

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting
Monday, August 10th, 2015
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bevec at 7:00 pm.

A. **Moment of Silence** called by Mr. Bevec

B. **Pledge of Allegiance**

C. **Roll Call**

Paul Sharkady-Present

John Severine-Present

Tim Bilsky - Present

Rich Russo - Present

Fran Coleman - Absent

Joe McGarry - Present

John Bevec - Present

Others Present: Solicitor Mr. Patrick Derrico, HMT Engineer Mr. Kevin Wilmot, Canonsburg Borough Manager Mr. Bob Kipp, Mayor David Rhome, Chief of Police Alex Coghill

GUESTS

1. Rebecca Bowman, attorney for Maureen Gallagher, stated she had nothing to report, however stated she was prepared to respond to public comment if there was any.
2. Scott Biers, property owner and Jamie Harshman, civil engineer for A&S Landscaping approached council regarding a sanitary holding tank ordinance for property on Strabane Avenue. The building on the property is partially built. Mr. Harshman stated he provided a model ordinance some time ago. Mr. Harshman stated he and Mr. Biers had the Planning Commission's approval for the site plan however, needed a holding tank ordinance from the Borough. He also stated the building plans were approved by HMT. Mr. Harshman stated there were not other sewage options at this property. Mr. Harshman stated that the two closest interceptors are cost prohibitive to tap into as the interceptor at the far side of Chartiers Creek is 500 feet from the building and would have to cross federal and private property. The other interceptor is in North Strabane and would have to cross railroad property. Discussion held regarding the original plan for the building which was for three buildings, and then changed to one building that was to serve only as a warehouse without any plumbing. Mr. Biers stated he went through the chain of command with any changes to the original plan, he also stated the building is 10 feet smaller than what he applied for. Discussion held regarding there are no other holding tanks in the Canonsburg Borough. Mr. Harshman presented Council with a copy of the building plan that was approved years ago with a note attached stating a holding tank may be required. However, the plan, at that time, did not need plumbing. Mr. Bilsky stated he did not recall the note, but he was not looking for it either. Mr. Bilsky also stated he does not recall a holding tank on HMT comments as it was not a factor. Mr. Wilmot stated that note did not give any approvals or acceptance of a holding tank or any means of acceptable sewage disposal; it only was an advisement subsequent to the building permit. He further stated the original building permit was issued without plumbing or a holding tank. Mr. Russo stated the note could have given the client the impression they could have a holding tank. Mr. Russo read the note by HMT in May of 2014, "Prior to any building permit being issued a sanitary holding tank must be provided" Mr. Wilmot stated at that point in time, it was advising the client that before a building permit can be issued there needs to be some means of disposal. Mr. Russo stated the note specifies a holding tank. Mr. Wilmot again stated it was just advising the client but it does not mean approval; it only advises it is the only means of disposal and does not grant the approval. The building permit was issued without plumbing or sewage. Mr. Severine inquired if the area was cleared from

radiation. Mr. Biers stated the whole site was cleaned. It was also stated that the government will not sell the land if not cleared. Question regarding if any issues on how far to dig. Mr. Harshman stated a flat tank would be designed and they would only have to dig 3 ½ to 4 feet. Mr. Russo inquired if this was a new site plan. The site plan was revised, not new. Mr. Wilmot stated the Washington Sewage Council and the DEP would have to approve a holding tank even if the Borough would approve. Mr. Derrico stated that the acceptance of a holding tank would be against the mission of the CHJSA. Mr. Russo inquired about the advantages for the plumbing. Mr. Biers stated renting at \$1,200 vs. \$500 is the advantage. Mr. Derrico to review the ordinance and the Borough will review with CHJSA. Mr. Bevec said it will be discussed at the next Borough meeting.

