

**Connellsville City Council
Minutes
MAY 20, 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 and Ritch. Also attending this meeting was City Clerk Tesauro and Solicitor Witt. Absent was Councilman Geyer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Invocation was given by Rev. Hough

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Peter Jandura – Drug use in the City, more police presence, rental properties and tenant problems, thanked Tuffy Shallenberger for his investment in the City

Tom Currey – Pet Snippets, USDA Rural Development, Vacant Property Ordinance, loan and grants for home repairs, discussion of Land Bank. Mayor Lincoln discussed out of town landlords and that certain ones are not keeping up with their properties. Council discussed vacant buildings and Land Bank in length.

Melissa Tzan – Asked for the Vacant Building Ordinance to be passed and Recreation Board events

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 5-1-2014: “To approve the minutes from the April 15, 2014 City Council Meeting.”

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

Resolution No. 5-2-2014: “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 Zolbrod, Ritch, Karpiak and Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ladies Auxiliary Veterans of Foreign Wars, Buddy Poppy Drive May 22, 23 and 24, 2014

Resolution No. 5-3-2014: “To grant permission to the Ladies Auxiliary Veterans of Foreign Wars to hold their annual Buddy Poppy Drive on May 22, 23 and 24, 2014.”

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

Highlands Hospital, Bud Murphy Race for Autism, June 19, 2014

Resolution No. 5-4-2014: "To close certain City streets on June 19, 2014 for the annual Bud Murphy Race for Autism; pending review and approval of Police Chief."

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

Elks Lodge #503, Barbeque Party, June 14, 2014

Resolution No. 5-5-2014: "To close North Carnegie Avenue on June 14, 2014 at 9:00 AM until June 15, 2014 at 9:00 AM for the Elks Lodge #503 for their annual outside barbeque party."

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

John Woodruff Club, John Woodruff 5K Run and Walk on July 9, 2014

Resolution No. 5-6-2014: "To close certain City streets on July 9, 2014 for the annual John Woodruff Race; pending review and approval of Police Chief; further authorizing Police and Fire Departments to assist in traffic control."

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

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Mayor Lincoln stated there had been three Curfew Ordinance arrests

Police Department Report

Mayor Lincoln asked that everyone obey the crosswalks in the City and to look out for the police to be on "beat patrol" this summer

Resolution No. 5-7-2014: "To approve Alyssa Miller of Connellsville, A criminal justice student from California University of Pennsylvania for a 120 hour internship with the Police Department beginning on May 26, 2014."

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

Mayor Lincoln stated they are opening the City Clerk position and accepting applications until June 4, 2014 and hopefully hiring a City Clerk at the June 12, 2014 City Council Meeting.

Resolution No. 5-8-2014: "To advertise to accept applications for the position of City Clerk. Applications will be accepted until June 4, 2014 at 4 PM."

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

Resolution No. 5-9-2014: "To reschedule the next Connellsville City Council Meeting for Thursday, June 12, 2014 at 5:00 PM in City Council Chambers."

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

REMINDERS:

Geranium Festival, May 24th from 9 AM until 4 PM

Golden Reunion, May 25th, East Park from noon till 3 PM, call 724-320-6392 for information

Offices at City Hall will be closed on May 26th in observance of Memorial Day

Strawberry Social at Trinity Lutheran Church, May 31st from noon till 6 PM, call 724-628-7920 for information

Fayette County Hard to Recycle Drop Off Event at Fayette County Fairgrounds is May 31st from 9:00 AM till 2:00 PM. For information call 724-430-4884

Conn-Area Catholic's Golf Outing, June 1st, call 724-437-7888 for information

Wii Dance Party, Carnegie Free Library, June 2nd from 4 PM till 5 PM (over age 13)

Lion's Club's Kid Fest at Murphy Hall, June 9th from 5 PM till 9 PM

Adult Reading Program, Carnegie Library, Saturdays, June 14th & 28th, July 12th & 26th, August 9th & 23rd, 12 PM -1 PM

Teen Reading Program, Carnegie Library, Tuesdays, June 17th, August 5th, 11 AM till 12 PM

Teen Survivor, Carnegie Library, Fridays, June 20th, August 8th, 2 PM till 4 PM, 724-628-1380

Lion's Square Concert, June 21st, the band "Moose" will be playing

Art on the Yough, June 28th and 29th, for information see fayettetrust.org

June 9th at Cats Court lantern release

Braddock's Crossing is the date and time as Art on the Yough

Volleyball tournament at Cat's Court

June 9th is 1st Year Anniversary of Cat's Court

GEYER: (Read by Mayor Lincoln)

Resolution No. 5-10-2014: "To hire Linda Goodlin as a full-time Clerk in the Tax Office beginning August 1, 2014; salary and benefits to be determined by the current labor contract."

