

**October 10, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Monday, October 10, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the Ligonier Town Hall with James McDonnell presiding.

**Members Present:** James McDonnell, Gus Breegle, Chick Cicconi, Judy Hoffer, Matt Smith, Pat Scanlon, and Terry Murphy.

**Others Present:** Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, EADS Engineers Jake Bolby, Greg Elliot, and Ben Faas, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Fire Chief Steve Barron, & Zoning Officer Rick Schwab.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Terry Murphy to approve both the special meeting minutes and regular meeting minutes of September 8, 2016. All of Council was in favor.

**BILLS PAYABLE**

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Gus Breegle to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion carried with all in favor.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Gus Breegle to approve the Consent Calendar as also presented. The motion carried 7-0.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Fort Ligonier Days – Mellon Park**

**A motion** was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Matt Smith to rescind the motion made at last month's meeting to remove the use of Mellon Park from the Festival Area. The motion carried unanimously.

**Additional Fort Ligonier Days Permits:**

**St. James Lutheran Church** – doughnuts, hot dogs and drinks (300 East Main Street)

**Ligonier Creamery**- ice cream & **Table 105** – sandwiches & drinks – (located at 105 East Main in parking area behind the building in Cherry Alley.)

**A motion** was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Pat Scanlon to approve the above Fort Ligonier Days Permits.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter received from Clint Mullen of LVMS asking permission to hold their annual 5K Race Friday, October 21, 2016 from 11-12 pm. The race will be supervised by the entire LVMS Staff and parent volunteers. Chief Berger and LV first responders will be contacted for their assistance and support. A map of the race course has been provided.

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and Matt Smith to approve the request and activate the fire police to assist the event. All of Council was in favor.

Letter received from Arnold Landvoigt, president of Early Times Chapter POCl car club requesting permission to use a portion of LOT A Saturday, September 9, 2017 to display Pontiacs between 10-3PM. Also requested is to place a car on the sidewalk by Library to draw people to the show.

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and Pat Scanlon to approve the request with exception of vehicles on the sidewalk as requested. All were in favor.

Letter received from the LV Chamber asking permission to use the lampposts in front of the shops around the Diamond and if needed on North Market Street as well as the Town Hall courtyard for the annual Scarecrow Contest. The scarecrows will be put up beginning October 19 and will be up through November 2, 2016.

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve LV Chamber of Commerce request for the annual Scarecrow Contest. All of Council was in favor.

Use of Diamond and Bandstand Facilities application received from the American Legion Post 267 to hold Veteran's Day Service Friday, November 11, 2016 at 11 AM. Also requested is police protection to block off Diamond, use of sound system and podium & microphone.

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Terry Murphy to approve the request and activate the fire police. The motion carried unanimously.

Request received from the LV Library asking for \$1,200 allocation.

**A motion** was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Chick Cicconi to approve the \$1,200 allocation to the LV Library.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At this time a brief executive session was called for an update on litigation on 3 active lawsuits and a personnel matter at 7:19 PM.

Council returned from executive session at 7:42 PM with no action taken.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **PARKS & RECREATION / SHADE TREE**

Matt Smith, Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Committee thanked all the volunteers who worked tirelessly on the Friendship Park Project. Friendship Park looks great.

##### **Cameras at Friendship Park:**

Matt Smith addressed a proposal previously presented to council for security cameras to be placed at Friendship Park and monitored at the police station.

**A motion** was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Chick Cicconi to install security cameras at Friendship Park in the approximate amount of \$4400 plus monthly internet fees. The motion carried unanimously.

##### **Shade Tree**

Matt Smith stated that the last tree planting will be November 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9AM at Friendship Park.

#### **TOWN HALL**

Judy Hoffer reported that Town Hall windows have been cleaned.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Chairman Gus Breegle reported that the Public Works crew continues to assist with the completion of Friendship Park. They have been mowing all parks and cemeteries. New mulch has been applied at Mellon Park. Catch basins have been repaired and rebuilt. The right of ways have been cut back. The crew has also been busy preparing the town for Fort Ligonier Days.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Pat Scanlon, Chairman of the Public Safety committee reported that the Fire Station has been painted and the police station roof has also been painted.

