

Connellsville City Council MINUTES
NOVEMBER 16, 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, Topper and Tzan. Also attending was City Clerk Ohler and Solicitor Witt. Councilman Karpiak was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE: Led by Pastor Mike Martin

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Scott Koshko, Excela Health, Discussed the outpatient facility project and development in the city. He noted they are bringing a contemporary ambulatory facility. He also noted there will be primary care, wellness, prevention, obstetrics and gynecology, medical and surgical specialty, orthopedics, general surgery, gastroenterology, cardiology and neurology. Mr. Koshko added there will be quick draw services, laboratory, ultrasound, mammograms. He added they are starting the basics for women's health and cancer care along with physical therapy. Mr. Koshko announced they are going to be at the Martin's Plaza location and will be 30,000 square feet. He noted it will be a 12-million-dollar investment and bring around 35 new jobs in the healthcare industry.

Joel Trexler, JFT Architects spoke on the Excela Health project. He gave the floor plan layout to City Council to review. He showed City Council all entrances for each department and explained the layout.

John Cenknner, Excela Health Representative, discussed the parking and entrances along with the lighting of the property. He then showed City Council the landscaping plan.

Mr. Koshko noted they would like to break ground after winter.

Solicitor Witt questioned if they are looking into any part of the project being tax exempt.

Mr. Koshko answered they will be looking into that.

Shaun Basinger, announced he ran for City Council during the last election and lost. He noted he is aware there will be a seat available on City Council and asked City Council to appoint him to that seat. Mr. Basinger discussed his qualifications and read his letter.

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT: Absent

CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT: Read by Mr. Bruce Witt

CORRESPONDENCE:

No correspondence

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 11-1-2021: “To approve the minutes from the October 19, 2021 City Council Meeting.”

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

Resolution No. 11-2-2021: “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.”

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

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Police Department – Read by Mayor Lincoln

Mayor Lincoln stated there is someone shopping in residents’ vehicles in the middle of the night. He added that many people have caught this person on camera and the police are trying to catch the individuals. He suggested they go get a job than steal from others. Mayor Lincoln asked that anyone who knows who they are to get them off the street and turn them in. He also reminded residents to not leave weapons in their vehicle and lock their doors.

Resolution No. 11-3-2021: “To re-appoint Linda Galiardi to the Shade Tree Commission; term to expire the first Monday in January 2024.”

Mayor Lincoln thanked Ms. Galiardi for all her volunteer work in the city.

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

Mayor Lincoln thanked the Shade Tree members for their work on the new trees at Woodruff Park.

Resolution No. 11-4-2021: “To appoint Judy Sherwood to the Shade Tree Commission; term to expire the first Monday in January 2025.”

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

REMINDERS:

Mayor Lincoln announced New Haven Hose will be bringing Santa around town again this year. He read the schedule and streets. He stated it will begin December 10th through the 13th.

Wreaths Across America, \$15 to place a wreath on a grave, due November 19, 2021. Laying of wreaths is December 19, 2021. Linda Shearer, 724-322-1494

November 19th, Heart To Hope Telethon Official Announcement, Edwin S. Porter Theatre, 6:30 PM

November 20th, Chamber's Christmas in the Park (Yough), 11 AM – 4 PM

November 25th, Thanksgiving Dinner at the Sr. Citizens Center (contact City Church)

December 11th, 11 AM, Holiday meal pickup. Signup: 724-626-1120 x 102 – Maddy Mayor Lincoln thanked Mary Sampey.

Christian Church, 212 S. Pittsburgh Street, Free Community Lunch every Monday beginning 11:30 AM until 1 PM, 724-628-3802 for information

Breakfast with Santa, December 4th & 18th at 9 AM, Canteen, 724-603-2093, Adults \$15, under age 10 years is \$10

December 4th will be stuff a first responder vehicle toy drive at the East Side Fire Station, 10AM – 2 PM

December 4th, Community Center Christmas, 9 AM – 4 PM. Christmas vendor show

December 4th, Calvary Assembly Church is having a Christmas market, 9 AM – 4 PM

December 4th, St. Rita's Church, cookie sales at Bucci Hall

KEEDY:

Resolution No. 11-5-2021: "To enter into a contract with Culligan Water from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; for the Police and Street Departments and Administrative Offices; money to be taken from line item 409-250."

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

Mayor Lincoln noted the city has come to an agreement with the Administrative Union and will have that for the December City Council Meeting to vote on.

Resolution No. 11-6-2021: “To introduce Bill No. 5 of 2021: An ordinance of the City of Connellsville, County of Fayette and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the salaries payable by the City of Connellsville for the various positions enumerated herein for the fiscal year 2022, and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith.”

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

Resolution No. 11-7-2021: “To introduce Bill No. 6 of 2021: An ordinance of the City of Connellsville, County of Fayette and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the Real Estate Tax Rate and Residence Tax Rate for all City purposes for the fiscal year 2022, and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith.”

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

Resolution No. 11-8-2021: “To introduce Bill No. 7 of 2021: An ordinance of the City of Connellsville, County of Fayette and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, showing the estimated receipts, expenditures and liabilities of every kind of all the funds for fiscal year 2022 with the balance of unexpended appropriations as the basis for fixing the levy and tax rate for said fiscal year appropriating the various amounts shown as proposed expenditures herein for the expenses of the City for said fiscal year from the revenue available for said fiscal year for the departments, bureaus and specific purposes set forth herein, and the repealing of all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith.”

