

**Connellsville City Council**  
**MINUTES**  
**July 20, 2021**

This meeting of the Connellsville City Council was held this evening at 6:00 PM. 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:** Led by Chuck Hubbell

Solicitor Witt announced the first part of the meeting is a public hearing on the request to transfer a Liquor License as required by the PA Liquor Control Board under the Liquor Code. He noted when a Liquor License is transferred from one municipality to another, there be a public hearing and/or public comment before City Council's consideration and/or approval. He further added this is the time and place that has been set for that public hearing. Solicitor Witt announced the intermunicipal transfer of a Liquor License owned by the Churchill Cigar Lounge, LLC, Pennsylvania Liquor License No. R-3727 from Redstone Township into the City of Connellsville at 136 South Pittsburgh Street, Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He stated again this is the time and place for the hearing and noted the applicant as Churchill Cigar Lounge, LLC. Solicitor Witt opened the floor up to public comment and noted he will record any public comment on the matter.

Councilman Karpiak stated this is new to him and he would like to know what they will be doing and where they will be doing it at. He requested the prospective proprietors explain the details.

Kevin Johnston, co-owner, stated it will be at the old Nancy Borris Beauty Salon at 136 South Pittsburgh Street. He added it has been renovated and they would like a Liquor License to open a Cigar and Whiskey Lounge. He noted the hours will be limited to probably Wednesday through Sunday and probably from 4 PM until 10 PM. Mr. Johnston stated he cannot give a time of opening since that depends on when a Liquor License would go through. He added they need approval from City Council and then it would go to the Liquor Control Board for approval. Mr. Johnston stated they will have outdoor seating and would like to be open for some of the summer noting it is in the Liquor Control Board's hands.

Councilman Karpiak questioned if they meet all the requirements with parking and licensing.

Mr. Johnston replied with Code there were small things they had to change. He added there is a lot of public parking across the street. He noted they are under 1,500 square feet and added they will only have 20 to 25 people at a time on the inside and outside hopefully the same amount of people. He stated the capacity would be 50 people at a time and noted if two persons ride together that would be 25 vehicles and there is plenty of parking across the street. Mr. Johnston stated all they need is to meet the requirements of the Liquor Control Board.

Councilman Karpiak questioned where the License came from in Redstone Township.

Mr. Johnston answered the license was Mullins Irish Hub who closed due to COVID and the license became available. He added they made an offer and put in a sales agreement. He further noted they put money down and it is non-refundable at this point.

Councilman Karpiak asked if there will be food available at the lounge.

Mr. Johnston answered they will have a limited menu and his partner, Anthony Ruvo owns Ruvo's Restaurant. He stated they do not want to get into the restaurant business for a second restaurant here in town. Mr. Johnston stated they are considering small sandwiches and salads and things like that.

Councilman Karpiak questioned if they would have tap as well.

Mr. Johnston replied they will not and added they are not large enough for that. He added it will be a small bar with seating and the waitresses will serve the patrons. Mr. Johnston stated they will have high end beers in the bottle and can and added the same for their liquor selection as well. He stated they are trying to draw in a middle aged – high end crowd.

Mayor Lincoln stated he feels this is great and it will bring new visitors into town.

Councilman Karpiak stated he knows bourbon drinkers and they spend a lot of money.

Solicitor Witt asked the members of City Council if they have any questions or comments. He then asked if anyone in the public has questions or comments.

Mayor Lincoln questioned Tom Currey, Health/Code and Zoning Officer if all is well with this business on his end.

Tom Currey stated all but the food part (to be inspected before opening).

Mayor Lincoln asked what the name will be of the business.

Johnston answered Churchill Cigar Lounge, LLC.

Solicitor Witt asked for any public comments or questions.

There were no public comments or questions.

Solicitor Witt then closed public comments or questions for consideration by council. He added there is a resolution that can be addressed under the regular agenda.

**REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Adam Augustine stated he grew up in Connellsville and has been skateboarding for approximately 30 years. He stated he was asked to be the spokesperson to request a Skate Park in Connellsville. He

stated the benefits of a skate park are not only for children, but for adults as well. He noted skateboarders travel and stated he has traveled all over the East Coast, parts of the Middle East and West Coast to skate. He added that people will come into the city if the Skate Park is good enough. Mr. Augustine stated the plan is for a cement park which can last 20 to 30 years. He noted small maintenance usually fits in with a park in a park area. He stated something like this usually brings the skateboarders in an outline community into the light to give them a voice and somewhere to go. He noted they are usually lost in the shuffle to sports, because it is not a school sport or in the mainstream. Mr. Augustine stated that skateboarding is coming to the Olympics and rising in popularity. He noted in the past two years skating has gone up in popularity 34%. He further added with sponsors such as Nike, New Balance and Adidas, skateboarding will not be going anywhere. Mr. Augustine asked City Council for their approval for a skate park in the City. He stated they would need land and a place to put it around other parks and fields or complexes. He added he spoke to a skate park designer and noted it would have to be done by someone who does skate parks not a general contractor. He noted they would not understand how the skate park would be set up. Mr. Augustine stated he spoke to Micha Shapario, a skate park designer from Groundline Skate Parks in California who built two skate parks in Pittsburgh. He added the initial design would cost would be \$20,000 to \$30,000 which sounds like a lot and noted there are grants available from the Federal, State and County. He stated they could have fundraising. Mr. Augustine stated the skate park in Greensburg was started by a committee who raised about \$50,000. He then noted \$30,000 is very possible to get. He stated a skate park in this area would end of being approximately \$250,000 to \$500,000 but could be done in phases and it brings the skate boarders into the public and it will bring money into the city.

Mayor Lincoln asked what size land will be needed for this skate park.

Mr. Augustine replied the size would have to be given by the designer himself. He said it could possibly be half the size of a football field or larger. He apologized for not having that information in his notes. He stated with approval he can come up with bids and donate his time along with other people he has who will donate their time as well. Augustine states he could get at least 30 skateboarders to help.

Mayor Lincoln stated they will need to know the size so they can find a place and look at the parks. He added that he doesn't know if they have that land available that they can commit to doing this park. Mayor Lincoln stated he is on board with this and wants to have everything available for people to do in the city. He added knowing the size of land needed is important so they can see if the land is available.

Mr. Augustine asked that if the land is available, what else is needed from him so he could get it going.

Solicitor Witt stated it would have to be a city project since it will be on City property.

Councilman Karpiak asked who will pay for the maintenance of the skate park.

Mr. Augustine stated with a cement skate park, it does not take a lot of maintenance.

Councilman Karpiak reiterated he wants to know who is paying for any maintenance such as fences, picking up garbage, paint and cleaning lots out and all else.

Mr. Augustine answered skateboarders usually pickup after themselves. He added that if anyone is interested in going to a skate park, like Greensburg's Peach Plaza, you would be able to see how they operate and how much volume you get in there and how clean it is.

Councilman Karpiak announced he is in charge of the Public Works Department and he cannot afford one more public mandate. He added that questions like that will have to be answered and for a long-term basis. He added that he is for this park but knows that it is impossible for the Public Works to take care of the park.

Mr. Augustine clarified that the park would be very minimal upkeep.

Councilman Karpiak questioned if the skate park would be lighted and night time skate.

Mr. Augustine answered that would be a decision that would have to be made and stated Greensburg's is not lit other than the lights in the parking lot itself.

Councilman Karpiak asked who would go after the grants.

Mr. Augustine stated that would have to be done by a grant writer and he would get one if that is what City Council wants him to do. He further added he spoke with the Tony Hawk Foundation and they actually help you with the grants themselves. He stated that if he needs to go back to them, he will. Mr. Augustine stated he went to the Recreation Board and they suggested he come to this meeting. He also said he can call the Tony Hawk Foundation and have them contact you regarding writing the grants and where to get the grants at, they will help. He added they have funds that they will help with. He stated the foundation built over 800 parks in the United States and they or he can get Council all of the information they would like. He stated whatever council needs him to do, he will do it.

Mayor Lincoln asked if they were also looking at the park for BMX Bikes and scooters and more.

Mr. Augustine answered that scooters and BMX Bikes would be involved in the park regardless. He explained that the park in Greensburg has all three in the same place.

Mayor Lincoln asked if the one in Greensburg is the size that he is talking about for Connellsville.

Mr. Augustine answered that he feels it doesn't need to be that big. He added that Greensburg has big polls that are unnecessary and could cause someone to get hurt.

