

BOROUGH OF CANONSBURG
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 11, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER:

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

ii. MOMENT OF SILENCE:

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

III. ROLL CALL:

Present:

Richard Russo, Paul Sharkady, Joseph Graff, Joseph McGarry, John Bevec, Patricia Romano, Fran Coleman, Timothy Bilsky, and Peter Lucas

Others Present:

Borough Manager Terry Hazlett, Engineer Harvey Treschow, Attorney Patrick Derrico, and Mayor David H. Rhome

Absent:

Police Chief R. T. Bell

IV. GUESTS:

There were none

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A. Mr. Justin Smith, of 318 Munnell Street, stated that one of his neighbors came before Council a couple months ago with a petition about the condition of the road. Mr. Smith informed Council that since that time the road has gotten much worse. There are large sections, some as wide as three feet and ten to twelve feet long, that are completely deteriorating. The garbage truck coming down has a hard time stopping and breaks the road up. Mr. Smith stated that this has become a safety issue.

Mr. Sharkady has seen the road and confirmed that it is very bad.

Mr. Smith said he took pictures this morning but was unable to get them developed. However, he had them on his phone and offered to let Council view them.

Mr. Hazlett stated that the Public Works Director talked to him last week about bringing this up tonight. They are having

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a hard time plowing because they can't figure out where the road is.

Discussion was held pertaining to this matter, qualifying the Street, and possible funding avenues.

- B. Ms. Elizabeth Francis, of 306 Forest Drive (in Apple Hill), stated that it has come to their attention that there are individuals in their plan that are interested in opening up the division that separates at the end of Forest Drive into the Alto Piano/Network Drive area.

Ms. Francis stated that she moved to this particular community in Canonsburg from Pittsburgh seven years ago. This was and continues to be an ideal location to raise children with an excellent school system, quiet and safe neighborhood streets, with limited traffic.

She continued by saying that these neighborhoods are for families, not for shortcuts for commuters between Southpointe and Route 980 as a means of convenience.

Ms. Francis stressed the fact that the proposed connection would jeopardize the way of life the residents of Apple Hill and Alto Piano have come to value. She also stated that the safety of their children, residents, and pets is paramount. The roads are not equipped to handle such an increase in the volume of traffic. There are no streetlights or sidewalks for safe pedestrian travel in Apple Hill.

Other concerns were the degrading of roads, repairs would likely increase taxes, and excess traffic would impact the resale value of the homes and decrease the desirability to live in the neighborhood.

Ms. Francis ended by requesting that Council vote not to connect Forest Drive in Apple Hill and Network Drive in Alto Piano and instead opt for a permanent green area. She presented a petition with 157 signatures supporting her request.

Mr. Bevec stated that this is the first Council has heard of this.

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Cecil would have to approach the Borough if that were to happen.
/ Ms. Francis informed Mr. Bevec that there is a second petition with 47 signatures in favor of the connection.

C. Mr. Chad Moore, of 307 Forest Drive, addressed the same subject as in Item A. He added that with the substantial increase in traffic flow that would be coming from 980 to Southpointe, Southpointe to 980, 980 as a shortcut to 79 North, there will be additional wear and tear on the streets. The additional construction traffic that's going to be needed to finish the Alto Piano Plan and people coming from the north to finish the Apple Hill Plan will be additional wear and tear on the streets. Additional traffic will mean additional police patrols for speeding and traffic violations. Mr. Moore said that as he stated in 2010, these residents who will be using this road are predominantly not Canonsburg residents, and our tax dollars will be used to pay to keep those roads maintained and patrolled. He asked that Council consider this from a tax standpoint for maintaining the roads and asked that Council vote unanimously to permanently close Forest Drive – dead end.

D. Mr. Kevin Kline, of 310 Forest Drive, reinforced the comments made by the other Apple Hill residents who spoke tonight.

Mr. Bevec referred this matter to the Engineer.

Mr. Treschow stated that there must first be a request from someone wanting to open it. Nothing has been presented yet.

Mr. Moore asked if he could make a request to permanently close the road and never open it.

Mr. Bevec informed Mr. Moore that he can make that request, but he doesn't know if it can be honored right now, as there is a legal issue and an engineering issue that would need addressed.

Mr. Bevec stated that the Solicitor and Engineer will look into this.

Mr. Treschow added that Cecil Township would also have to agree with this.

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VI. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

A. Chester Engineers

Mr. Bevec stated that Chester Engineers will assign an engineer to us, who will attend the Canonsburg-Houston Authority meetings, serve as liaison if needed between the Authority and the Borough, and come to Council meetings (if Council chooses) to give an update and answer any questions Council might have.

