

Connellsville City Council
MINUTES
February 18, 2020

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE: Rev. Matt Goldsberry lead prayer and asked for a moment of silence to remember William Stewart, III who lost his life this day.

Mayor Lincoln asked Rev. Matt Goldsberry to discuss the Basketball Program that Calvary Assembly of God Church has going on. He also stated maybe City Council can play a game against them.

Rev. Goldsberry stated for the past three years, Calvary has opened their gym on Thursdays to 20 to 40 teenagers aged 12 years and up to play basketball. He added they provide food to the kids. Goldsberry stated they provide a safe place for the kids and talk with them about life issues. He added they begin at 6 PM until 8 PM–8:30 PM. He also suggested a fundraiser for the church to raise money for new basketball equipment is to have Council come.

Mayor Lincoln added if anyone would like to sponsor a night, donate food or make a financial donation, please contact Rev. Goldsberry at Calvary Assembly of God at 724-628-8835 or through Facebook. He added maybe New Haven or the Police Department can get involved.

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS: No visitors/public comments

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented by City Treasurer Marilyn Weaver

Weaver stated the taxes will be going out at the end of the money and they are in good shape and ready to go. She also stated they have only collected about 1/3 of the Business License fees and her office will remind business owners to pay their fee to avoid the penalty.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Shanea and Shelley for creating an informational sheet for the citizens that has a lot of information they need on the City. He also requested residents take it out of their taxes and hang them up because of the information they will need that is on it.

CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT: Presented by City Controller Bruce Witt

CORRESPONDENCE:

Connellsville Area Garden Club, 2020 Geranium Festival Request

Resolution No. 2-1-2020: "To grant permission to the Connellsville Area Garden Club to hold their annual Geranium Festival on Saturday, May 23, 2020 from 9 AM until 3 PM; further authorizing the closure of West Crawford Avenue from Arch Streets to Pittsburgh Streets on Saturday, May 23, 2020 from 7 AM until 5 PM; pending review and approval of Police Chief, Fire Chief and Penn DOT."

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

New Haven Hose Volunteer Fire Department, Neon Nights 5K Request

Resolution No. 2-2-2020: "To close the following streets on May 16, 2020 for New Haven Hose Company's Neon Nights 5K Race starting at 8:30 PM: Beginning at South Seventh Street, right onto West Crawford Avenue, right onto South Arch Street, left onto West Green Street and continue onto East Green Street, right onto Sycamore Street, right onto Davidson Avenue, right onto Race Street, left onto West Green Street, right onto South Arch Street, left onto West Crawford Avenue and left onto South Seventh Street to finish; Pending review and approval of Police Chief and Fire Chief."

Mayor Lincoln added this is a fundraiser for New Haven and turned into a very nice event with everyone welcome. He added there is music, people dress up, give out glow sticks and food for the race participants. He asked the residents to come out and be part of it.

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

Tom McFadden, Connellsville Veteran's Commission, Memorial Day Parade, May 25, 2020

Resolution No. 2-3-2020: "To close West Crawford Avenue and side streets as needed, East Crawford Avenue to North Pittsburgh Street to the Memorial on May 25, 2020 for the Memorial Day Parade; Pending review and approval of Police and Fire Chiefs and PennDOT."

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

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 2-4-2020: "To approve the minutes from the January 21, 2020 City Council Meeting."

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

Resolution No. 2-5-2020: "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 and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Mayor Lincoln stated the Police Chief absent from the meeting due to a tragic incident that happened earlier in the day. He added the Chief will be escorting the juvenile back to the City. Mayor Lincoln stated he and City Council extend their thoughts and prayers to William Stewarts family and friends. He asked the residents to allow the family to mourn in peace now. He also added the Police Department did an excellent job today, thanking them, and he is glad the juvenile is safe. Mayor Lincoln stated that the Police Department has had a few drug busts and have been working hard to keep the drugs off of the City streets. He thanked them and added there was all hands-on deck today.

Police Department Report

Resolution No. 2-6-2020: "To introduce Bill No. 1 of 2020, "AN ORDINANCE OF CONNELLSVILLE CITY, FAYETTE COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ELECTING TO AMEND ITS NON-UNIFORM PENSION PLAN ADMINISTERED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT LAW; AGREEING TO BE BOUND BY ALL PROVISIONS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT LAW AS AMENDED AND AS APPLICABLE TO MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES. IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY CONNELLSVILLE CITY, FAYETTE COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS."

City Clerk Ohler stated every six to eight years the City is required to redo the ordinance, noting it will stay the same.