Mayor Lincoln stated as soon as they know the size, they can find a location and then all agree on it, they can then move forward and fundraise for it and work on grants.

Mr. Augustine stated half of the size of Peach Plaza in Greensburg would work for the city. He also stated that the skate park designer would have a surveyor come in and look at the land and make sure it could hold the cement and then he would come up with the design and go around with the committee

of skateboarders to tell him what they want in a skate park. He added that he would make a design based on that information and then everyone would come up with a total plan.

Mayor Lincoln questioned if it was all cement, could the city put it in Dutch Bottom.

City Clerk Ohler stated it has to be "Greenspace" or "Recreational".

Mayor Lincoln and Councilwoman Tzan both stated, "That is Recreational".

City Clerk Ohler stated he doesn't think it is going to fly.

Councilman Topper stated it will be hard to get a grant in a flood zone.

City Clerk Ohler questioned that if it does flood, how would it be drained.

Solicitor Witt stated the Agreement with FEMA/PEMA has in detail what those restrictions entail. He added they can look at that agreement and check to see if they can put the park in there.

City Clerk Ohler stated he doesn't think they can build anything if not pervious.

Solicitor Witt stated that is his concern as well, would be the large cement area.

Mr. Augustine stated the size of East Park field would be large enough space for the skate park.

Tom Currey added that Greensburg's Park is 12,000 square feet.

Mr. Augustine stated then they would need approximately 5,000 to 6,000 square feet.

City Clerk Ohler said it may take almost an acre.

Mayor Lincoln discussed the gravel parking by Woodruff Park.

City Clerk Ohler stated, "You are starting to open another can there because that is out of the flood zone. That could be something doable."

Mayor Lincoln stated they can create other parking for Woodruff with the other lots around there.

Solicitor Witt stated as long as the lots are gravel, it would be ok.

Mr. Augustine stated that whatever Council need from him, he is available. He added that if they give him a list of lots to look at, he will look at them and then let Council know what work for the skate park.

Council agreed. City Clerk Ohler requested Mr. Augustine's phone number who then provided it to him.

Mayor Lincoln stated now that they have his contact information, the City Clerk will communicate with him, find lots and go out and look around and discuss it. He stated he wants to have free things for people to do and added it keeps them busy and they are not out doing bad things. He thanked Mr. Augustine for spearheading this park, his time and thanked him for attending the meeting. Mayor Lincoln stated he hopes to go full throttle with this project.

Anthony Barbarino spoke next regarding the intersection at South Pittsburgh Street and Washington Avenue. He stated he was there last year and only a "patch job" was done to the road.

Councilman Karpiak stated they actually made it worse.

Mr. Barbarino stated when he was there last time, it was winter and things were shut down. He stated now that it is summer and the road is just as noisy, can something be done.

Councilman Karpiak stated all PennDOT did was put tar down and threw gravel in it.

Councilman Topper stated he lives two blocks down the road and this is on PennDOT.

Mr. Barbarino stated that he went through this with PennDOT and they stated that it is the City's.

Mayor Lincoln stated that Pittsburgh Streets and Crawford Avenue are state roads. He stated the city can call Rep. Warner and Rep. Stefano and see if they can make headway with PennDOT to do something about the intersection. He added that the City Clerk will call tomorrow and get them here and then they will blame PA American which will say "That was 15 years ago". Mayor Lincoln stated the city cannot patch or touch holes in the state roads.

Councilwoman Tzan instructed the City Clerk to email her tomorrow and she and Pat will both email PennDOT and the new guy.

City Clerk Ohler stated he spoke with PA American Water and they are talking about replacing a main line on Pittsburgh Street.

Mayor Lincoln told Mr. Barbarino that Councilwoman Tzan will take care of this from the State level and the City Clerk will do the rest here.

#### **CITY TREASURER'S REPORT:**

City Treasurer stated there will be a notice in each bill that we do not accept cash.

#### **CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT:**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Helen Ritenour, Request use of Pinnacle Park

**Resolution No. 7-1-2021:** “To grant Helen Ritenour permission to use Pinnacle Playground on August 14, 2021 from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM for a birthday/block party.”

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. 7-2-2021:** “To approve the minutes from the June 15, 2021 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. 7-3-2021:** “To approve the minutes from the June 15, 2021 Sign Ordinance 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. 7-4-2021:** “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.”