Discussion was held.

Mrs. Romano motioned to accept the proposal from Chester Engineers for a one-year period with Rachel Mignogna as engineer, and Mr. Hazlett will send a letter to Mr. Zollinger that his services are no longer needed.

Mr. Graff seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION:

Richard Russo	Yes
Paul Sharkady	Yes
Joseph Graff	Yes
Joseph McGarry	Yes
Patricia Romano	Yes
Fran Coleman	Yes
Timothy Bilsky	Yes
Peter Lucas	Yes
John Bevec	Yes

RESULTS OF THE MOTION: Nine Yes, Zero No. Motion carried.

VII. VOTING ITEMS:

A. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Graff motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 14, 2013 and the General Purpose Council Meeting of January 21, 2013.

Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

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B. Approval of Teamsters 205 Contract

Mr. Bilsky motioned to approve the Teamsters 205 Contract for the years 2013, 2014, and 2015 and all changes that were incorporated into the tentative contract.

Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION:

Richard Russo	Yes
Paul Sharkady	Yes
Joseph Graff	Yes
Joseph McGarry	Yes
Patricia Romano	Yes
Fran Coleman	Yes
Timothy Bilsky	Yes
Peter Lucas	Yes
John Bevec	Yes

RESULTS OF THE MOTION: Nine Yes, Zero No. Motion carried.

C. Appointment to Parks and Recreation Board

Mrs. Coleman motioned to appoint Rich Russo to the Canonsburg Parks and Recreation Board.

Mr. Graff seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION:

Richard Russo	Yes
Paul Sharkady	Yes
Joseph Graff	Yes
Joseph McGarry	Yes
Patricia Romano	Yes
Fran Coleman	Yes
Timothy Bilsky	Yes
Peter Lucas	Yes
John Bevec	Yes

RESULTS OF THE MOTION: Nine Yes, Zero No. Motion carried.

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D. Appointments to Civil Service Commission

Mr. Lucas motioned to appoint Anthony L. Colaizzo, Robert Jeffrey Smith, and David A. DeLuca as alternates to the Canonsburg Civil Service Commission.

Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION:

Richard Russo	Yes
Paul Sharkady	No
Joseph Graff	Yes
Joseph McGarry	Yes
Patricia Romano	Yes
Fran Coleman	Yes
Timothy Bilsky	Yes
Peter Lucas	Yes
John Bevec	Yes

RESULTS OF THE MOTION: Eight Yes, One No. Motion carried.

E. Letter of Retirement

Mr. Bilsky motioned to accept the letter of retirement from the Borough Manager.

Mr. Russo seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION:

Richard Russo	Yes
Paul Sharkady	Yes
Joseph Graff	Yes
Joseph McGarry	Yes
Patricia Romano	Yes
Fran Coleman	Yes
Timothy Bilsky	Yes
Peter Lucas	Yes
John Bevec	Yes

RESULTS OF THE MOTION: Nine Yes, Zero No. Motion carried.

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- F. Motion to Advertise for Borough Manager
Mr. McGarry motioned to advertise for a new borough manager.
Mr. Graff seconded the motion.
The motion was passed unanimously.
- G. Approval of Letter of Intent – DCED Representative
Mrs. Coleman motioned to approve a letter of intent to use DCED Representative Michael Foreman to assist in the manager hiring process at no cost to the Borough.
Mr. Graff seconded the motion.
Remarks: Mr. Bevec asked that one of the three people he assigned to give Council an update on the process.
This was done by Mr. Russo.
Discussion was held.
The motion was passed unanimously.
- H. Motion to Adopt Amendment to Ordinance Concerning Real Estate Transfer
Attorney Derrico informed Mr. Bevec that the motion ought to be to permit him to advertise for the passage on March 11, 2013.
Mr. McGarry motioned to authorize the Solicitor to advertise for Ordinance concerning real estate transfer for passage on March 11, 2013.
Mr. Graff seconded the motion.
The motion was passed unanimously.
- I. Motion for Jordan Tax Service to Initiate Sheriff Sale Process
Mr. Lucas motioned to authorize Jordan Tax Service to initiate sheriff sale process for waste removal customers who are delinquent.
Mrs. Coleman seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION:

Richard Russo	Yes
Paul Sharkady	Yes
Joseph Graff	Yes
Joseph McGarry	Yes

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Patricia Romano	Yes
Fran Coleman	Yes
Timothy Bilsky	Yes
Peter Lucas	Yes
John Bevec	Yes

RESULTS OF THE MOTION: Nine Yes, Zero No. Motion carried.