### **FINANCE**

Terry Murphy, Chairman of the Finance Committee reported that parking fines are up. Town Hall Fund is at -0.4% for September 2016.

The committee is currently working on the 2017 budget and it is hoped that it will be presented to Council by the November 2016 meeting.

Healthcare insurance coverage is up 25% for 2017 and will be about a \$20,000 increase.

### **PLANNING / PERSONNEL**

Chick Cicconi reported that a community workshop for the joint comprehensive plan between Ligonier Borough and Ligonier Township is scheduled for 7PM October 25th in the Town Hall Auditorium. Representatives from The EADS Group will be leading the workshop where they will discuss the general planning process, anticipated issues for the Ligonier Valley and types of public participation. Residents from both municipalities are encouraged to attend.

Nothing on Personnel.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**A motion** was made by Terry Murphy to authorize Paul Fry for negotiations for the purchase of a new police car and a flatbed truck for Public Works. All of Council was in favor.

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry reported a request to use the courtyard during Fort Ligonier Days was received from Tripp Umbach Consulting & Market Research of Pittsburgh. The firm is retained by Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau to conduct an economic impact study to assess the overall impact of the region's attractions, businesses, and the economic vitality of the Laurel Highland region. An area in the courtyard is requested to conduct surveys.

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Gus Breegle to approve the request. All of Council was in favor.

Bill Stablein advised that they could also be placed in other locations. It was advised that they contact Bill Stablein if they so desired.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Helen Craig** of 230 Washington Street asked Council to view Walnut/W Main Street during Fort Ligonier Days to see firsthand how it is handled.

**Dustin Barr** of 127 McColly Street, President of FLD Inc. board of directors gave information pertaining to their entity and festival. Fort Ligonier Days Inc. is a nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is to organize and coordinate Fort Ligonier Days and provide opportunity for benevolent institutions to raise funds to support their activities. FLD Inc. is a 501C3 organization and runs on a balanced budget each year with no annual profit generated from the festival. Any excess funds are either turned back to the community or used to enhance future festivals.

FLD Inc. is happy that Council rescinded the motion to remove Mellon Park from future Fort Ligonier Day Festivals as Mellon Park generates approximately 40% of festival revenue.

**Erica Knuckles** 661 Old Lincoln Highway thanked Council for rescinding the motion. Knuckles is the Director of History and Collections at Fort Ligonier and owner of Eastwood Inn and serves on Fort Ligonier Days Committee.

**Jim Faccenda**, President of LV Chamber of Commerce thanked Council for rescinding the decision so that everyone can work together to resolve a potential problem at Walnut and Main Street with pedestrian crossing during the Festival.

**Richard Flickinger** of 422 Summit Avenue asked what will be discussed at the Joint Comprehensive Plan Workshop on October 25, 2016.

Chick Cicconi stated that he is waiting to receive information gathered from the survey sent out to all residents.

Richard Flickinger stated that he keeps hearing that public input is wanted but feels Council does not want the public helping. By not yet re-establishing the Planning Commission from the Planning Committee Flickinger feels this leaves the public with no voice or vote.

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

Paul Fry warned everyone to be prepared for detours, road closures and parking issues with upcoming Fort Ligonier Days.

Leaf Collection will be starting next Wednesday until Thanksgiving.

Chief Berger reported being ready for Fort Ligonier Days and thanked Council for the go ahead for a new Police car.

Mayor Bellas wished everyone a safe Fort Ligonier Days weekend.

President James McDonnell thanked everyone for their patience and understanding along with the ability for all organizations to work together.

EADS Engineer Greg Elliot gave an update on the Diamond Project. EADS met with Penn Dot to discuss the highway occupancy permit submitted regarding traffic control. Progressing with design and preparing drawings and working on application for grant funds for construction. Startup is projected to begin with removal of trees in February to March 2017 depending on weather.

McDonnell noted that the next meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council will take place November 10, 2016 at 7 PM.

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**A motion** was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Judy Hoffer to adjourn the meeting. All of Council was in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul A Fry  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Office Manager