3. Yvonne Johnson approached council regarding East Street Consolidation. She purchased 8 lots to build a single-family residence, in which 2 properties are next to each other with four lots on each side. She asked for an ordinance to vacate 40 feet of Second Avenue, as she owns both sides of Second Avenue. It is the woods on top of the property. She provided aerial map views for review. Mr. Derrico stated the Borough does not need to spend the money on an ordinance as they can provide a letter indicating the Borough has no interest in the land. Mrs. Johnson is to have her attorney contact Bob Kipp and Mr. Derrico's office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Cathy Boehmer, 101, Colonial Way, Canonsburg, invited Council to a public meeting on Wednesday, August 12, at 7:00 pm at the Canonsburg UP church. The meeting is to address a crime watch program and address the heroin problem and get the drug dealers out of Canonsburg. Mr. Bevec stated if meetings are scheduled prior and Council members are notified, it is easier to attend. Mr. Bevec also stated there are block watches and Council supports those types of programs. Mr. Bevec also suggested for Mayor Rhome and Mr. Coghill to be notified as well. Mr. Bevec stated it was a great first step. Mr. Severine presented a Crime Watch sign for all to view.

2. Nancy Trelkos, 630 Gladden Road, Canonsburg congratulated Council for acting on the drug issues. She discussed a Council member who was driving a fire truck, a few years ago, to a restaurant. She stated she did not think joy riding was right, and wanted to bring it to Council's attention. Mr. Bevec stated Council does not have oversight of the Fire Department and she should contact the Fire Department in letterform.

3. Ms. Arnold, 248 ½ North Jefferson Avenue, Canonsburg, provided council with a petition signed by residents of North Jefferson stating they do not agree with the one way sign on their street. She also provided a copy of a prior petition from 2007. One resident signature is missing, per Ms. Arnold. She stated there have been no vehicular or pedestrian accidents in 60+ years. Mr. Bevec stated it would be reviewed with Public Safety.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

None

Outstanding Committee Reports

The deck is completed at the pool.

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve Engineer's report of August 3, 2015.

Motion by Mr. Severine to approve Engineer's report of August 3, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Bilsky
All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

2. Motion to approve CHJSA report of August 3, 2015.

Motion by Mr. Sharkady to approve CHJSA report of August 3, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Severine. All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

3. Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2015.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve the Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Bilsky. All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

4. Motion to approve lot consolidation East Street property (per the recommendation of the Planning Commission meeting on August 6, 2015)

Motion by Mr. Severine to approve lot consolidation East Street property (per the recommendation of the Planning Commission meeting on August 6, 2015). Seconded by Mr. Sharkady.

All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

5. Motion to approve site plan for A&S Landscaping property without any sanitary disposal method. (per the recommendation of the Planning Commission meeting on August 6, 2015).

Motion by Mr. Bilsky to approve site plan for A&S Landscaping property without any sanitary disposal method. (per the recommendation of the Planning Commission meeting on August 6, 2015). Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

Mr. Harshman inquired if construction can continue without any sewage. Mr. Bevec stated yes, however, it would hold up an occupancy permit. Mr. Biers asked that Council continue to look into the issue. Mr. Bevec stated it would be placed on Unfinished Business.

6. Motion to approve subdivision and site plan for TownView property (per the recommendation of the Planning Commission meeting on August 6, 2015).

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve subdivision and site plan for TownView property (per the recommendation of the Planning Commission meeting on August 6, 2015). Seconded by Mr. Russo.

All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

7. Motion to approve new lease to own agreement of a John Deere 60G Compact Excavator.

Motion by Mr. Severine to approve new lease to own agreement of a John Deere 60G Compact Excavator. Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

Mr. Sharkady commented for Canonsburg Borough to be listed on the excavator as it is used for Borough purposes. Mr. Bevec stated the Borough does work with other municipalities.

8. Motion to approve handicapped parking sign at 506 Duquesne Avenue.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve handicapped parking sign at 506 Duquesne Avenue. Seconded by Mr. Bilsky.

All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

Mr. Severine commented that handicapped parking signs have to be limited. Mr. Russo asked for Kim to provided Council with a list and verify there are valid doctor excuses.

9. Motion to have solicitor prepare Fire Code Ordinance.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to have solicitor prepare Fire Code Ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

Mr. Derrcio stated meeting will be advertised and will be on September 14, 2015 to pass it.

10. Motion to approve Weeds Inc to proceed with the exfoliation under the Flood Control grant.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve Weeds Inc to proceed with the exfoliation under the Flood Control grant. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Police Department report provided for review-4,500 miles traveled, over 508 calls throughout the municipality.