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

Resolution No. 2-7-2020: "Resolution of the City Council of the City of Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Whereas, Section 5 of the Act of January 24, 1966, L.L. 1535, No. 537, known as the "Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act", as Amended, and the rules and Regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (Department) adopted thereunder, Chapter 71 of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania Code, require the municipality to adopt an Official Sewage Facilities Plan providing for sewage services adequate for prevent contamination of waters of the Commonwealth and/or environmental health hazards for sewage wastes, and to revise said plan whenever it is necessary to determine whether a proposed method of sewage disposal for a new land development conforms to a comprehensive program of pollution control and water quality management;"

Tom Currey added the Municipal Authority approved it and PA Water Company approved it and attached letters for you in the packet. He further added this is a hoop the DEP is making them go through.

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

Resolution No. 2-8-2020: "To appoint Ryan J Layton as Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Connellsville."

Mayor Lincoln added Ryan is a Police Officer for Scottdale and could not get off work this evening. He also thanked Jeff Layton for all of his years of service at Emergency Management Coordinator, noting he trained him well.

Councilman Karpiak added this position is not a "do nothing" job and thanked Jeff Layton for all he has done for the City as coordinator.

Jeff Layton added everyone works together, making a good team and getting things done.

Councilman Karpiak added the flood was not a good time, but he does have fond memories of everyone working together.

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

Resolution No. 2-9-2020: "To accept the resignation of Steve Cooper from the Police Civil Service Board effective immediately."

Mayor Lincoln thanked Mr. Cooper and wished him well.

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

Resolution No. 2-10-2020: "To appoint Michael Parlak, Sr. to the Police Civil Service Board; term to expire January 2025."

Mayor Lincoln thanked Mike Parlak for stepping up and filling this position.

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

REMINDERS:

February 21st, Brookes Block Party, BYOB, 6 PM – 9 PM

February 22nd, Heart to Hope Telethon, Sr. High School, 2 PM – 10 PM, he added there will be watch parties all over the City. He stated Community Ministries goal is \$30,000.

February 29th, 6 PM – 9 PM. Wine and Dinner at the Connellsville Canteen featuring Singer/Songwriter Mark Ferrari. \$45.00 - Includes two beverage tickets, Hors d'oeuvres, three course dinner and coffee bar. RSVP by calling the Connellsville Canteen at 724-603-2093. Payment must be received before show

March 7th at 7:30 PM and March 8th at 2 PM, Conn-Area Catholic School presents Alice In Wonderland, Porter Theatre, Free – requesting non-perishable items

March 7th, Carnegie Library, 10 AM – 3 PM, Fill a bag of books for \$7 and \$12

Mayor Lincoln stated tomorrow night at the Carnegie Library is the Grand Opening of their new Media Center with John Malone, Kevin Ghost and Armstrong Cable there. He added it looks great with the wall of TV's and if needed during a major emergency a live broadcast could be done there to get information out to the residents.

Mayor Lincoln then announced February 27th at 7 PM and March 1st at 5 PM is the high school's musical program the Little Mermaid.

March 7th, Simply Soup Walk, \$10, 11 AM – 2 PM, visit "Downtown Connellsville" on Facebook for information

Mayor Lincoln then announced the middle school will have a play, Frozen Junior, March 13th, 14th and 15th at 7 PM, 7 PM and 2 PM.

Mayor Lincoln added February 29th is the high school's 50th Musical Celebration, Sparks Catering is doing a "sit down" dinner.

March 11th, Career Expo, Murphy Hall at 10 AM

KEEDY:

Resolution No. 2-11-2020: "To enter into a Lease Agreement with Pitney Bowes for a new postage machine; term of lease will be \$151.73 a month for 60 months."

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

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Resolution No. 2-12-2020: "To permit Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to use West Cedar Avenue and West Woodlawn Avenue as part of the detour route for their South Arch Street Project; PennDOT to repair said streets if damaged by this detour; Further authorizing City Clerk Ohler to sign off on the City of Connellsville's approval to use this route."

City Clerk Ohler stated this is the detour for the Arch Street Bridge.

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

Councilman Karpiak thanked everyone involved in the musicals over the past 50 years. He added they may or may not realize how much they help those students.

TZAN:

Resolution No. 2-13-2020: "To appoint Jason Bandomere to the Connellsville Recreation Board; term to expire the first Monday in January 2023."

Mayor Lincoln added Jason will be doing his summer camp this year. He added once he has the information, he will pass it on.

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

TOPPER:

Health/Code Officer Report

New Haven Hose Report

Councilman Topper stated they have been in contact with the Fayette County Department of Health and there is a protocol in place if the new virus would come into our area.

Tom Currey added the State Department of Health and/or the CDC websites are two great places to get information on this. He added people are welcome to contact him as well.

Councilman Topper asked residents to support New Haven Hose as they are the only fire department.

Mayor Lincoln stated March 5th Municipal Authority will be starting their project on Arch Street and it is a 15-month project.

Resolution No. 2-14-2020: "That this meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn."

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