

**March 10, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 7pm in the Town Hall with President Matt Smith presiding.

**Members Present:** Matt Smith, Mariah Fisher, Robert Barron, Judy Hoffer, Nate Sylvester, Jordan Frei, and Brad Chartier.

**Others Present:** Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw, Street Supervisor Ron Ross, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Engineer Jake Bolby, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Fire Chief Corey Blystone, Zoning / Code Enforcement Officer Karl Horman.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion** was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Jordan Frei to approve the minutes of February 10, 2022 as presented. All of Council was in favor.

**BILLS PAYABLE**

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the Bills Payable as also presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Amendment to Public Comment Policy:**

**A motion** was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Mariah Fisher to update meeting rules as authorized by the Sunshine Act to include a role that Public Comment be limited to no more than 5 minutes for any resident or taxpayer. The motion carried with all in favor.

Jane Heiple of 424 Kastner Street addressed Council about the proposed walking trail extension on Kastner Street. Per Heiple, Public Safety is an issue on Kastner Street with parking. Public Health is also an issue with wetland and mosquitoes. Heiple asked what the plan is to protect private homeowners with the proposed trail extension.

Solicitor Welty stated that the current status is undetermined as far as Kastner Street extension for the trail. Ligonier Borough has no authority to grant permission as it has never been accepted by the Borough. It would be private land owners.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Ordinance amending the Ligonier Borough Zoning Ordinance:**

**A motion** was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Robert Barron to take some changes back to the Planning Commission before recommendation to Council. All of Council was in favor.

**LYBSA Agreement:**

**A motion** was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Nate Sylvester to enter into Use Agreement with Ligonier Youth Baseball Softball Association. The motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce with more detail on their approved to plan BARK event in the Borough to be held September 25, 2022 from 12pm-4pm.

**A motion** was made by Jordan Frei and seconded by Nate Sylvester to approve. All of Council was in favor.

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to complete the paperwork for the Town Hall quadrant of the Diamond to be closed to traffic for demonstration by the High Flyers and other groups in the area during Summer In Ligonier event July 16, 2022

from 11am-4pm. Also requested is the use of sidewalk chalk to decorate the street in the same quadrant.

Council decided to table this topic and discuss next month.

Request received from Pastor Bryan Jarrell of the Epiphany Anglican Fellowship Church in Ligonier Valley along with the Light of Life Rescue Mission requesting permission to bring Rescue Dogs Food Truck to Ligonier on Monday, May 2, 2022 outside of Town Hall from 10:30am-1:30pm, and serve lunch to the Ligonier community and educate the community about homeless, addicted, or mentally ill neighbors and loved ones.

**A motion** was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Robert Barron to approve the request to set up a food truck outside of Town Hall steps Monday, May 2, 2022 from 10:30am-1:30pm. All of Council was in favor.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PARKS & RECREATION**

Chair Mariah Fisher reported that the Ligonier Youth Baseball Softball Association (LYBSA) wants to have a load of dirt brought in to fill in the rest of the fields. The P&R committee will meet with Street Supervisor Ron Ross to discuss further.

Fisher further reported that requests for proposals were sent out for Friendship Park Phase II to a few different firms. The committee is anticipating them back by early April and will then present to Council.

### **TOWN HALL**

Chair Judy Hoffer reported that the Public Works Crew has been busy painting the foyer next to the LV Chamber and stairway.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Nothing to report.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Jordan Frei had nothing to report.

President Matt Smith congratulated Fire Chief Corey Blystone on the Fire Department recently obtaining the former Police Station building. Blystone commented that the Fire Department obtained the building out of their own funds with no grants received for the purchase.

#### **Fire Services Agreement:**

Council President Matt Smith suggested that Jordan Frei take over his position on the special committee along with Nate Sylvester and Mariah Fisher to work with the Fire Department on the Fire Services Agreement.

### **FINANCE**

Nothing to report

### **PLANNING / PERSONNEL**

Nothing to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Donald Skovira of VFW** and Westmoreland Game Guild was present requesting free parking in front & side of VFW for a Gaming event Saturday, May 14 from 11am-7pm. Funds raised will go to VFW.

**A motion** was made by Robert Barron and seconded by Jordan Frei to approve the request and bag the meters around the VFW May 14, 2022 from 11am-7pm. The motion carried unanimously.

**Westmoreland Tax Collection Alternate Delegate:**

Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw expressed the need to appoint an alternate delegate to serve along with her on the Westmoreland County Tax Collection Committee and proposed Ligonier Borough Tax Collector Robin Roberts to serve as alternate delegate.

**A motion** was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Judy Hoffer to appoint Robin Roberts as Westmoreland County Tax Collection Alternate Delegate. The motion carried with all in favor.

**Subdivisions:**

**Pamela Graham Plan @ 313 West Loyalhanna St.:**

Plan has been approved by the Planning Commission. Plan is to divide the property from 3 parcels to 2 parcels.

**A motion** was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Brad Chartier to accept the subdivision for the Pamela Graham Plan. All of Council was in favor.

**Linus Gick Plan @ 319 East Church St.:**

This plan has also been approved by the Planning Commission. The plan is to create 2 lots from the one parcel.

**A motion** was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Brad Chartier to accept the subdivision plan for Linus Gick. The motion carried with all in favor.

**National Night Out – August 2, 2022**

Chief John Berger reported that National Night Out will be August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. Berger noted that it is Ligonier Township’s 200th Anniversary and they asked about having a few tents with old time fire gear. Chief Berger is happy to be working together with the Township for the event. Mariah Fisher stated that it will most likely be held in Lot A again. Committee hopes to come back next month with more detail on the event.

**COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS**

Street Supervisor Ron Ross reported that Dumpster Days for Ligonier Borough at the Borough garage will be Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 7am-3pm, & Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 8am-noon.

Ron Ross gave an update on the gas line replacement work in the Borough. They will be back to put binder in and will resurface all the roads where work was done. It was noted that this could take several months.

It was reported that they will be doing South Dice Alley from Loyalhanna to Glessner, South Fairfield from Loyalhanna to West Main, South Market from Glessner to East Cherry and West Loyalhanna from South Dice to South Market after they are done with the projects on Walnut Street within the next 3 weeks.

Mayor Bellas reported that he met with the Loyalhanna Watershed, Fish Commission, Department of Natural Resources and State Rep. Leslie Rossi; the Watershed was granted a \$225,000 to work on Mill Creek. They are doing 1,200 feet of stream bank remediation.

Mayor Bellas again asked everyone to please remember to shovel their sidewalks after a snow event.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**A motion** was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Nate Sylvester to adjourn the meeting. All of Council was in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Shaw

Secretary-Treasurer