

November 12, 2009

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, November 12, 2009 in the Town Hall @ 7:00 PM with President Dale Show presiding.

Members Present: Dale Show, James McDonnell, Kim Shaffer, Robert Helterbran, Robert Bell, Sam Banales, Tom Freeman.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Engineer Dan Hockenberry, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Ligonier Hose #1 Representative Chris Stouffer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Tom Freeman to approve the minutes of October 5, 2009 as presented. All of Council was in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by Kim Shaffer to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion carried 7-0.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Tom Freeman and seconded by Robert Helterbran to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion was carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Ligonier VFW Post 734 requesting a disabled parking space to be designated on East Main Street located directly in front of the post's main entrance.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Tom Freeman to approve the request but on a 6- month trial period. All were in favor.

A letter was received from the LV Chamber of Commerce requesting the police department to stop traffic for Santa's Parade & to bag meters on the northeast quadrant of the Diamond by Town Hall on Friday, November 27, 2009. It is also requested that the Fire Police be activated for traffic control.

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by Sam Banales to approve the request from LV Chamber of Commerce. The motion carried 7-0.

A letter was received from the Orthodox Christian Fellowship requesting use of the Diamond / Bandstand from 7-9:30 PM on the evening of Monday, December 28 or Tuesday December 29, 2009 to hold a concert and canned food drive.

A motion was made by Robert Helterbran and seconded by Robert Bell to approve the request and permit the concert on the Town Hall steps and conduct the canned food drive on the Bandstand area and courtyard. All of Council was in favor.

A letter was received from PennState Dance Marathon Students requesting to solicit donations on the Diamond Saturday, December 5, 2009 for pediatric cancer.

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by James McDonnell to approve the request from PennState Dance Marathon Students to solicit donations from the sidewalks around the Diamond for pediatric cancer. All were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

N/A

TOWN HALL

Town Hall Committee Chairman Robert Helterbran reported that the Town Hall roof was repaired.

PUBLIC WORKS

Tom Freeman reported that leaf pick up continues until November 25, 2009. Freeman reported having 60 ton of reserve salt for winter and will be ordering more within the near future. Freeman closed his report by thanking Paul Fry and crew for their clean up after Fort Ligonier Days.

PUBLIC SAFETY / SHADE TREE

N/A

FINANCE

Finance Chairman Robert Bell reported on the Proposed Budget for 2010. The proposed budget will be in the Borough office for anyone who wants to review it. It is hoped to be adopted at December's council meeting, however the committee is continuing to look for ways to cut expenses including looking into changing borough employee's health coverage.

PERSONNEL / PLANNING COMMISSION

Personnel N/A

Planning Commission

A public meeting will be held in regards to the newly proposed Zoning Ordinance Wednesday, November 18th at 7 PM in the Town Hall.

James McDonnell called for an executive session for personnel @ 7:26 PM. Council returned from executive session @ 7:58 with no action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution for Hazard Mitigation Plan for Westmoreland County:

Solicitor Welty explained the Resolution mandating the county prepare and maintain, keep current a Hazard Mitigation Plan for evaluating the County's Hazards identifying the resources and capabilities and selecting appropriate actions and implementing mitigation resources measures to reduce or eliminate future damage in such hazards.

Council, if passes such resolution would approve and place into immediate affect the Hazardous Mitigation Plan of the County to be reviewed every 5 years to be sure it conforms to all requirements.

A motion was made by James McDonnell and seconded by Kim Shaffer to adopt the Resolution for Hazard Mitigation Plan for Westmoreland County. The motion carried unanimously.

Subdivision for Kevin Sichula & Corky Wilt:

The subdivision is for a side lot addition to add parking area @ 341 Cherry Way. It was noted that the Planning Commission has approved.

A motion was made by Tom Freeman and seconded by Kim Shaffer to approve the subdivision. All of Council was in favor.

Act 51

Solicitor Welty explained the new Act 51. Governor Rendell signed Act 51 of 2009 October 9th. Affective immediately Act 51 provides for a killed in service benefit to be funded by the commonwealth of PA equal to monthly salary of the deceased officer adjusted annually to the cost of living. The benefit is payable to the deceased surviving spouse, or if no spouse minor children under the age of 18, or those children are attending

college they can receive the benefit up to age 23. Act 51 specifically repeals the current Act 600 killed in service benefit. Act 51 benefit is offset by any worker compensation benefits or pension benefits paid to the surviving spouse pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry reported that he along with councilman Robert Bell attended the re-organizational meeting of the Act 32 Earned Income Tax. There are reportedly 69 municipalities in the county and 17 school districts totaling 86 entities involved.

Mayor Ormond Bellas reported that Chief John Berger attended Top Gun training and received a certificate. The training was very helpful and Chief Berger gained a lot from attending. Bellas thanked council for his opportunity to attend the training.

Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas noted that Light Up Night in Ligonier is scheduled for Friday, November 27th, 2009.

Mayor Bellas also reminded everyone not to shovel snow onto the streets.

Chief Berger reported mandated yearly in-service training changes are to take place in 2010. The state will no longer pay the fee. Berger noted that the fee will be approximately \$58.40 per officer. This will come out training in the 2010 budget.

President Show reminded all that the Planning Commission meeting discussing the new zoning is scheduled for November 18, 2009 at 7:00 PM here at the Town Hall.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Robert Bell and seconded by Sam Banales to adjourn the meeting. All of Council was in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Fry
Secretary-Treasurer
Office Manager