Councilman Topper questioned Solicitor Witt if new agenda items could be added after the new City Council Meeting rules begin.

Solicitor Witt stated that the City has a rule that nothing gets voted on that is on the agenda if it wasn't on before four days prior to the meeting – absent to the rule to waive those specific items. Solicitor Witt stated “With the new legislation and respect to the Sunshine Act, things now have to be on the agenda at least 24 hours in advance on the meeting – subject to certain exceptions. There are exceptions to that rule. Generally, it will not implicate this, we just have to follow two sets of rules now. So, we have our own four-day rule and the State one-day rule. You can still follow this four-day rule, waive this four-day rule and be cautious of the twenty-four-hour rule the State has in place now. I recommend you still keep this on.”

Mayor Lincoln questioned who supersedes.

Solicitor Witt answered the City's rule is stricter, essentially. He added that in incidents where the City rule would be waived, the City has to follow the less restrictive State law. He noted the city has the opportunity to waive their law and address items that were not on the agenda.

Councilman Topper questioned that if something was added to the agenda on Friday and Council was within that time period, then it would still have to be on the agenda before that twenty-four-hour period because the agenda must be posted at the twenty-four-hours?

Solicitor Witt answered exactly.

Councilman Topper continued, "Then you couldn't add something else to the agenda, waiving the four-day rule."

Solicitor Witt added, "Whichever is the more restrictive that would apply to that item and when it was added, that is what would apply. We can waive our rule but cannot waive the State's rule." He added there are exceptions of when you can add things to the agenda. He also stated you can vote to add things to the agenda and announce why it was added to the agenda.

Mayor Lincoln questioned when the State law begins.

Solicitor Witt answered it does not go into effect until the end of August. He clarified it will not affect the city until the September meeting. He noted the agenda must be posted at City Hall or where the meeting will be held at least twenty-four-hours in advance of the meeting and on the City's website at least twenty-four hours in advance.

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.

#### **MAYOR LINCOLN:**

Mayor Lincoln stated he would read the resolution for the transfer of the Liquor License so the gentlemen attending can leave the meeting if they wish to.

**Resolution No. 7-13-2021:** "To approve the intermunicipal transfer of a Liquor License owned by the Churchill Cigar Lounge, LLC, Pennsylvania Liquor License No. R-3727 from Redstone Township into the City of Connellsville pursuant to Section 461(b.3) of the Liquor Code to the premises at 136 South Pittsburgh Street, Connellsville, PA 15425, and to approve the complete resolution for the applicants and submission to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, which resolution is hereby incorporated herein by reference, in its entirety."

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.

Police Department Report given by Chief Hammerle

Mayor Lincoln asked Chief Hammerle to stay at the podium and he would read the resolution for the agreement with South Connellsville.

**Resolution No. 7-6-2021:** “To enter into an agreement between the City of Connellsville and the Borough of South Connellsville for the provision of law enforcement functions within the geographical confines of such Borough; to authorize the Mayor, Police Chief, and City Clerk to execute such agreement; and to authorize and direct City officials and employees to take such action is necessary to effectuate such agreement.”

Mayor Lincoln thanked Chief Hammerle for his time and effort on this agreement. He also thanked Councilman Keedy and City Clerk Ohler for their work. Further he thanked the borough members and noted there was a lot of meetings to bring this together. Mayor Lincoln added he is happy with the agreement and two new officers will be hired by possibly the September’s City Council Meeting. He added he would like for the new hires to begin on October 1<sup>st</sup> and this agreement begins August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Chief Hammerle stated twenty applications have been given out so far. He added the applications must be returned by August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Lincoln announced parts of the agreement as follows: South Connellsville Borough will begin paying in August 2021 the amount \$14,935.94. In 2022 they will pay \$16,531.68. In 2023 they will pay \$17,724.04. In 2024 they will pay \$18,118.45. In 2025 they will pay \$18,483.19. In 2026 they will pay \$18,858.00. He stated the city will take the Police Cruiser that South Connellsville just purchased and update it with the city decals. Mayor Lincoln stated the first twelve months they will get a \$2,500 per month credit for their vehicle and the second twelve months will be \$1,083.34 and the third twelve months will be \$1,083.34. He added this is a five-year agreement.