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

Resolution No. 5-11-2014: "To hire Rebecca Staub as a seasonal Clerk in the Tax Office beginning August 1, 2014; compensation will be \$7.50 an hour, not to exceed a total of \$3,600.00 for the current budget year."

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

Resolution No. 5-12-2014: "To authorize an expenditure of \$202.50 for an orientation and training period for the new hire in the Tax Office. This will reflect \$7.50 an hour for a total of three hours a day from July 21, 2014 through July 31, 2014; money to be taken from the Miscellaneous Contingency line item."

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

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Karpiak discussed storm inlet repairs and maintenance, flood prevention, York Avenue Bridge will be restricted to one lane, West Penn Power Luncheon, and LED Lights throughout the City could save 75% on the electric bill and discussed Smart Meters

RITCH:

Resolution: "To place an invitation for bids for the sale of City owned property located on York Avenue, Parcel ID #05-03-0100 and Parcel ID #05-03-0101; to be sold as one lot, and direct the City Clerk to advertise these parcels for bid. Bids are to be received no later than Monday, June 9, 2014 at 4:00 PM and to be opened on June 12, 2014 at 5:00 PM at City Hall during the regular City Council Meeting."

Karpiak suggested holding off on the sale until they do something with the bridge that is located beside that lot.

Resolution was tabled: Affirmative were Councilmen Karpiak, Geyer, Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of votes being affirmative, the resolution was tabled.

Resolution No. 5-13-2014: "To approve the Light Up The Sky Event at Cats Courts on June 9, 2014 at 8:00 PM; event to benefit the Care for Cat Fund."

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

Resolution No. 5-14-2014: "To transfer \$6,000.00 from line item #01380-380.013, Pavilion Rentals, into line item #01430-145, Seasonal Employees."

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

Resolution No. 5-15-2014: "To transfer \$3,000.00 from The Parking Lot Fund into line item #01430-145, Seasonal Employees."

Ritch stated the City is hoping to hire five employees noting one will be working on the parking lots and parks and one in City Hall. He added there is a course of action to replenish the \$3,000.00. Ritch stated they will be going around to the parking meters and emptying them again.

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

Ritch stated the work duties of the summer employees will be trimming the parks, City owned and Health Department properties, police station, City Hall, pavilion rentals, parking lots and other routine Public Works maintenance under the direction of the Public Works Supervisor Vernon Ohler.

Resolution No. 5-16-2014: "To hire Kyle Karwatsky and Shane Beneke as 12 week employees for the Public Works Department beginning May 21, 2014; salary will be \$7.50 per hour and 35 hours per week."

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

Resolution No. 5-17-2014: "To hire Ryan Huey, Michael Parlak and Justin Peperak as 10 week employees for the Public Works Department beginning June 9, 2014; salary will be \$7.50 per hour and 35 hours per week."

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

Ritch stated with the transferring of funds there is still \$2,325.00 and the City is looking at applying that to a part-time janitor they hope to hire in September to clean City Hall.

Community Center events

ZOLBROD:

Fire Department Report
Health/Code Officer Report
New Haven Hose Report

Mayor Lincoln stated New Haven Hose will be sending out their fundraising letters and asked the public to give if they can.

Resolution: "To introduce Bill No. 3, Ordinance No. 1508, An Ordinance of the City of Connellsville to require the registration of vacant or abandoned structures and to govern the conditions and maintenance; by providing the standards for supplied utilities and facilities and

other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for use.”

Karpiak stated there is a clause in this ordinance that makes it unsafe and that is by leaving the power on vacant structures. He stated he has no problem if the power of the abandon structure was off. Karpiak stated many times buildings catch fire because power is on. He added if the water freezes then the pipes will bust. He also stated he would like the 10% out of the ordinance. Karpiak questioned why he didn't get drafts of the ordinance.

Currey answered that the idea of the electric being on is to utilize the building. He explained the 10% in the ordinance and noted the wording can be changed in the ordinance.

Karpiak stated he does not agree with the ordinance noting you cannot get insurance on vacant structures and if you do it costs a lot of money. He also stated that by making owners keep the electric on we are making them violate the rules. Karpiak stated he wants that taken out.

Resolution was tabled: Affirmative were Zolbrod, Geyer, Karpiak and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was tabled.

CITY TREASURER KELLER'S REPORT:

Keller requested City Council amend the Per Capita Tax Ordinance

Collection amounts

CITY CONTROLLER BROOKS REPORT:

Resolution No. 5-18-2014: “That this meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn.”

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