

January 11, 2018

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall with Jim St. Clair presiding.

Members Present: Jim St. Clair, Matt Smith, James McDonnell, Mariah Fisher, Judy Hoffer, Jeff Craig, Terry Murphy.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Engineer Greg Elliott, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Fire Chief Steve Barron, Zoning Officer Rick Schwab.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **motion** was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve both minutes of December 14, 2017 and the Reorganizational meeting of January 2, 2018 as presented. All of Council was in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A **motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the Bills Payable as presented to Council. The motion carried with all in favor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A **motion** was made by Terry Murphy and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received from Tom Wynkoop of Ligonier Lodge #331 requesting permission to place "reserve parking" signs on the meters in front of Abigail's running along Main Street in front of the post office and 20 parking spaces behind Ligonier Lodge building in the back parking lot for an event February 3, 2018 from 4:30 to 9:30 pm. 250 guests are expected.

A **motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the request from Tom Wynkoop. All of Council was in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry made note of each committee /members and chairperson.

Town Hall

Judy Hoffer – Chair

Jeff Craig
James McDonnell

Parks & Recreation

Mariah Fisher – Chair

Judy Hoffer
Matt Smith

Public Works

Terry Murphy -Chair

Mariah Fisher
Jeff Craig

Finance

James McDonnell – Chair

Mariah Fisher
Terry Murphy

Public Safety

Jeff Craig – Chair

Matt Smith
Judy Hoffer

Planning / Personnel

Matt Smith - Chair

James McDonnell
Terry Murphy

PARKS & RECREATION

Mariah Fisher, Parks & Recreation chair reported that she is very excited to be a part of the Parks & Recreation Committee and to be involved and work along with everyone. Mariah reported attending a LV Chamber business breakfast to discuss the Diamond Park Renaissance Project and announced that there will be a celebratory ground breaking ceremony Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at 10am for the project.

TOWN HALL

Chairperson Judy Hoffer reported that the committee will soon begin revamping the rules and regulations for sub sales around the Diamond.

PUBLIC WORKS

Chairman Terry Murphy reported that he met with Public Works employee Bob McCauslin and noted that the crew was removing the fountain and benches in preparation of the Diamond project renovation. It was reported that several tons of salt have been ordered in hopes for it to stretch the remainder of the winter.

FINANCE

Chairman James McDonnell thanked Terry Murphy, Paul Fry and Jan Shaw for their work and effort with the Budget. McDonnell reported coming out with more revenue than expenses. A budget meeting will be held next Tuesday morning. McDonnell added that he will soon have Neil VanHorn of Guyasuta come in and discuss the Town Hall Fund, which is doing well.

PLANNING / PERSONNEL

Chairman Matt Smith reported that he is looking forward to working with the new Planning Commission.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chairman Jeff Craig reported that he met with Chief Berger and discussed some issues that will be coming up over the course of the next year. Jeff Craig stated that he will also be meeting with Emergency Management Coordinator Gene Stouffer, Fire Chief Steve Barron and President of Fire Company Terry Barr over the next month or so.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT

Solicitor Welty reminded everyone that Public Comment will be received only from Ligonier Borough residents or taxpayers as set forth in the meeting rule adopted by Borough Council in accordance to the provisions of the sunshine act of Section 7-10.1.

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS

Engineer Greg Elliott stated that he has the executed agreement between Ligonier Borough and Darr Construction; Contractor for the Diamond Project. President Jim St. Clair signed the 3 copies before tonight's meeting. Notice received will be dated Monday, February 5, 2018. Weather permitting the contractor will begin with demolition work on the Diamond. Ground breaking ceremony will be January 30, 2018 followed by a pre-construction meeting with the Contractor afterward.

Police Chief John Berger spoke about the need for new bullet proof vests. Officer Greg Sullenberger contacted a member of the Rotary and was told that they would match any funding that came in for the purchase of some vests. In total, Chief Berger stated that the department now has almost \$22,000 between the Rotary, Ligonier High School's Interact Club and other funding. Chief Berger stated that the plan is to purchase at least 6 new vests to get everyone up to date. The remainder of the money will be shared between the Borough and the Township police department. The AEDs will be updated and a few shot guns for each department will also be purchased. Chief Berger stated that this was a dream come true for him.

Chief Berger added that new part-time officers Alex Barber was hired along with Danny Dorazio.

Zoning Officer Rick Schwab commented on attending a good Zoning Hearing Board Meeting.

Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas commented that it has been brought to his attention that several sidewalks on West Main Street have not yet been cleared from the last snow and ice event. Sidewalks must be cleared within 12 hours after snowfall.

Mayor Bellas also thanked Jim McDonnell on behalf of the Rotary for the bullet proof vests.

Councilman James McDonnell, member of the Rotary commented that the Rotary will remain committed to Ligonier Valley and their projects. McDonnell stated that he has never been more proud than this past week when it was announced about the bulletproof vests for the police department.

President Jim St. Clair stated that he hopes for a good year. There is a lot going on in the Borough as well as some areas that need addressed and he hopes to make it all positive for the community.

The next meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council will be held February 8, 2018 at 7pm in the Town Hall.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Judy Hoffer to adjourn the meeting. All of Council was in favor. The meeting was adjourned @ 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A Fry
Secretary-Treasurer
Office Manager