

January 13, 2022

The regular meeting for the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, January 13, 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 Ben Faas, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, and Fire Chief Corey Blystone. Absent was Code / Zoning Officer Karl Horman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the Re-Organizational Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2022. All of Council was in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Nate Sylvester to approve the Bills Payable. The motion carried with all in favor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Robert Barron to accept the Consent Calendar presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Solicitor Welty stated that the auctions have been advertised for January 29, 2022 @ 1pm for the McMullen Property and 2pm for the old Borough Building. There is no need for a special meeting. The awards can be announced @ the public auction. A quorum of Council must be present however at the auction.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to use the Town Hall Courtyard for registration for 12th annual Soup's On! Event to be held Saturday, March 19, 2022. Registration to begin at 10:30am and conclude at 11:30am. The event will run from 11am-2pm. Also requested is additional trash cans to be placed around the Diamond & outside restrooms be unlocked.

A motion was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Brad Chartier to approve the request for Soups On event. All of Council was in favor.

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to block off the Northeast quadrant of the Diamond to traffic for Sunday Evening Band Concerts beginning June 5th through August 21, 2022. Also requested is the first four meters on the North side of East Main Street be bagged for Laurel Highlands Antique Auto Club members to display their classic cars during the concerts. In the event of inclement weather, concerts to be held in Town Hall Auditorium.

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the LV Chamber's request for Band Concerts. The motion carried with all in favor.

Letter received from the LV Chamber of Commerce requesting to bag the meters around Diamond Park and the first two blocks of East and West Main Streets for the Chamber's Antiques on the Diamond event June 4th from 9am-3pm. Also requested is the outside restrooms to be unlocked.

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Jordan Frei to approve the above request from LV Chamber. The motion carried 7-0.

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to use Diamond Park on July 16, 2022 from 9am-5pm for the Chamber's annual Summer in Ligonier event. Also requested is permission for downtown merchants to hold sidewalk sales during the weekend.

A motion was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the LV Chamber's request. All of Council was in favor.

Letter received from LV Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to hold the Ligonier Night Market on the third Thursday of each month from June through September. Also requested is permission to bag the meters around the Diamond and the first two blocks of East & West Main Streets from 3pm-9pm to allow the vendors time to set up.

A motion was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Brad Chartier to approve the request for Ligonier Night Markets. All of Council was unanimously in favor.

Letter received from the LV Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to hold Wine, Whiskey & Sweets Walk Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 1pm-5pm. The Chamber requests to use the sidewalks & parking areas around the Diamond plus two blocks on East & West Main Streets from 1pm-5pm. Set up would begin approx. 11am; with meters needing bagged by 10am. The Chamber further requests Council to suspend the enforcement of its Open Container Ordinance during this event.

A motion was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Brad Chartier to approve the request and suspend the enforcement of the Open Container Ordinance during the event. The motion carried with all in favor.

Email received from Karen Lynn requesting "No Parking" lines at both driveways on Grant Street in front of garage and rental.

Street Supervisor Ron Ross stated that this could be done but not until April.

A motion was made by Nate Sylvester and seconded by Brad Chartier to approve and be done in April. All of Council was in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

Chair Mariah Fisher reported still working on Friendship Park Phase II as well as working on finalizing the user agreement with Ligonier Youth Baseball Softball Association (LYBSA).

TOWN HALL

Judy Hoffer, Town Hall Chair reported Town Hall Committee is watching the CDC guidelines due to high volume of covid cases in Westmoreland County.

PUBLIC WORKS

Nothing

PUBLIC SAFETY

Nothing

FINANCE

Chairman Brad Chartier reported that the 2021 budget was \$163,000 over in 2021 due to less than expected rental & meter revenues and unforeseen repair expenses at Town Hall, Burd Alley, Summit Avenue as well as the Public Works Building.

PLANNING / PERSONNEL

Nothing

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS

Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw reported that Jack Fry's term serving on the Planning Commission is over and the Borough is now looking for a replacement.

Street Supervisor Ron Ross thanked his crew for their work with the recent snow event.

Police Chief John Berger reported that the LVPD came in \$2,700 below budget for the 3rd year in a row.

Mayor Bellas welcomed Matt Smith to the LVPD Commission.

Bellas also advised everyone to be careful with the forecasted snow coming this weekend.

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 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Shaw
Secretary-Treasurer