

June 11, 2015

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, June 11, 2015 @ 7:00 PM in the Ligonier Town Hall with Robert Helterbran presiding.

Members Present: Robert Helterbran, James McDonnell, Margaret Garland, Judy Hoffer, Matt Smith, Pat Scanlon. Absent was Mike Bieterman.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Engineer Ben Faas, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Zoning Officer Rick Schwab. Absent was Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the minutes of May 14, 2015. All of Council was in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Pat Scanlon to approve the Consent Calendar as also presented. The motion carried 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from Michael Bieterman resigning from Ligonier Borough Council effective immediately due to moving out of the Borough.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Judy Hoffer to accept the resignation of Michael Bieterman. All were in favor. A thank you letter will be sent.

A letter of interest was received from Terry Murphy who has been nominated by both parties in the primary election to the office of Ligonier Borough Council. Murphy offered his services for consideration to be appointed to the vacant position for the remainder of the unexpired term of Michael Bieterman.

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by James McDonnell to appoint Terry Murphy to fill the vacant position of Councilman Michael Bieterman. All were in favor.

Mayor Butch Bellas is away for two weeks. It will be arranged by District Judge Denise Thiel to swear in Terry Murphy at a later date.

A letter was received from Dr. Leonard Kostley DMD and Dr. Fred Salari MD of 201 South Fairfield Street to request two, one hour parking spaces for their patients at the front of the office entrances which are located on West Loyalhanna Street. These parking spaces would be a benefit to the many senior citizens that seek treatment at their facilities.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Matt Smith to decline the request from Dr. Leonard Kostley DMD and Dr. Fred Salari MD for two, one hour parking spaces. All of Council was in favor.

90 Trial Parking @ Brian Panichelle office:

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Pat Scanlon to revoke the 90 day trial sign for one hour parking in front of Brian Panichelle's business. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

Parks & Recreation chairman James McDonnell reported that there has been a main water line break on the 105 year old pipe on the North side of the Bandstand on the Diamond last week. Westmoreland Municipal Authority is taking care of the break 100% and are on a timeline of 10 days.

Nothing new for Friendship Park.

TOWN HALL

Town Hall Chair Judy Hoffer reported that the windows of Town Hall were just cleaned both inside and out. It was reported that some of the windows are in need of being replaced.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Chair Margaret Garland reported that the crew has been busy with storm drain repairs and mowing the parks. The public works crew has also been painting the cross walks.

PUBLIC SAFETY / SHADE TREE

Chairman Matt Smith reported that Trees for the Ligonier Community Forestry Project has gotten under way.

Marah Vecenie and Brian Crooks from Western PA Conservancy were present to speak about the project. They will be recording species, size, and condition etc. of the trees along the Borough's streets. Marah and Brian will issue a report when complete. They are hoping to plant up to 100 trees in the Borough. They hope to receive help from volunteers in the community.

FINANCE

N/A

PERSONNEL / PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairman Patrick Scanlon reported new Council member Terry Murphy will be coming on.

NEW BUSINESS

Hero Walk

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry reported receiving a request from the VFW and the American Legion to conduct their Hero Walk June 24, 2015 @ 6:30 PM. Those walking will meet at Bell Street and will be escorted by police; non-stopping, they will be walking down East Main Street, around the Diamond and West Main Street and end at the American Legion.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Matt Smith to approve. All were in favor.

James McDonnell reported that he along with council Judy Hoffer attended a meeting with the Ligonier Township and Laurel Mtn. Borough in conjunction with the township's request to discuss a new comprehensive plan to benefit the entire community. DCED was present to explain funding on municipal assistance programs that can be granted.

McDonnell did not know of date of next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wanda Hill of Creative Differences Cafe on North Fairfield Street was present and asked permission to close Bank Alley with orange barrels July 17-18, 2015 for 2-4 hours for an art project from 2-4 PM.

A motion was made by Matt Smith and seconded by James McDonnell to approve the request. All of Council was in favor.

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry welcomed Terry Murphy to Council.

Fry reported that he recently met with executive director of Loyalhanna Watershed, Susan Huba and Ligonier Township Manager Terry Carcella to discuss the options that our communities have to keep the recycle program continuing. Fry hopes to come back next council meeting to inform everyone of some options as funding is currently low.

Solicitor Welty welcomed Terry Murphy to Council.

EADS Engineer Ben Faas met with Paul Fry and members of the Parks and Recreation Committee along with the Chamber to discuss options for the Diamond. Faas received input from the Parks and Recreation Committee. Landscape architect will be developing plans. Faas hopes to come before Council ready to go to bid by December or January 2016.

Faas welcomed Terry Murphy.

Police Chief John Berger welcomed Terry Murphy to Council. Chief Berger reported that the new officers are working out fine.

President Helterbran thanked everyone for coming and welcomed Terry Murphy. Next Council meeting is July 9, 2015.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A Fry