

October 10, 2023

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7pm in the Town Hall with President Matt Smith presiding.

Members Present: Matt Smith, Adriel Ginsburg, Judy Hoffer, Nate Sylvester, Jordan Frei and Brad Chartier. Absent was Mariah Fisher.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw, Street Supervisor Ron Ross, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Solicitor George Welty, and Fire Chief Corey Blystone. Absent was Police Chief Mike Matrunics.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **motion** was made by Adriel Ginsburg and seconded by Brad Chartier to approve the regular and special meeting minutes of September 14, 2023. The motion carried with all in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A **motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Adriel Ginsburg to approve the Bills Payable. All of Council was in favor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A **motion** was made by Jordan Frei and seconded by Adriel Ginsburg to approve the Consent Calendar provided. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ron Ross appointed Emergency Management Coordinator for Ligonier Borough by Governor Josh Shapiro.

To approve Agreement form(s) Westmoreland County Board of Commissioners for Hazel Alley Project:

Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw reported that this is the \$220,000 grant we have received and must match. If moving forward, paperwork must be completed.

Matt Smith stated that it is the Borough's plan to use proceeds from the sale of property to match the grant.

A **motion** was made by Brad Chartier and seconded by Jordan Frei to move forward by matching the grant and completing the necessary paperwork. The motion carried with all in favor.

EV Ordinance:

Jordan Frei stated the proposed ordinance should be ready for action at the November 2023 Council meeting as a few additions are to be added by Solicitor Welty.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Thank you card was received from the LV Library for the Borough's assistance with their 2023 Historic Photo Show. The Library had borrowed the "Reflections" picture from the Town Hall hallway.

Email received from Ginny Fitzner, Secretary of LVHC#1 requesting permission to hang 2 banners publicizing their 50/50 raffle and be placed;

- 1. The back of the old Borough building facing the parking lot and;**

2. Either across Fairfield Street between the old Borough building and the Fire Department or on the front of the fire station.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Brad Chartier to approve the banners to be placed on the buildings. All of Council was in favor.

Ratify email request from Julie Donovan of Fort Ligonier to attach signs to their post and rail fence that promote Free Admission for Youth 17 and under October 13-15, 2023.

A motion was made Brad Chartier and seconded by Judy Hoffer to ratify the request for Free Admission for Youth 17 and under October 13-15, 2023. The motion carried with all in favor.

Ratify Temporary Sign Permit request received from Julie Donovan of Fort Ligonier for a 2'x6' sign to be placed on Museum lawn of the Fort October 13-15, 2023 to promote historical interpretation of 18th Century Tradesman.

A motion was made by Jordan Frei and seconded by Adriel Ginsburg to approve. The motion carried with all in favor.

Letter received from Cari Frei Executive Director of Ligonier Country Market requesting permission to divert traffic from Carey School Road beginning in Ligonier Township onto Walnut Street and then onto Route 30 in conjunction with the permit application being sent to PennDot for Ligonier Country Market 2024.

Street Supervisor Ron Ross asked that the detour signs come down weekly as they are stuck in people's yards, Giant Eagle property etc.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Adriel Ginsburg to approve with Street Supervisor Ron Ross' recommendation that the signs must come down weekly. The motion carried with Jordan Frei abstaining.

Ratify use of Mellon Park application received from St. Michael's of the Valley Episcopal Church for Blessing of the Pets held October 8, 2023.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Nate Sylvester to ratify the Pet Blessing. The motion carried with all in favor.

Letter received from Judy Ridgway of Weeders & Seeders requesting to hold a "May Day" event fundraiser on Sunday, May 5, 2024 using the Bandstand and Diamond area.

A motion was made by Jordan Frei and seconded by Brad Chartier to approve. The motion carried unanimously.

Tom Carney of Boy Scouts requested permission for the Boy Scouts to sell Christmas Trees beginning the weekend after Thanksgiving.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Adriel Ginsburg to approve. The motion carried with all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

In the absence of Chair Mariah Fisher, Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw reported receiving a notification that the Borough got a \$299,900 matching grant for Friendship Park from DCNR.

The grant is to be used for Phase I of the construction process. It is planned that the matching funds will come from donations and grants and not from taxpayer dollars.

TOWN HALL

Nothing to report

PUBLIC WORKS

Nothing to report

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chairman Jordan Frei reported that the committee had a productive meeting with the Fire Department. There will be a couple recommendations coming to Council throughout the next month. Jordan reported that there are a few changes to the fire services contract and ideas as far as recruiting and retention.

Notices will be placed on both Savvy Citizen and the Borough website that the LVHC#1 is looking for new membership volunteers.

Fire Chief Corey Blystone stated that there are many ways you can help the Fire Department other than fight fires; such as fundraising, administration, tours of Fire Station with cub scouts, boy scouts, record keeping, and maintenance.

FINANCE

Chairman Brad Chartier reported that the Borough Pension state aid came in last week at \$52,450.99. This covers 73% of the Borough's pension cost for the year.

PLANNING / PERSONNEL

Nothing

SHADE TREE

Street Supervisor Ron Ross reported that a big tree was taken down last week on Church Street that trucks were hitting.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Street Supervisor reported that the Public Works building roof replacement may begin Monday.

Leaf pick up will begin.

Fire Chief Corey Blystone stated that the 50/50 raffle tickets will be sold online as well as at the station during Fort Ligonier Days.

EADS Engineer Ben Faas reported still working on the plans for Hazel Alley.

Faas also reported that Ligonier Township will be considering a sidewalk from the high school acrossed Millcreek and then stopping at the Township line. Faas talked to them to consider extending it to Vincent Street; although in Borough. Assuming it is approved at the Township meeting tonight Faas stated that there would be grant sponsors but if Borough supports this project as well, he would be looking for a letter of support for the grant application.

A motion was made by Adriel Ginsburg and seconded by Brad Chartier to support the sidewalk expansion as discussed. The motion carried with all of Council in favor.

Mayor Bellas reminded everyone that leaves must be raked between the curb and the sidewalk and not in the streets.

Councilwoman Judy Hoffer also reminded everyone to clean up after their dogs.

President Matt Smith wished everyone a happy Fort Ligonier Days.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Jordan Frei and seconded by Adriel Ginsburg to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Shaw
Secretary-Treasurer