Councilman Keedy added that City Council took into consideration everything from vehicle maintenance to the insurance to office and anything that could possibly be needed was taken into consideration.

Mayor Lincoln added that if someone is fined in South Connellsville, it will be split between South Connellsville and the City fifty-fifty.

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. 7-5-2021:** “To Introduce Bill #2 of 2021, REAUTHORIZING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FROM PROPERTY TAX FOR CERTAIN DETERIORATED INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL OR OTHER BUSINESS PROPERTY; DEFINING ELIGIBLE DETERIORATED AREAS; SETTING A MAXIMUM EXEMPTION AMOUNT AND AN EXEMPTION SCHEDULE; AND PROVIDING A PROCEDURE FOR SECURING AN EXEMPTION; and to schedule and advertise all necessary public hearings.”

Solicitor Witt explained the current LERTA expires in August and this will expire in five-years. He further added there will have to be a meeting in advance of the next 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. 7-7-2021:** “To enter into an agreement between the City of Connellsville and the Fayette County Housing Authority relating to the vacation of certain streets and alleys; to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute such agreement; and to authorize and direct City officials and employees to take such action is necessary to effectuate such agreement.”

Mayor Lincoln stated the Housing Authority has moved forward with the demolition of Gibson Terrace. He stated it will take about four months to demolish the entire property. He further added they will remove the utilities and streets inside the property. Mayor Lincoln stated there will be a chain link fence around the perimeter of the property. He noted they hope by the summer of 2023 they will have rebuilt about 42 homes on that property. He stated that right now, they need the City to vacate the streets so they can demolish the structures.

City Clerk Ohler stated with the new design, the streets will be different.

Mayor Lincoln added they would like a name for the new property and the City suggested Campbell Estates to honor the family that once had this property.

Council discussed reading a resolution at the August City Council Meeting to choose a name for the property.

Solicitor Witt clarified the present resolution being to vacate the streets when requested. He added there will be documents and drawings the city will need from them in order to vacate and pass an ordinance, advertise and hold a hearing. He further added the City would convey any interest in the streets to the Housing Authority. He clarified the city would then take back those streets.

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. 7-8-2021:** “To approve the Environmental Review Record for all projects with the Connellsville Housing Authority for Fiscal Year 2021 through Fiscal Year 2025.”

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. 7-9-2021:** “To accept ownership of parcel #05120015, 403 East Washington Avenue, from the owner and to transfer the same to the Connellsville Redevelopment Authority. All delinquent tax and municipal liens to be waived by Fayette County and the Connellsville Area School District.”

Solicitor Witt stated the Redevelopment Authority has this property on the schedule for demolition. He added once this property goes to the Redevelopment Authority, they will assume ownership of the property, solicit proposals for demolition and then demolish the property.

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. 7-10-2021:** “To approve the recommendation of the Traffic Committee to make Ogden Street “one way” off of East Crawford Avenue and prohibiting traffic to exit onto East Crawford Avenue.”

City Clerk Ohler suggested taking the Stop Sign down and replacing it with a Do Not Exit Sign. He added the city is trying to stop people from exiting onto East Crawford Avenue.

Mayor Lincoln stated since you can enter there but not exit, there should be a One-Way Sign up.

Solicitor Witt added you will need to put the One-Way Sign up and then Council can discuss an ordinance. He added the city should make sure that people are aware before they enforce things.

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. 7-11-2021:** “To grant permission to the City Clerk to apply for the 2021 Local Shares Account, LSA Grant.”

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. 7-12-2021:** “To appoint Toni Colland to the Senior Center Board with term to expire January 1, 2024.”

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.

#### **REMINDERS:**

Farmers Markets: July 31<sup>st</sup>, August 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, September 11<sup>th</sup> and October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9 AM – 2 PM  
Mayor Lincoln thanked Calli Tony for being involved in the Farmers Market and noted she is a very good promoter. He stated if you would like to be a vendor it is \$10 and call Shelley at 724-628-2020 ext. 201.

August 7<sup>th</sup>, Recreation Board's Croquet Tournament, East Park. Mayor Lincoln stated it will be called the Connellsville Croquet Championship and the park will be closed that day. He thanked Dr. Jacobyansky and James Flynn for the work they have put into this event.

