

November 8, 2012

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, November 8, 2012 @ 7:00 PM in the Ligonier Town Hall with President Robert Helterbran presiding.

Members present: Robert Helterbran, James McDonnell, Judy Hoffer, Robert Bell, Tom Freeman and Sam St. Clair. Absent was Kim Shaffer.

Others present: Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Engineer Ben Faas, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Ligonier Hose Co. #1 representative Chris Stouffer.

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE:

A plaque was presented to Mike Ledgard whose heroic efforts, along with friend Kirk Haldeman, most likely saved the lives of many patrons of Fat Daddy's bar during the fatal shooting July 11, 2011. Ledgard was unable to be present at last month's meeting to be presented the plaque along with friend Kirk Haldeman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Sam St. Clair to approve the minutes of October 8, 2012 as presented. All of Council was in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Tom Freeman and seconded by Robert Bell was made to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Sam St. Clair to approve the consent calendar as presented. All were in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you letter received from Phebe Cornell regarding the Clover 4 Rams Run/Walk.

Letter received from the LV Chamber of Commerce thanking Council / Public Works Crew & Borough Police for supporting Fort Ligonier Days.

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce requesting Borough Police to stop traffic for Santa's Parade Friday, November 23rd at 6:30pm as well to bag meters on the northeast quadrant of the Diamond by Town Hall. Also requested is use of sound system, the Community Room and Auditorium.

In addition, the Chambers notes that Christmas Town Wide Open House is scheduled for Sunday, December 2, 2012. The Chamber is requesting that 2 meters be bagged in front of the Library for the Kettlecorn Popcorn Man from 9:00am until 5:00pm. Also requested for December 2, 2012 is the use of the sound system.

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by Judy Hoffer to grant the request from LV Chamber of Commerce. All were in favor.

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce requesting free 2 hour parking at all meters on the Saturdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas (Nov. 24, Dec. 1, Dec. 8, Dec. 15 and Dec. 22, 2012).

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Tom Freeman to approve LV Chamber's request for free 2 hour parking on the Saturdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

Judy Hoffer, Parks & Recreation Chair reminded all to please pick up after their dogs. Hoffer reported that the Diamond looked beautiful over Fort Ligonier Days.

TOWN HALL

N/A

PUBLIC WORKS

Chairman Tom Freeman reported that leaf pick up is still in full swing. Brush is also still being picked up on Friday morning.

Freeman thanked Public Works Department for good job during Fort Ligonier Days. Thanks also went out to borough Police Department, EMA Director, & Fire Department for the recent flooding in the borough.

PUBLIC SAFETY / SHADE TREE

N/A

FINANCE

Finance Chairman Robert Bell reported that the committee has a proposed budget for 2013 to be voted on next month. The proposed budget will be on display at the Borough office. Bell added that the proposed budget shows no increase in millage. The budget also shows a surplus of \$906.03.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Robert Bell to change the Borough Ligonier Hose Co. #1 present insurance of VFIS to ESIP of Jeannette. All were in favor.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Tom Freeman to change the Borough's employee health insurance from Highmark to UPMC effective January 1, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL / PLANNING COMMISSION

James McDonnell called for a brief executive session for personnel at the end of the meeting with no action to be taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution - Police Pension:

Solicitor Welty read and explained the Resolution.

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by Sam St. Clair to approve the Resolution for the Police Pension. All were in favor.

Resolution Westmoreland COG:

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry explained that the resolution authorizes and approves Ligonier Borough to pay annual membership for the year 2013 at a cost of \$125.00 with an additional \$25 initiation fee.

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by James McDonnell to approve the Resolution at a cost of \$125 plus \$25 initiation fee. All of Council was in favor.

Ordinance: Establish a Parking Enforcement Officer – Section 145-6.1:

A motion was made by Tom Freeman and seconded by James McDonnell to authorize Solicitor Welty to advertise for December 2012 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Handicapped Parking spot request:

Karen Saylor, residing @ 214 W. Vincent Street requests a handicapped spot in front of her residence for parking.

A motion was made by Tom Freeman and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the above request. All were in favor.

Penn State Thon:

Student Ben Emminger wishes to collect for Cancer research on Diamond at the two approve sites Sunday, November 11, 2012 from 1-4 PM.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Tom Freeman to approve the request by Ben Emminger. All of Council was in favor.

Banner – Connection's Café @ 109 S. Market Street:

Connections Café is asking to place a banner on the 2 ft x 10 ft banner to advertise Mexican food on Friday nights. The banner will be placed on front porch railing & will read "Authentic Mexican Food Night". The banner will be displayed for two weeks during the month of November 2012.

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by James McDonnell to reject the request. The motion did not carry with Tom Freeman, Judy Hoffer, Sam St. Clair and Robert Helterbran opposing.

A motion was made by Tom Freeman and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve a banner for the requested two weeks with a reduced size of 3 ft. x 4 ft. The motion carried 4 to 2 with Robert Bell and James McDonnell opposing.

Activate Fire Police:

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by James McDonnell to activate the fire police for both Veteran's Day Ceremony, Saturday, November 10, 2012 and Light Up Night – Friday, November 23, 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry reported that Veteran's Day Ceremony in Ligonier has been moved by the VFW to Saturday, November 10th, 2012 @ 11:00 AM on the Diamond.

It was also reported that there may be a Victory parade around Diamond November 10, 2012 9pm to honor football team.

Congratulations to Ligonier Borough's employees for winning "Community's Favorite" award for LV Chamber's Annual Scare Crow Contest.

It was announced that Leaf Pick Up will terminate November 20th, 2012.

Friendship Park's restrooms have been closed for winter.

Ligonier Hose Co. #1 Representative Chris Stouffer reported receiving 36 flooding calls as a result of Hurricane Sandy. There were 18 evacuated 18 people, 5 by boat. The YMCA was opened for a shelter through Red Cross and the fire department sent 10 people there. Many borough basements were pumped as well.

Engineer Ben Faas received plans for the McMaster property.

Police Chief John Berger commended Borough Emergency Management Coordinator Chris Stouffer in regards to Hurricane Sandy.

Mayor "Butch" Bellas also commended Chris Stouffer.

President Robert Helterbran reported that the meeting is continued into executive session as previously requested by Councilman James McDonnell for personnel with no action to be taken.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Robert Bell to adjourn into executive session. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A Fry
Secretary-Treasurer
Office Manager

