

January 11, 2024

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 7pm in the Town Hall with President Matt Smith presiding.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Jordan Frei to approve the minutes of December 14, 2023 and the re-organizational meeting of January 2, 2024 as presented. The motion carried with all in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Brad Chartier and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion unanimously carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Jordan Frei and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the Consent Calendar provided. The motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Amendment to the Fire Service Agreement:

Councilman Jordan Frei reported that this was voted on in December with no change since but needs to be signed. Solicitor Welty thought since it is an amendment it is a good idea to be voted on again.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received from **PA Department of Transportation** informing of intent to submit an application for water obstruction permit for Expansion Dam Project on the bridge located at 130 feet southwest of the intersection of SR 711 and SR 0030.

A motion was made by Brad Chartier and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the permit for the Expansion Dam Project on the bridge at the intersection of SR 711 and SR 0030. All of Council was in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

Chair Mariah Fisher reported of an upcoming committee meeting in regards to the Friendship Parks Sports Complex.

TOWN HALL

Chair Judy Hoffer reported purchasing some back up batteries for office computers.

The Town Hall committee will meet Monday, January 15, 2024 to have a walk thru Town Hall for ideas to spruce up Community Room.

PUBLIC WORKS

Chair Carol Barton publicly thanked Public Works team and Jan Shaw for the beautiful job decorating the Diamond.

Barton thanked the Public Works crew for being on top of the recent winter storm.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chairman Jordan Frei reported he is interested in pursuing the PA Volunteer Service Credit program for our volunteer firemen as mentioned at a previous meeting. Frei stated that it cannot be enacted until 2025 based on the 2024 numbers. Frei added that it would be best to wait until a new solicitor is seated with Ligonier Borough after Solicitor Welty's retirement as opposed to bringing in a new solicitor halfway through the procedure.

Councilman Frei commented on the recent winter storm and the fire alarm going off at least 5 times yesterday.

FINANCE

Nothing

PLANNING / PERSONNEL

Nothing

SHADE TREE

Nothing

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Street Supervisor Ron Ross asked that business owners do not blow garbage onto the streets. Ross noted that there is a state law that prohibits blowing garbage out onto Borough Streets and State Roads. As the Borough crew is not running the street sweeper as much right now due to the weather, this must be stopped.

Fire Chief Corey Blystone thanked Fox's Pizza who donated pizza for Ligonier Hose Co. #1 during the recent winter storm while they contended to all the fire calls.

Blystone advised all about the upcoming cold snap to come next week; while using space heaters, plug them into the outlet and do not use extension cords as well as to keep them away from anything flammable.

Blystone finished his report by adding that the fire department will be holding a spaghetti dinner at the Town Hall Saturday, January 20th during Ice Fest beginning at 11am until sold out.

Engineer Ben Faas reported that the Hazel Alley project is moving forward and the permits are in progress and being submitted. Pending permit approval it is anticipated asking for authorization to advertise project within the 2 months.

Police Chief Mike Matrunics reported a busy day during the recent winter storm. The police department worked with the Borough road crew, Township road crew, PennDot, Rolling Rock and all the fire departments. Matrunics felt we were lucky and didn't get as much snow as they were calling for however there were at least 5 crashes in a little over an 8 hour period and tons of trees down.

Matrunics also reported that the department is working on enforcing traffic, speed enforcement all over the area, hitting the stop signs as well as enforcing the ordinance of wheeled devices around the Diamond on nice days.

Matrunics added that they are still investigating the Bitcoin scams.

President Matt Smith thanked George Welty for his service and stated that the next meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council will be Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 7pm.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Jordan Frei to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Shaw
Secretary-Treasurer