

**March 11, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 7pm via ZOOM due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. President James St. Clair presided over the meeting.

**Members Present:** James St. Clair, Matt Smith, Robert Barron, Mariah Fisher, Judy Hoffer, Jeff Craig, and Nate Sylvester.

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Jeff Craig to approve the minutes of February 2021 as presented. All of Council was in favor.

#### **BILLS PAYABLE**

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Robert Barron to approve the Bills Payable as also presented. The motion carried with all in favor.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Jeff Craig to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

At this time (7:05 pm) Council went into executive session for legal matters with no action to be taken.

Council returned from executive session at 7:27pm with no action taken.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Alex Raine of the Borough was present to introduce himself and announce that he is running for Mayor.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **Corn Hole Tournament:**

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce regarding the requested Corn Hole Tournament.

1. A. Requesting the use of Lot A.  
B. Requesting town-wide free parking by making a \$600 donation.  
C. Requesting Bank Alley be blocked off from North Market Street to Oak Alley and West Church Street be blocked off from North Market Street to Oak Alley.
2. Set up will begin at 8am with registration at 10am. Tournament will begin at 11am.
3. The Chamber will rent port-a-johns to be delivered on Friday, September 10, and picked up on Monday, September 13. Port-a-johns will be placed in Bank Alley.
4. There will be local food and beverage vendors. All vendors will be RAMP certified and will provide only two drinks at a time.
5. IDs will be checked and participants over the age of 21 will receive a wristband at registration or when they purchase their first alcoholic drink.
6. No outside food or beverage will be permitted.
7. Additional garbage cans will be needed in Lot A during the event.
8. The Chamber is requesting Council to suspend the enforcement of its Open Container Ordinance during this event.
9. All vendors must provide proof of insurance.
10. The Chamber will purchase the appropriate liquor liability insurance.

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the Corn Hole Tournament in Lot A. All of Council was in favor.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Email request received from Jane Altman of River Art Works requesting permission for artists to be permitted to do a Pop-Up Art Event on the Diamond during an event weekend in the Borough. Average stay is approximately 4 hours.

**A motion** was made by Mariah Fisher and Judy Hoffer to approve the request. All of Council was in favor.

A letter requesting extended outside seating on Town Hall sidewalk along East Main Street was received from Mike O'Neal, Executive Chef / General Manager of The Kitchen on Main.

It was suggested that Parks & Recreation Committee get together to make recommendations to utilize areas throughout the Borough safely and effectively for sidewalk cafes.

**A motion** was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Robert Barron to decline the extension of the tables onto the Town Hall sidewalk for the time being and Parks and Recreation Committee to meet and discuss other possible options. The motion carried with all in favor.

### **Sidewalk Café Ordinance – Ordinance 544**

**A motion** was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Jeff Craig to temporarily suspend Section 8-E of Ordinance 544 which prohibits the sale of alcohol in Sidewalk Café's effective immediately through calendar year 2021 (with the intention of revisiting the ordinance altogether). This motion is contingent on first obtaining Ligonier Borough Sidewalk Café permit, approval from PLCB to extend license area to the Sidewalk Café; and limiting to only serving alcohol while seated at the establishment. All of Council was in favor.

Request received from Stephen Cary for use of Diamond and Bandstand facilities to discuss social issues and technology on ongoing Sundays from 12-1pm using a computer with graphics. Also requested was a sign permit.

Solicitor Welty advised approving for 1 Sunday only as other people wish to use the Bandstand as well.

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Jeff Craig to approve use of Diamond and Bandstand by Mr. Cary 1 Sunday; following all rules for use of Diamond and carrying all props with him. All of Council was in favor.

Letter received from Girl Scout Troup #90003 requesting permission to hold a community-wide Easter Egg hunt March 27 and April 3 from 10am to 5pm. 500+ plastic treat filled eggs will be hidden throughout the community from Main Street, including Mellon Park and St. Clair Park & Diamond.

**A motion** was made by Jeff Craig and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the Easter Egg Hunt request from Girl Scout Troup #90003. All of Council was in favor.

A letter was received from Heritage Church requesting to hold Sunrise Service on the Diamond 6:30am Sunday, April 4, 2021.

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve. The motion carried unanimously.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PARKS & RECREATION**

Mariah Fisher reported that **Friendship Park** is now open however the restrooms will remain closed for another month.

**Walking Trail Expansion:** it is asked that a letter of support for the project be sent from the Borough.

**A motion** was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Jeff Craig to sign off on proposed letter of support to Ligonier Township in order for them to apply for a grant to update the walking trail map study. The motion carried with all in favor.

### **TOWN HALL**

Chair Judy Hoffer reported that Darr Construction is starting construction on the outside wall. Still waiting on the windows for the Council Chambers.

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Matt Smith to continue to hold Council meetings via ZOOM as well as for Town Hall meeting rooms and auditorium to remain closed from rentals. The motion carried with all of Council in favor.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Chairman Robert Barron reported that Public Works crew found a bunch of old equipment at the municipal building and have sold it.

**A motion** was made by Robert Barron and seconded by Jeff Craig to authorize Public Works to purchase a mower & paint machine with the money from the sale of the equipment. The motion carried with all in favor.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

N/A

### **FINANCE**

N/A

### **PLANNING / PERSONNEL**

Chairman Matt Smith reported interviewing a handful of great candidates for the position of Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer. The committee has decided to offer Bill Wolford the position.

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Judy Hoffer to hire Bill Wolford as Ligonier Borough Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer. The motion carried unanimously.

Matt Smith thanked all candidates for applying.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

NONE

### **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

NONE

### **COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS**

Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw thanked Council for appointing a Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer.

Street Supervisor Ron Ross thanked Council for authorizing him to upgrade the equipment.

Engineer Ben Faas reported a pre-construction meeting will soon be scheduled for the gutter and cornice project within the next couple weeks.

President James St. Clair commended public works crew for their work and for keeping our streets clean. Judy Hoffer echoed St. Clair's comments with their work as well in the Town Hall.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Jeff Craig to adjourn the meeting. All of council was in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Shaw  
Secretary-Treasurer