

July 8, 2021

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 7pm in the Town Hall. Vice President Matt Smith presided over the meeting in the absence of President James St. Clair.

Members Present: Matt Smith, Robert Barron, Mariah Fisher, & Judy Hoffer. Absent was James St. Clair, 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, Fire Chief Corey Blystone, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Karl Horman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Robert Barron and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the minutes of June 10, 2021 meeting. The motion carried with all in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Robert Barron to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amanda Mattioli, Quartermaster of the Ligonier VFW was present and stated that the VFW plans to host a Charity Pig Roast on Saturday, September 25, 2021 in honor of National Suicide Awareness Month. VFW intends to erect a tent in rear parking lot and will barbecue and serve food from this location from 12pm-6pm. VFW asks for closure of the sidewalk adjacent to the VFW Building on East Main & South St. Clair Street on September 25, 2021 from 11am-7pm. Also requested is to bag 4 parking meters in front of the closed sidewalks on September 25, 2021 from 11am – 7pm.

Council Matt Smith suggested roping off the area. Chief Berger stated he has caution tape if they would like to use it.

Councilwoman Mariah Fisher thought it best to bag the meters the entire day.

A motion was made by Robert Barron and seconded by Mariah Fisher to approve the request. All of Council was in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received from Julie Donovan of Fort Ligonier requesting permission to use the bus lot Friday, September 10 until Sunday, September 12, 2021 for an event. Also requested is use of Lot B Saturday, September 11, until Sunday morning September 12, 2021.

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Robert Barron to approve the request. All of Council was in favor.

Second request from Julie Donovan is permission to use the bus lot Friday, September 17, 2021 from 4pm-9pm along with Lot B for Cannon Ball event.

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Robert Barron to approve the request from Fort Ligonier. The motion carried with all in favor.

Letter of complaint from Ligonier Borough resident Debbie Campayno was received regarding fireworks.

An ordinance cannot supersede a law per Chief Berger.

Public Safety Committee and Chief Berger are to hold a meeting and discuss a time frame permitting individuals to put off fireworks within the Borough.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION

Chair, Mariah Fisher reported that a Public Forum will be held Thursday, July 22nd @ 7pm in the Town Hall Chambers or Auditorium if a large crowd attends to discuss Tennis Court renovations.

TOWNHALL

Judy Hoffer, Chair of Town Hall Committee reported that the Council Chambers is almost done, and the windows have been framed in. Hoffer also commended Ron Ross and street crew for working on the sound system as well as the LED lights in the ceiling.

Hoffer also added that the Mid State construction will be back mid-August to complete the gutter project job once materials come in.

PUBLIC WORKS

Meter Feeder App: App for paying meters by phone.

A motion was made by Robert Barron and seconded by Mariah Fisher to get permission to get some quotes for the next meeting. The motion carried with all in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY

N/A

FINANCE

In the absence of Chairman Nate Sylvester, Jan Shaw Secretary-Treasurer reported that the Borough has received the first payment of ARPA grant of \$79,000 last week.

PLANNING / PERSONNEL / SHADE TREE

Nothing

NEW BUSINESS

Ratify Landowner of Commitment:

Authorizes Loyalhanna Watershed Association to enter Borough property with the intent to design and/or install/replace Conservation Practices / Best Management Practices (CP/BMPs) on Borough property for the purpose of improving water quality on MillCreek.

Loyalhanna Watershed Association has applied for a grant to clean the stream and improve the banks along the Borough's sewer property.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Mariah Fisher to ratify the Landowner Letter of Commitment. All of Council was in favor.

Resolution concerning the Disposition of Meeting Recordings:

A resolution that declares its intent to use an audio recording device to create an audio recording of meetings of the Borough strictly and solely for the purpose of assisting the secretary with the creation of the public meeting minutes. Immediately upon approval of the

minutes by Council all audio records shall be destroyed and will not become part of the permanent records.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Robert Barron adopt the Resolution for the Disposition of Meeting Recordings. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution concerning Emergency Repairs:

This resolution granted emergency authority to Borough Council to ratify emergency work performed by Ligonier Construction Company to make the emergency repair on a 30" storm sewer pipeline made of terracotta and is crushed on Burd Alley. A house bordering Burd Alley has a legacy connection to the storm sewer pipeline which may have been disconnected; that water escapes through this lateral connection at the foundation of the house and the area it is escaping has eroded a significant hole causing a patio to subside and compromise the deck above.

Borough Engineer Ben Faas advised Borough Council of this very serious emergency requiring the immediate repair of the storm sewer pipeline and that there was not sufficient time to bid the work for the repair.

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Robert Barron to adopt the Emergency Repair Resolution. The motion carried with all in favor.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS and DEPARTMENTS

Solicitor Welty commented that you need an engineering study to change the speed limit through the Borough.

Engineer Ben Faas stated that a study would run \$5,000 - \$10,000 depending on the area and length of road.

Street Supervisor Ron Ross reported that Tar & Chip in the Borough should take place the first week of August. List of streets will be put on the website.

East Main Street will be dug up Monday and they will be putting the binder in. The following Monday come back to mill and pave everything they tore up for the gas line replacement.

Engineer Ben Faas reported on the Cornice and Gutter Project at Town Hall. Payment application #3 reviewing and will get to Secretary-Treasurer shortly. Once approved, \$52,000 will be withheld for their return to finish up loose ends.

Burd Alley: Ligonier Construction atypical situation. Specs are incomplete as not sure what items will be used. Ligonier construction was \$20,000 cheaper than Ramsey. Issue with material deliveries. Can dig as soon as receive materials.

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Robert Barron to award Ligonier Construction \$88,000 and authorize Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw to sign the contract documentation of the Notice of Award, contract agreement, and Notice to proceed. All of Council was in favor.

Police Chief John Berger advised every one of recent frauds happening in the valley. Now that the LV Fire Companies / FOP are asking for donations; scammers are now calling and soliciting for money over the phone. Chief Berger advised that LV Firemen and FOP do not solicit over the phone, it is all done by mail.

A notice will be sent out on SAVVY and placed on the website.

Chief Berger commended Zoning Officer / Code Enforcement Officer Karl Horman on a job well done.

Karl Horman, Zoning / Code Enforcement Officer reported that from April through June has had 22 complaints and 18 of those are closed and or remediated and 4 remain open or non-compliant for several reasons.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mariah Fisher and seconded by Robert Barron to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Shaw
Secretary-Treasurer