2. Parking Enforcement report provided for review
3. Mayor Rhome stated he would like to discuss a personnel issue during the Executive Session
4. August 22 and August 29th- issue with Payne A.M.E Church Cemetery. Soldiers are buried in the cemetery. Issues with high weeds. Anyone that would like to help at 8 am to clear weeds and brush are welcome.
5. Neighborhood Watch on Giffin and will report back to Borough
6. Drug take Back is September 12th from 10-2 at the Shop N Save
7. Crossing guards-enough applications to fill positions. Interviews to begin with Mr. Coghill, Mr. Kipp and Mayor Rhome.
8. HopeFest permit - Penn dot has been approved on September 26th on Pike Street
9. Bike Run insurance certificates are in place, the event is September 25th. Mr. Bilsky inquired if residents will be made aware when roads are closed and asked for it to be reflected on the Borough marquee.

FINANCE REPORT:

Mrs. Russo reported all bills and invoices were reviewed and ready for approval.

1. General Fund
2. Waste Water Plant Operations
3. Garbage Service
4. Fireman Allocation
5. I & I
6. Capital Projects.

Motion by Mr. Russo to approve the bills. Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

Roll Call:

- Mr. Sharkady-No
Mr. Severine-Yes
Mr. Bilsky-Yes
Mr. Russo-Yes
Mrs. Coleman-Absent
Mr. McGarry-Yes
Mr. Bevec-Abstain

4 Yes, 1 No, 1 Absent. 1 Abstain. Motion Carries.

Mr. Bevec stated he abstained as he is being reimbursed as he used his company account for the purchase of cameras for Town Park, at his cost.

Engineer's Report:

None

Solicitor's Report:

None

Manager's Report:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. 11 Acre parcel in Cecil owned by Canonsburg- remains under review
2. Flood Control Grant Update (HMT)- reviewed previously
3. Puskar Lane Paving Update (HMT) - in Escrow at Washington Savings Bank
4. Apple Hill Manhole rising update (HMT)- Mr. Wilmot uncertain if completed and will update

Council.

5. Water issue on 100 block of West Pike Street-still being investigated. Keith Evans to send Mr. Kipp and update per Mr. Severine
6. Zoom update- waiting for an update
7. Street millings (HMT)-spot found on lower field of old tennis court area
8. Bookstore-the meeting was cancelled and will be rescheduled with new owner.
9. Light shields at Falconi Field- Mr. Kipp spoke to the attorney and is to send a letter regarding the issue. This has been an issue for five months.
10. Oil sheen on Archer Street. Mr. Kipp stated he was waiting on tests results.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. September agenda meeting changed to the first Tuesday of the month, September 8th due to Labor Day Holiday.
2. Mr. Severine stated the tiny store was sold through a free and clear sale. Mr. Russo stated it was a sheriff sale.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

Resolution 1322- Property Maintenance Code

Mr. Severine made a motion for Resolution 07-15- Property Maintenance Code. Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

5 in favor, 1 Opposed ,1 Absent. Motion Carries.

Resolution No. 07-15-Police Pension Plan to increase contribution by 1 ½%.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve Resolution No. 07-15-Police Pension Plan to increase contribution by 1 ½%.

All in favor. 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Held at approximately 8:41

Meeting resumed at 9:17

Discussion held regarding the possibility of hiring another full time police officer so scheduling issues could be alleviated and to honor a request from the school district to have a fully trained school resource officer, certified on a higher level.

Motion to hire an additional full-time officer to assign a full time school resource officer to Canon-McMillan Middle School.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to hire an additional full-time officer to assign a full time school resource officer to Canon-McMillan Middle School. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

Discussion held regarding extending the contract and benefits such as vacation. Mr. Sharkady stated it would be less expensive to hire a part-time officer with benefits vs. a full-time position. Mr. Coghill discussed the scheduling difficulties with part-time employees. Discussion held on moving a part-time to a full-time position. Also discussed was the added revenue from the school district. The contract discussed further and in particular that the contract allows for an escalator if there is an elevation in benefit costs. Mr. Rhome to look at the contract.

Roll Call:

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Absent

Mr. Russo-Yes

Mr. Bilsky-No

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Bevec-Yes

4 Yes, 2 No, 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Russo made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 pm. Seconded by Mr. McGarry. Meeting adjourned at 9:29 pm.

Submitted by: Michelle LoBello