

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting  
Monday, April 14th, 2014  
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

Rich Russo - Present

Fran Coleman - Present

Joe McGarry - Present

Tim Bilsky - Present

John Severine - Absent

Paul Sharkady - Present

John Bevec - Present

**Others Present:** Public Works Director Tom Lawrence, Police Chief RT Bell, Solicitor Patrick Derrico, Borough Engineer Harry Treschow, Canonsburg Borough Manager Mr. Kipp, Mayor Rhome

**GUESTS**

Mayor Rhome presented the Mayor's Certificate of Appreciation to 35 football high school football players from Canon-McMillan School District for their community service project which consisted of cleaning the parks and streets of Canonsburg from Greenside Avenue to Jeffrey Avenue; they also stained picnic tables in the park. The project was with the coordination of Coach Coder, Borough Public Works Director Tom Lawrence and Borough Manager Mr. Kipp. Each council member shook hands with the volunteers. Mr. Ron Coder thanked the Borough for its partnership with the project and thanked the students and the families of the students.

Rachel Carroll from Chester Engineers approached the board stating there was nothing to report yet as the cause of the hydraulic overload. She stated the JA has a developed a flow monitoring program to narrow down areas in the system that need to be looked at further. She stated flow monitoring will determine a base flow and will also determine the flow coming into the system from other resources. She stated there is nothing to report at this time. The JA is currently conducting visual inspections of the interceptors to see if manhole covers are off.

Kerry Fox from Redevelopment commended Mr. Severine for saving Second Street. He addressed the following items:

1. New street and sewer project is under design right now (First Street from Euclid Avenue to Ash Alley, Perry Como Street from McGarry Avenue to Moor Avenue and Perry Como Street from Highland Avenue to McGarry Avenue). Will be going out to bid the next 30 days. This is a 2013 project with a budget of \$204,000. Construction to start in late May or early June with completion this summer.
2. 2013 handicapped sidewalk sections, will be doing 16 different intersections throughout the

borough. Will be handicap accessible, just like those on College Street. HMT awarded and have that out in the next 30 days.

3. Code Enforcement Demolition- three structures to be demolished by Code Enforcement, out for bids in the next 45 days.

29 W. College Street

135 East Pitt Street

138 North Central Avenue

Mr. Kerry asked the Second Ward to preliminary look at some streets as \$50,000 remains in 2013 budget.

Tom Lawrence mentioned he would like to meet with engineers to discuss water problem on First Street.

Nick Falgione, a PNC bond representative, discussed at length the options for funding the new plant: CHJA vs. Canonsburg Borough borrowing the money. Mr. Falgione stated that the Borough can lend the money to the JA or the bank can lend directly to the JA. Mr. Falgione stated the Borough would receive a lower interest rate than the JA borrowing the money (a handout was provided to the Borough members).

Mr. Zanchak had a public comment, he disagreed with Mr. Falgione. Mr. Russo stated he welcomed documentation from Mr. Zanchak's source and this person/financial institution was welcomed to present at the next Borough meeting in May.

Discussion continued at length with the Borough, the Houston Borough, and members of the CHJA.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Doug McHenry, 505 Bluff Street, Canonsburg addressed Council. He stated he approached the board a year ago regarding vacant properties and vacant homes being "eye sores." He stated Town Park looks better, stop sign has slowed traffic and code enforcement did look at some properties.

His new concerns were that Code Enforcement needs to be more aggressive. Mr. McHenry encouraged board members to walk around to see the neighborhood. He discussed the cars parked on sidewalks and lawns. He provided pictures for Council to review. Mr. Bevec asked if this was a police issue and not a code issue. Chief Bell stated that he spoke to code last week regarding the parking issues. Chief Bell also discussed the fact that the streets are old and narrow and certain streets do not have enough room for an emergency vehicle if cars are parked in the street. After further discussion, a public meeting discussing the parking on sidewalks will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Mr., Kipp to post on the Borough marquee.