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

Resolution No. 11-9-2021: “To authorize the City Clerk to contact financial institutions regarding a Tax Anticipation Note for 2022, if needed.”

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

Resolution No. 11-10-2021: “To contract out the City of Connellsville's payroll to Scarry and Associates, LLC at a cost of \$280.00 per month for 12 months; monies to be taken out of line item 402.330.”

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

Resolution No. 11-11-2021: “To enter into a contract with Unifirst for rugs at City Hall; Cost for one-year (12 months) at a monthly rate of \$48.28; money to be taken from line item 409.250; Contract begins February 22, 2022 until February 22, 2023.”

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

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Mayor Lincoln thanked the Public Works Department for their work out in the different weather conditions. He announced if anyone has questions calls 724-628-2020 ext. 301.

TZAN:

Resolution No. 11-12-2021: “**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”

- 2008 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2009 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2010 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2011 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2004 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2003 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2005 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2006 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2007 City Real Estate Ledger
- 2006 School Real Estate Ledger
- 2007 School Real Estate Ledger
- 2008 School Real Estate Ledger
- 2009 School Real Estate Ledger
- 2010 School Real Estate Ledger
- 2008 Per Capita Ledger
- 2009 Per Capita Ledger
- 1985 Occupational Priviledge Tax
- 1982 Payroll Reports
- 1982-88 Police Pension Fund
- 1982-88 Fire Pension Fund
- 1982-88 Library Fund
- 1982-88 Social Security Fund
- 1982-88 Parking Authority Fund
- 1982-88 Trenching Fund
- 1982-88 Recreation Fund
- 1982-88 General Fund
- 1982-88 Payroll Fund
- 1982-87 General Fund Bank Statements
- 1982-87 Payroll Bank Statements
- 1982-87 Recreation Fund Bank Statements
- 1982-87 Library Fund Bank Statements
- 1982-87 General Fund Deposit Books
- 1982-87 Payroll Deposit Books
- 1982-87 Recreation Fund Deposit Books
- 1982-87 Library Fund Deposit Books
- 2013 General Fund Bank Statements
- 2013 Payroll Bank Statements
- 2013 Recreation Fund Bank Statements
- 2013 Library Fund Bank Statements
- 2014 Daily Transmittals
- 2011 Civil Service Tests (Police)
- 2006 Paving Bids
- 2009 Paving Bids
- 2004 Police Applications
- 1977 Street Department Daily Logs
- 1978 Street Department Daily Logs
- 1979 Street Department Daily Logs

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

Mayor Lincoln gave an update on the East Side Fire Hall, hoping for construction to begin in December and ending in March or April.

Mayor Lincoln stated when PennDOT replaces the bridge, New Haven Hose will be manning both fire stations for about a year until the bridge is replaced.

Mayor Lincoln thanked City Clerk Ohler for all his work in the fire hall separating 100 years' worth of old files. He added that they are finally done and stored correctly.

TOPPER:

Health/Code Officer Report

New Haven Hose Report by Bill Addis, Lieutenant

Resolution No. 11-13-2021: "To enter into an agreement with Hoffman's Boarding Kennels for animal control services at a monthly base rate of \$350.00 with money to be taken from line item 420.450."

Mayor Lincoln requested a monthly report from Hoffman's be in Councilman Topper's packet for each meeting from now on.

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

Councilman Topper explained the next resolution, stating the City wants to be as aggressive as they can with the blight issues.

Resolution No. 11-14-2021: "To introduce Bill No. 8 of 2021: An ordinance of the City of Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, Defining Public Nuisances for structures and properties; Providing for the reporting and investigation of public nuisances; Providing for summary abatement and abatement by prior notice of public nuisance; Providing for statements of costs, administrative fees, and civil penalties for abatement of public nuisances; Enabling liens and establishing owner personal liability; Providing procedures for notice and appeal of public nuisance actions and statements of cost; Repealing all inconsistent ordinances; and Providing an effective date."

Mayor Lincoln questioned exactly what this ordinance is.

Solicitor Witt explained "The Third-Class City Code states that if the City ever wants to abate a nuisance on a particular property, there is a procedure that has to be followed under the Third-Class City Code to

do that, this ordinance implements those procedures to do that. "He added this makes the city compliant with the Third-Class City Code.

Councilman Topper thanked Tom Currey, Tim Witt and City Clerk Ohler for their help on this ordinance.

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

Garbage was discussed noting the 2022 schedule should be mailed to the residents soon.

Councilman Keedy questioned garbage on Penn Street. He asked Code Officer, Tom Currey, if it was a garbage company issue or tenant issue. He added he is not permitted to discuss specific cases.

Currey replied it is the tenant issue due to where the garbage is set at.

Mayor Lincoln questioned if there is anything in the garbage ordinance that states you cannot put garbage out until the night before.

Councilman Topper stated it is in the new Quality of Life Ordinance.

Garbage issues were discussed further including when garbage is set out and where.

Councilman Topper stated they are trying to be proactive on that. He added they want to educate people first and not give tickets.

Resolution No. 11-15-2021: "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 and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.