

**Connellsville City Council
Minutes
September 20, 2016**

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, Tzan, Karpiak and McIntire. Also attending was City Clerk Ohler and Solicitor Witt.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE: Pastor Don Smith

Reminder of the procedures for public participation during City Council meetings.

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Shirley Rosenberger and Ann Nicholson, Harvest Moon Arts and Crafts Festival

Linda Shearer, CAHS Patriots activities

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT: Absent

CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT:

CORRESPONDENCE:

Susan Joy Lewis, Beautification project

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 9-1-2016: "To approve the minutes from the August 16, 2016, City Council Meeting."

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

Resolution No. 9-2-2016: "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 Councilmembers Tzan, Karpiak, McIntire and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Police Department Report

Chief Hammerle stated there are less calls at the City parks since they have been enforcing regulations.

Mayor Lincoln thanked the Police Department for the "fantastic" job during the flood.

Chief Hammerle complimented Tuffy Shallenberger for putting in lights at the North End during the flood. He added the lights helped with night patrols. Chief Hammerle thanked the Auxiliary Police for their assistance, noting they did a great job at keeping people out of the North End.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Graft Oil for donating the fuel used in the North End.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Resolution No. 9-3-2016: "TO ADOPT BILL NO. 2 OF 2016, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CONNELLSVILLE, FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING THE CITY OF CONNELLSVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE III, ADDITIONAL REQUIRMENTS, BY ADDING §3-107, WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, ARTICLE III, ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS, §3-100(B)(7) ARTICLE VI, USES BY SPECIAL EXCEPTION, §6-107 AND ARTICLE XI, BY REVISING AND ADDING DEFINITIONS."

Mayor Lincoln announced there was a Special Meeting at 5 PM "this evening" to gain more information of this ordinance. He noted it will give the City more power if one were to be constructed inside the City limits.

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

Resolution No. 9-4-2016: "To close Pittsburgh Street from Green Street to Crawford Avenue; Crawford Avenue from Pittsburgh Street to Seventh Street on October 25, 2016 for the annual Halloween Parade; pending review and approval of Police Chief and Fire Chief."

Mayor Lincoln thanked New Haven Hose for putting this parade on each year.

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

Tape #1 cut out.

Resolution No. 9-5-2016: "To promote William Jacen Huss to Captain effective October 1, 2016."

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

Resolution No. 9-6-2016: "To hire Jacob Cavanaugh as a patrolman for the Connellsville Police Department, with a start date of October 1, 2016. Wages to be taken out of line item 410.142 and be adjusted to as stated in the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Connellsville and the Connellsville Police Officers' Association."

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

Tape #2 began.

Chief Hammerle stated Detective Jaynes did a background check on three (3) candidates and his recommendation is to hire Jacob Cavanaugh. He noted the department has worked with him when they have assisted South Connellsville or South Connellsville has assisted the City. Chief Hammerle added that Cavanaugh currently resides in the City of Connellsville.

Mayor Lincoln congratulated Jacob Cavanaugh and stated he will be at the next City Council Meeting.

Councilman Karpiak questioned if Cavanaugh will resign from South Connellsville and Mt. Pleasant Borough.

Chief Hammerle answered yes.

Resolution No. 9-7-2016: "To authorize and direct the completion of the Letter of Intent and Pre-Application, along with all other necessary applications for entry into the PEMA Hazard Mitigation Program for all structures affected by recent flooding within the City limits and located within a regulated flood zone, as identified by Program criteria; and to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute all documents necessary to apply for, enter into, or administer the PEMA Hazard Mitigation Program."

Mayor Lincoln stated the City was just made aware of this and "it would have been better to know this three weeks ago". He announced this is a buy-out program that homes in the flood plain affected by this flood will have an option of entering into this voluntarily. They will have their own assessment/appraisal and offered a fair property market value of their homes. Mayor Lincoln stated this has to be passed this evening because the deadline is October 8, 2016. He stated he feels it is positive because he wants to see the homeowners taken care of. Mayor Lincoln stated "they are going to declare Fayette County a disaster area and we did qualify for the Small Business Administration Low Interest Loans." He stated it will start on Thursday at the Fayette EMS Building by sitting down with one of the administrators and begin the process. Mayor Lincoln added there will be a meeting on Monday at the library at 6:30 PM about this with the head of PEMA. He stated they are going to try and contact all the homeowner in the flood plain. Mayor Lincoln stated allocating the money should start very soon. He said someone will meet with each flood victim and present their needs to the committee. He further added that homes will not be demolished until this process plays out. Mayor Lincoln added "if you demolish your home before this process, you are excluded from this program". Lincoln explained this is why the City is not giving out supplies at this time, noting it is not fair to 84 Lumber or the City to use supplies on a home that will be demolished.

