

June 9, 2016

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Borough Council was held Thursday, June 9, 2016 at 7PM in the Ligonier Town Hall with James McDonnell presiding.

Members Present: James McDonnell, Judy Hoffer, Robert Helterbran, Chick Cicconi, Matt Smith, Pat Scanlon, & Terry Murphy.

Others Present: Secretary-Treasurer Paul Fry, Mayor Ormond "Butch" Bellas, Engineer Ben Faas, Solicitor George Welty, Police Chief John Berger, Fire Chief Steve Barron, Zoning Officer Rick Schwab. Absent was Code Enforcement Officer Rick Bell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Matt Smith to approve the Zoning Hearing Meeting and regular meeting minutes of May 12, 2016. All of Council was in favor.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Robert Helterbran to approve the Bills Payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Robert Helterbran and seconded by Judy Hoffer to approve the Consent Calendar as also presented to Council. The motion carried with all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Joint Comprehensive Plan / Agreement:

The topic is still on hold.

Dinner in White:

Barbara Glista discussed an amended fact sheet and some changes since last month's meeting for the Dinner in White request. Glista asked that vehicle traffic around Diamond be detoured as well as to have use of the Sound System for the proposed event on August 20th, 2016.

A motion was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Pat Scanlon to reject the request from the Heritage United Methodist Church for the use of the Diamond for the Dinner in White on August 20th, 2016. The motion carried 6 to 1 with Judy Hoffer abstaining due to being a member of the church.

Tom Shearer of the church then asked Council if they then could still use the grassy area of the Diamond and sidewalk for the August 20th Dinner in White with no closures to the streets.

A motion was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Robert Helterbran to approve the 2nd request for the Dinner in White August 20th, 2016 use of the inner Diamond with no street closures. The motion carried 5-1-1 with Pat Scanlon opposing due to concerns of public safety and Judy Hoffer abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received from Arlene Lowry with LV Education Trust asking permission to use Town Hall Courtyard during the Ligonier Stroll Friday, August 12, 2016 from 4:30 pm until 9 pm to sell pies that are entered in the Annual Pie Baking Contest. All proceeds will benefit education programs in the Ligonier Valley.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Terry Murphy to approve use of the Town Hall Courtyard for LV Education Trust to sell pies during the Stroll August 12, 2016. The motion carried unanimously to approve.

Application for use of Diamond and Bandstand Facilities received from Tom Beckman to perform Acoustic Music July 14, 21, 28, August 4, 11, & 18, 2016 from 6-8 pm. Also requested is use of Sound System. No Signs will be used.

A motion was made by Matt Smith and seconded by Robert Helterbran to approve the request from Tom Beckman for use of Bandstand on above dates. All of Council was in favor.

Letter received from Ligonier Hose Co. #1 requesting to close Fairfield Street from Church Street to Main Street from 4:30 pm to 9 pm Wednesday July 20th for a function by the LV Endowment.

A motion was made by Robert Helterbran and seconded by Pat Scanlon to approve Ligonier Hose Co. #1 request to close Fairfield Street Wednesday July 20th. The motion carried with all in favor.

Letter received from the LV Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to use the Bandstand & Diamond for Summer in Ligonier Arts & Crafts event July 15 & 16, 2016. Chamber is also asking permission to use the bus parking area along Route 30 for vendor parking for the event.

A motion was made by Pat Scanlon and seconded by Robert Helterbran to approve the request from the LV Chamber to use the Bandstand & Diamond for Summer in Ligonier Arts & Crafts event July 15 & 16, 2016 as well as the parking area along Route 30. The motion carried unanimously.

Letter received from the LV Chamber of Commerce requesting to use the Bandstand and the Diamond area for The Stroll, August 12, 2016. Also requested is to close the Diamond and the 100 blocks of East and West Main Streets and North and South Market Streets for the event. It is necessary to close the Diamond in order to park the antique and classic cars.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Terry Murphy to approve the request from the LV Chamber of Commerce for The Stroll August 12, 2016. All of Council was in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PARKS & RECREATION / SHADE TREE

Chairman Matt Smith reported that the Playground project is still moving forward. Still looking for more donations as well as tools.

Smith reported that an arborist was recently here to look at the trees on the Diamond. The committee is waiting for a report.

TOWN HALL

Judy Hoffer reported that the four windows have been measured and the replacements have been ordered.

PUBLIC WORKS

Pat Scanlon reported that the Public Works crew has finished line painting as well as clean up from the recent flooding. Scanlon noted that the roads are being prepared for seal coating which will take place the 1st week of July. Public Works crew has also been very busy mowing and weed eating at the parks.

Scanlon finished his reported by adding that the new dump site at the Township has been working out well.

PUBLIC SAFETY / PERSONNEL

Chairman Chick Cicconi reported due to a shortage of part-time officers, Chief Berger is having difficulty covering shifts. Public Safety Committee recommends hiring two part-time officers Shawn Knepper and Kevin Smith.

Chief Berger stated that Shawn Knepper lives in Youngwood and was highly thought of by some of our younger officers who went to the academy with him. Kevin Smith is a part-time officer in Ligonier Township and a good traffic officer. Smith will soon be laid off his full-time job at a coal mine and will be an asset to the Borough.

A motion was made by Chick Cicconi and seconded by Pat Scanlon to hire Shawn Knepper and Kevin Smith as part-time officers for Ligonier Borough. All of Council was in favor.

FINANCE

Chairman Terry Murphy reported a fair return of 1.4% on the Town Hall Fund. He noted that the parking and traffic violation revenue is up from the same time last year. Murphy was informed of a 20% check from Code Enforcement officer Merle Musick in the amount of approximately \$15,000.

PLANNING

Chairman Robert Helterbran reported that Planning will meet Monday evening to discuss the amendment to Zoning Ordinance and briefly discuss the Comprehensive Survey Questions.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT

McDonnell stated that an executive session will be conducted at the close of the meeting for litigation issues with no action resulting other than updating status.

President James McDonnell thanked Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Jan Shaw for attending the State Borough Convention in Harrisburg this past week.

COMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS from OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS

Engineer Ben Faas reported that EADS is getting ready for design with the 48' radii regarding the Diamond Project.

Faas reported that the YMCA storm water retention is working well.

Police Chief John Berger thanked Council for the newly hired part-time officers.

Mayor Bellas also thanked Council for the new police hires. Mayor Bellas reminded everyone to please cut your grass.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION

Councilman Robert Helterbran read a letter of resignation effective immediately following tonight's meeting. Robert Helterbran is retiring and moving out of the area.

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Pat Scanlon to accept the resignation from Councilman Robert Helterbran with regret. All of Council was in favor.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Judy Hoffer and seconded by Matt Smith to adjourn into executive session @ 8PM. All of Council was in favor. Council returned @ 8:48PM with no action taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A Fry
Secretary-Treasurer
Office Manager