Mr. McHenry also stated his opinion about a proposal for an "Amnesty Program" for those that have not paid their garbage bill. He stated people should not get away with this and should face the penalties.

Mr. Loutison, 308 Hutchison Avenue, Canonsburg addressed Council. He addressed the Board at last meeting regarding the sheriff sale notice for delinquent garbage bills. Mr. Loutison provided a letter stating there was an "unlimited stay" on his property. The board stated they would take care of the issue with the assistance of Mr. Derrico.

Mr. Russo made a motion to accept the first agreement to settle Mr. Loutison prior delinquencies

up to 2011. Motion seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

**Roll Call**

Rich Russo - Yes

Fran Coleman - Yes

Joe McGarry - Yes

Tim Bilsky - No

Paul Sharkady - No

John Severine – Absent

John Bevec – Yes

4 Yes, 2 No. Motion carried.

No other public comments.

**PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS:**

Mr. Bevec mentioned the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) from the Houston Borough was just received tonight. Mr. Derrico sees language which is not clear. Mr. Bevec stated the board needs to see documentation that the Houston Borough voted to extend the life and voted for the J.A to borrow the money.

**VOTING ITEMS:**

1. Motion to advertise Planning Commission Meetings first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. in the Council Chambers of the Canonsburg Borough Building. Motion by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mrs. Coleman. All in favor, motion carried.
2. Motion to advertise Zoning Hearing Board Meetings for the Third Thursday of each month (as needed) at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Canonsburg Borough Building. Motion by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mrs. Coleman. All in favor, motion carried.
3. Motion to advertise Uniform Construction Code Appeals Board Meetings will meet when necessary at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Canonsburg Borough Building. Motion by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mrs. Coleman. All in favor, motion carried.
4. Motion to retain Shon Worner at CDBPM at current rate for CBA with PD, and NON-Uniform bargaining units. (Engagement letter enclosed) rate staying the same. Motion by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mrs. Coleman. All in favor, motion carried.
5. Motion to approve engineer’s report of April 7th, 2014. Motion by Mr. Bilsky. Seconded by Mr. Russo. All in favor, motion carried.
6. Motion to approve CHJSA Engineer’s report of April 7th, 2014. Motion by Mr. Russo. Seconded by Mr. McGarry. All in favor, motion carried.
7. Motion to appoint Dan Briner to the Planning Commission for a four (4) year term ending 12-31-17. Motion by Mr. Russo. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

**Roll Call**

Rich Russo - Yes

Fran Coleman - Yes

Joe McGarry - Yes

Tim Bilsky - No

Paul Sharkady - No

John Severine - Absent

John Bevec – Yes

4 Yes, 2 No. Motion carried.

8. Civil Service Commission recommends that the weighting of the written and oral portions of the officer test be changed from 70/30 to 60/40 respectively. Motion by Mr. McGarry. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman. 4 yes and 2 no (Mr. Sharkady and Mr. Bilsky) Motion carried.
9. Motion to settle Bauer vs. Canonsburg as per insurance carrier recommendation. Question as to refresh Council on the issue. Mr. Derrico recommends the settlement of \$11,000 to completely make the Borough exempt of any other issues with the sewer line forever. Mrs. Coleman made a motion. Seconded by Mr. McGarry. All in favor.

**Roll Call**

Rich Russo - Yes

Fran Coleman - Yes

Joe McGarry - Yes

Tim Bilsky - Yes

Paul Sharkady - Yes

John Severine - Absent

John Bevec – Yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

10. Motion to begin negotiations with the Canonsburg PD on their CBA. Mr. McGarry motioned. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman. Motion carried.
11. Motion to repeal Landlord Tenant Ordinance No. 1233. Motion by Mr. Russo. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

**Roll Call**

Rich Russo - Yes

Fran Coleman - Yes

Joe McGarry - Yes

Tim Bilsky - Yes

Paul Sharkady - No

John Severine - Absent

John Bevec – Yes

5 Yes, 1 No. Motion carried.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Rhome reviewed the police report.

Discussion on upcoming events:

April 19<sup>th</sup> - The Fire Department and Police Department hosting an Easter Egg Hunt

April 26<sup>th</sup> - National Drug take Back Day at 10 am and 2 pm

May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Document Shredding Program from 9 am to 12 pm

July 26<sup>th</sup> - Electronic Recycling 10am to 2 pm - 1 television per car, will accept a refrigerator for \$15.00.