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

REMINDERS:

September 23rd, Hillbilly Way at the Elks from 8 PM – 11 PM, Tickets \$10. Benefits flood victims. Call Elks for information at 724-628-3560

September 23rd, Senior Expo with Sen. Stefano and Rep. Warner at the Fayette Co. Fairgrounds, Fiddler's Buildings, 10 AM - Noon

September 26th – 30th, Bob Evans will be donating 15% of sales to the Flood Relief. Visit New Stanton, Uniontown, Greensburg and Morgantown

September 27th and 28th – Recycling Days

October is Domestic Violence Month

October 1, 2016, Tangled Up In Brew, Yough Park, tickets available at City Hall, \$15 presale, \$20 day of event

October 3rd and 7th from 1 PM – 5 PM at the Community Center, a bag full of clothes for \$2. Flood victims shop free with proof of address. Other dates are October 8th from 8 AM – Noon,

October 10th and 11th from 1 PM – 5 PM

October 8th, Fall Clean Up, place items at curbside the evening before. No Hard To Recycle Items will be picked up

October 10th from 10 AM – 3 PM at the Hospital Lobby, Purchase gifts for home and office from Pink Zebra. Call 724-628-3639

October 11th and 12th & October 25th and 26th – Recycling Days

October 15th, Doctor Who Club at the Carnegie Library, 3 PM – 4 PM

November 5th, Downtown ChiliFest, 11 AM – 2 PM

October 15th, Conn Area Catholic School will host a concert with the Country Band, Stickers. Tickets are \$25 and held in their Social Hall. Contact Conn Area for more information.

KEEDY:

Resolution No. 9-8-2016: "To schedule the Budget Meetings for the following dates: October 19th and 26th, 2016 and November 2nd, 9th and 10th, if needed, at 6 PM in City Council Chambers, City Hall. "

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

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Councilman Karpiak thanked the Street Department for their hard work during the flood, noting they each got a lot done individually. He also thanked the volunteers. Councilman Karpiak stated the Street Department Personnel put in long hours and prioritized and did a great job.

Leaf Pick up Schedule – Councilman Karpiak noted this is on the City's website. He added this is one of the better recycling programs the City has and people really participate in it – reminding them to put the leaves in the street, not their yard.

Councilman Karpiak explained on Snyder Street there is a bridge by the Sunoco Station that Penn DOT needs our permission to repair that.

Resolution No. 9-9-2016: "To agree to let Penn Dot to enter city property adjacent to SR 711 (Snyder St) to make repairs to the road and storm drain that occurred from the August 28th flooding."

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

Mayor Lincoln then thanked the Street Department for their help during the flood, noting they helped tremendously in the flood zone.

Councilman Karpiak added the restrooms at East Park will be closed on October 1, 2016 and Yough Park restrooms will be closed on October 10, 2016.

TZAN:

Resolution No. 9-10-2016: "To approve the Shared Maintenance Lease Agreement between the Greater Connellsville Area Community Center, Inc., Fayette County, Pennsylvania and it's tenants."

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

MCINTIRE:

Councilman McIntire thanked everyone who responded to the flood zone. He then asked Tom Currey if he has anything to add.

Tom Currey, Health, Code and Zoning Officer stated to recycle before burning. He noted Advanced Disposal will pick up leaves and yard trimmings that are in bags over 40 pounds. Currey also stated that Superior Mulch will take the twigs and branches for free. Currey added you can burn for recreational purposes.

Health/Code Officer Report
New Haven Hose Report

Resolution No. 9-11-2016: "To execute the Board of Health's order to abate the public nuisance by demolition the following property: 117 Witter Avenue, Connellsville, PA 15425, and to submit the aforementioned property to the Redevelopment Authority for demolition, funds taken from the Community Development Block Grant Monies."

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

Mayor Lincoln thanked New Haven Hose for helping at the Italian Festival and during the flood. He stated New Haven Hose recued 12 people with their fishing boat. Mayor Lincoln added the

Fire Chief went away to celebrate his anniversary before the flood and Jeff Layton was Assistant Chief, who rose up to that level and did a great job. He stated "I really want to commend Jeff because he had a really hard task and did a great job." He thanked all the volunteers as well. Mayor Lincoln stated that New Haven Hose really are the true heroes of our town and we would be lost without them. Mayor Lincoln stated that all of the volunteers are commended for their service.

Councilman Karpiak stated that they (New Haven Hose volunteers) were there day after day. He added that they can do things that no-one else should do by taking their own lives in their hands.

Mayor Lincoln reiterated to please come to Carnegie Library at 6:30 PM and get the word out to everyone, letting them know that if they need transportation to call us and we will see to it they have a ride to and from the meeting. Mayor Lincoln stressed the importance of this meeting. He stated there are rumors that people can just call Vernon Ohler Monday through Friday from 9 AM – 5 PM for answers. He added if we don't know the answer, we will find it out.

Tape #2 ended.

Tape #3 began.

Resolution No. 9-12-2016: "This this meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn."

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