Lions Square Concerts (final 4), August 1 is Back in Time, August 8<sup>th</sup> is Shelly McCombie, August 15<sup>th</sup> is Birmingham Band, August 22<sup>nd</sup> is Abilene

September 3<sup>rd</sup>, Wellness on the Yough. Mayor Lincoln added there is a Facebook page, "Wellness on the Yough" and noted it is a great day and a lot of vendors.

Mayor Lincoln announced the city is still trying to have a food truck event the weekend of September 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. He announced that September 5<sup>th</sup> will be a very big milestone for the City Clerk who is jumping from the 50s to the 60s. Mayor Lincoln stated that anyone who has a food truck or wants to be part of the event, reach out to the City Clerk. He added you can be a vendor one day or two. He announced they have three bands so far and the city is looking for a fourth.

September 11<sup>th</sup>, Warriors Rock, 7 PM, CAHS  
Donations and questions: Linda Shearer, 724-322-1494

Mayor Lincoln stated the city is working on having a program and he is in talks with Linda Shearer to partner with the Patriots. He added that the city wants to bring the sky cams back and the cost was \$700 previously and noted if anyone wants to sponsor the cost, please reach out to the City Clerk.

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tangled Up in Brew. Mayor Lincoln stated he is hopeful Yough Brewing will be open by then and they will have a "pre" Tangled Up in Brew Bash.

Christian Church, 212 S. Pittsburgh Street, Free Community Lunch every Monday beginning 11:30 AM until 1 PM, 724-628-3802 for information. He added they have a Facebook Page.

Mayor Lincoln announced New Haven Hose will start a new tradition with a Fall Festival on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. He added if you would like to participate call New Haven at 724-970-3699.

**Resolution No. 7-14-2021:** "To give Judy Keller permission to apply for a Local Shares Account Grant, on behalf of the City of Connellsville for the Connellsville Housing Authority."

Mayor Lincoln stated the cost is about \$40,000 to \$45,000 and is hopeful the County will help with this. He added there has been around \$10,000 in donations given so far. Mayor Lincoln stated donations can be mailed to the Connellsville Festival Association at 415 North Penn Street, Connellsville.

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.

**KEEDY:**

**Resolution No. 7-15-2021:** “To donate \$2,500.00 to Fayette EMS; funds to be taken from 489.000.”

Mayor Lincoln thanked Fayette EMS for helping one of the volunteers of the Police Auxiliary and for scheduling to be at the upcoming Croquet Tournament.

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. 7-16-2021:** “To open a bank account at Mid Penn Bank under the name of the Diversity Board; signers will be the Director of Accounts and Finances, City Treasurer and the City Controller.”

Solicitor Witt stated there are restrictions on what you can use the money for and one of the least restrictive uses you can use it for is revenue replacements where you can pay revenues year to year. He further stated thankfully a lot of the money that Connellsville is getting can be used for revenue replacement. He also stated there is a process the city must use to approve that use so you have a record trail that you can submit with your reports to the DCED for the Department of the Treasury. Solicitor Witt added that City Council will have to approve those transfers at the meetings.

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. 7-17-2021:** “To open a bank account at Mid Penn Bank under the name of the Rescue Act Account; signers will be the Director of Accounts and Finance, City Treasurer and the City Controller.”

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.

Councilman Keedy questioned Solicitor Witt if Council will need to pass a resolution to transfer the money from that account into another account.

Solicitor Witt answered yes and noted when Council passes a resolution to spend the money, they will need to adopt a resolution to add that as a revenue item for the city and also to transfer the money into the General Fund into that new account.

**Resolution No. 7-18-2021:** “To hire Eadie Check as a part time Tax Clerk at an hourly rate of \$8.00 per hour; money to be taken from line item 403.144.”

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.

Councilman Keedy announced the City Auditor is pleased with all the city is doing and noted there are only a few minor adjustments that he suggested the city look into for next year.

Councilman Keedy questioned Solicitor Witt if the budget needs to be amended to create this line for this.

Solicitor Witt answered yes. He stated when Council passes a resolution to approve an expenditure, they can add in that same resolution they can include a change to the budget to add that as a revenue line item. He further stated the DCED has the specifics on the Chart of Accounts.

Councilman Keedy thanked Somerset Trust, Mid Penn and everyone who donated to the fireworks.

