will be ready for April's Council Meeting.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Ritch discussed the following:
Recreation Board Summer Program
Wrestling Program at the Community Center
Blood drive at the Community Center every 56 days
Easter Egg Hunt at the Community Center

ZOLBROD:

Fire Department Report

Lincoln stated Saturday was their annual Firemen's Banquet and Sam Spotto got the Most Calls Award, Dave Waggett got the Chief's Award and Jeff Layton got the President's Award.

Health Department Report

Zolbrod thanked Tom Currey for the work he does, noting how knowledgeable he is writing ordinances and answering questions. He stated the City is lucky to have Currey.

Zolbrod stated Clean-up Day is April 12th and more teams are needed to help.

New Haven Hose Report

Zolbrod thanked Dr. Dale Cadwallader for the 20 years he has served on the Board of Health.

Resolution No. 3-18-2014: "To reappoint Dr. Dale Cadwallader to the Connellsville Board of Health; term to expire April 1, 2019."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-19-2014: "To introduce Bill No. 2, Ordinance No. 1507 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 996, ENACTED FEBRUARY 27, 1967, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 1211, SECTIONS ENACTED APRIL 13, 1981; AND PROVIDING FOR THE REMOVAL AND DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS AND AMENDING THE AMOUNT OF THE DEMOLITION BOND."

Currey explained the ordinance.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Resolution No. 3-20-2014: "To approve and enter into that certain Second Amendment to that certain Solid Waste Collection, Removal, and Disposal Agreement with Advanced Disposal, a copy of which is attached here to as Exhibit A, in order to permit Advanced Disposal to increase current collection prices by 0.23% and to require Advanced Disposal to send out and distribute with the last bill of any calendar year the recycling mailing for the following calendar year."

Motion died due to lack of second.

RITCH:

Resolution No. 3-17-2014: "To give permission to the Connellsville Recreation Board to file for an application of a Special Occasion Permits(s) for the following dates: June 21, 2014, September 13, 2014 and October 2, 2014."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

CITY TREASURER KELLER'S REPORT:

CITY CONTROLLER BROOKS REPORT:

Resolution No. 3-21-2014: "That this meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.