Mayor Rhome also discussed events he attended:

March 15<sup>th</sup> - 5k run

March 29<sup>th</sup> - attended banquet honoring 60 scouts

April 7<sup>th</sup> - Senior Center annual party

April 12<sup>th</sup> - Proclamation for COPE at Sarris Library

April 7<sup>th</sup> - participated with Region 13 on Homeland Security and FEMA with Police Chief Mr. Bell. Authority felt Canonsburg was well represented. The live scenario presented at the meeting was Canonsburg on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Mayor Rhome also reviewed the tourism for Canonsburg which consisted of 140 people visiting Canonsburg and Sarris Candy. (April 9<sup>th</sup> - bus tour from Celine, Ohio and April 12<sup>th</sup>, bus tour from Morgantown West Virginia. Both to see the Perry Como statue) Mayor Rhome's question to Council was to have the music restored in the statue for tourism purposes. Mr. Kipp to look into the cost of the repair.

Home Invasion on Murdock Street. Mayor Rhome stated that what was learned was the individual was looking for packages at private homes, looking for UPS slips as well. The agreement with Canon MacMillan School district end 2014. The school would like an additional three years. Council unanimously agreed to an additional three years with Mr. Derrico's approval.

Mayor Rhome discussed that effective immediately, the PA Commonwealth is requiring that city personnel be certified in re-calibrating meters. Mayor Rhome suggested the meter maid, police officer and a member of the board be certified. Other boroughs can be invited to have training in Canonsburg.

Discussed the new businesses in Canonsburg: Gray and Pake on 125 West Pike Street and Kresnic Photography.

Mayor Rhome also stated a letter was received regarding Jehovah Witnesses going door to door. Prior, the police department issued a cease warning. The letter to be deferred to Mr. Derrico for review.

Also reviewed was a 3K run the end of August or early September with proceeds to benefit Parks

and Recreation.

Mr. Treshow reported that the EAP has implemented as of May 5<sup>th</sup>, more strict regulations for construction activity and MS-4 permits. This has not affected residential as of yet. The state is looking to assist municipalities on the cost.

**FINANCE REPORT:**

Mrs. Coleman reported on bills, stated she met with Denise and reviewed all bills and invoices.

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

Motion by Mrs. Coleman to approve the bills. Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

**Roll Call**

- Rich Russo - Yes
- Fran Coleman - Yes
- Joe McGarry - Yes
- Tim Bilsky - Yes
- Paul Sharkady - Yes
- John Severine - Absent
- John Bevec – Yes
- 6 Yes, 0 No. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Derrico recommended to Council to use the same attorney to represent the Borough in the case filed by Mr. Sharkady, Mr. Bilsky and Mr. Severine.

Mr. Russo made a motion to utilize the same attorney and Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

- Rich Russo - Yes
- Fran Coleman - Yes
- Joe McGarry - Yes
- Tim Bilsky - Abstained
- Paul Sharkady – No
- John Severine - Absent
- John Bevec - Yes
- 4 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abstained. Motion carried.

Mr. Russo asked Mr. Kipp to review a handicapped parking sign that is missing, whether it is still valid. The sign is to go back up.

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:**

- 1 03-14 OA DCNR Town Park Basketball Court- to go out to bid. Jeffrey's Grant submitted. Motion by Mr. Russo for the Town Park Basketball Court. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman. Cost is \$57,720 with fifty percent borough cost and fifty percent DCNR. Goes out to bid and can come back lower and a 10% built in contingency. All in favor. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None Required

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to adjourn at 10:12 pm. Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion. Motion carried to adjourn the Agenda meeting at 10:12 pm

**Submitted by: Michelle LoBello**