**Resolution No. 7-19-2021:** “To approve the transfer of the first disbursement of the American Rescue Plan municipal stimulus funds (SLFRF) in the amount of \$381,519.29 from the General Fund to the newly established American Rescue Plan account at Mid Penn Bank.”

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.

**KARPIAK:**

Public Works Report

**Resolution No. 7-20-2021:** “To open bids for the “Dutch Bottom Bank Stabilization Project.”

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.

Mayor Lincoln questioned what the budget for the project is.

City Clerk Ohler announced it is around \$40,000.

Councilman Karpiak opened bids as follows:

C.H. D. Enterprises, \$135,600

Slusarczyk Excavating, \$60,305

Piedmont Services, LLC, \$72,300

DeFrank Development, Inc., \$110,600

Pittsburgh Southwest Industries, \$77,700

Nevaeh Pipe Bursting, \$64,066  
D&M Construction, \$115,000  
Piccolomini Contractors, Inc., \$74,250  
Roger Suter and Sons, \$44,950  
Ligonier Construction, \$98,750

Solicitor Witt stated Council may table the bids to evaluate funding sources and determine if there is additional funding available.

Solicitor Witt questioned City Engineer Kerri Bell how long bids can be held for.

Engineer Bell answered 45 days.

Solicitor Witt stated 45 days would give Council until next months meeting to make a selection. He added if the funds are not available you can make a motion to reject all bids and rebid the project and change the scope to reduce some costs.

City Clerk Ohler stated he can reach out to the County to see what is available there.

**Resolution No. 7-21-2021:** "To table all bids for the Dutch Bottom Bank Stabilization Project. Money to be reimbursed through a Fayette County Growing Greener Grant; pending review and approval of City Solicitor, City Engineer and City Clerk."

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. 7-22-2021:** "To place out for bid a 2001 Johnston Street Sweeper, as is condition, Sealed bids will be received until 4:00 pm on August 17, 2021 at Connellsville City Hall, 110 North Arch Street, Connellsville, PA 15425. Bids must be accompanied with a 10% bid bond."

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.

Mayor Lincoln stated the City was contacted by Chairman Duncan of the Municipal Authority and he offered to give the City their old generator that they had at their plant. He stated that they may want to go down to the plant and look at it to be sure that it is something that they will want to take.

Councilman Karpiak stated he will try and go down there tomorrow and look at it.

Mayor Lincoln thanked the Municipal Authority and stated he hopes it is in good condition and the City can use it.

**TZAN:**

**Resolution No. 7-23-2021:** "WHEREAS, by virtue of Resolution No. 04-13-2021, adopted April 20, 2021, the City of Connellsville declared its intent to follow the schedules and procedures for the disposition of records as set forth in the Municipal Records Manual adopted December 16, 2008 and amended on March 28, 2016, and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with Act 428 of 1968, each individual act of disposition shall be approved by resolution of the governing body of the municipality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the City of Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in accordance with the above cited Municipal Records Manual, hereby authorizes the disposition of the following public records attached hereto"

Mayor Lincoln thanked Shelley and Tom for helping and noted this will be wonderful when this is done.

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.

**TOPPER:**

Health/Code Officer Report

New Haven Hose Report given by Lieutenant Addis

Mayor Lincoln thanked Addis for all they do beside the firefighter work.

Councilman Topper stated there was different meetings trying to get different blight issues going, noting the list included eight. He added they met with commissioners, the magistrate and the Redevelopment Authority and many different people. He stated they wanted to see what the City could and could not do because the City does not have a lot of power and has to go by the rules. Topper stated he wanted to have something concerning blight at this meeting but it wasn't ready. He added the next resolution is just the beginning of what he hopes to be many resolutions.

**Resolution No. 7-24-2021:** "To make August "Block Party Month" where all neighborhoods' clean streets and sidewalks. Debris to be picked up by the public Works Department."

Mayor Lincoln added this will be great to see neighborhoods meet each other and work together to keep their neighborhood clean.

Councilman Topper stated this is basically for people to get together with their neighbors and work something out, try to organize something to pick up litter, trim weeds if needed, help a neighbor that can't do it and you have equipment to help them. He added you cannot go on private property without permission and this is meant to be a positive thing and doesn't want neighbors fighting.

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. 7-25-2021:** “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.