J. Approval of Borough Manager and Engineer Reports

Mr. Graff motioned to approve the Borough Manager and Engineer reports of February 4, 2013.

Mr. McGarry seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

VIII. BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Hazlett reported on the following:

A. Attachment H from HMT

This pertains to the Alpine Drive icing problem, which has been looked at by Public Works, HMT, and Mr. Hazlett.

Mr. Hazlett stated that this has been getting progressively worse over the past three years. He asked Council to approve this, and the funds will be taken out of Public Works.

Mr. Treschow said that this would not have to be bid because the amount is under \$18,500.

Mr. McGarry motioned to repair the water issue problem in Alpine Drive.

Mr. Russo seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION:

Richard Russo	Yes
Paul Sharkady	Yes
Joseph Graff	Yes
Joseph McGarry	Yes
Patricia Romano	Yes
Fran Coleman	Yes
Timothy Bilsky	Yes

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Peter Lucas Yes
John Bevec Yes

RESULTS OF THE MOTION: Nine Yes, Zero No. Motion carried.

B. Sewer Plant Employee

Mr. Hazlett reported that almost forty people were interviewed for this position. Mr. Brett Catterall was hired and started today. He is from Ohio Township, but he will be moving to the Canonsburg area within ninety days.

IX. ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Treschow had nothing at this time.

X. MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Rhome reported on the following:

A. Armory Building

Mayor Rhome reported that the Canonsburg Armory has been sold. It will be a part of Campus Life (of Pittsburgh), who wants to turn it into a community center.

B. Addresses on Homes

This was brought up at the last Council Meeting, and the front office has already started on this. The reporter from the Observer-Reporter will print an article on this matter in tomorrow's newspaper.

Discussion was held.

C. Mrs. Coleman reported that Canon-Mac won the tournament Saturday night. She commended the Mayor for organizing some Police cars and fire trucks with their red lights.

Mayor Rhome stated that it was for the kids. In the near future three areas of athletics will be recognized for their accomplishments: wrestling, soccer, and tennis. Also, Connor Schram, a Dapper Dan sister and Canon-McMillan graduate, will be recognized.

D. Mayor Rhome reported that a bank employee who helped a lady not to be bilked out of \$10,000 will probably be recognized at

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the next meeting

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Parks

1. Mrs. Coleman reported that the Park Board will be holding a Night at the Races on the 23rd at St. Patrick's cafeteria. The cost is \$10.00.
2. Mr. Treschow reported that the structural engineer was at the Park last Friday and has made some recommendations. It won't make it a new building, but it will stabilize things.

XII. FINANCE REPORT:

A. Presentation of Bills for Approval – Peter Lucas

Mr. Lucas motioned for approval of the bills, which includes the following:

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

Mr. Graff seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION:

Richard Russo	Yes
Paul Sharkady	Yes
Joseph Graff	Yes
Joseph McGarry	Yes
Patricia Romano	Yes
Fran Coleman	Yes
Timothy Bilsky	Yes
Peter Lucas	Yes
John Bevec	Yes

RESULTS OF THE MOTION: Nine Yes, Zero No. Motion carried.

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XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Resignation of Sewer Authority Member

Mr. Bevec stated that Mr. Robert Luksis has resigned from the Canonsburg-Houston Joint Authority Board. His expertise was in the financial area, and Mr. Bevec stated that it would be very helpful to find someone with the same type of background. He asked the members of Council to submit names at the next meeting.

Mr. Bevec also asked the reporter from the Observer to include in her article the fact that the Borough is looking for a Sewer Authority appointee, preferably with a financial background.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Appreciation of Public Works Department

Mr. Russo stated that Me. Joseph Knodle couldn't be here tonight but wanted to express his thanks for the snow removal and cold patching done in front of his home.

B. Landlord/Tenant Issue

Mr. Russo saw an article in the newspaper that reads as follows: Cecil Township property owners are reminded that if they rent residences to one or more persons they must submit a list of tenants to the Township before March 31st and again before September 30th. Occupancy forms are available.

Mr. Russo stated that the Borough has that same ordinance but is lacking enforcement. He suggested that the part of the enforcement process could begin with something like this.

C. Fire Department Information

Mayor Rhome informed Council that there were two major fires in a four-day period. The Fire Department did an excellent job and had them under control within ten or twelve minutes. There was a lot of damage, but the parties who owned the structures were very pleased with the service given by the Fire Department. The Mayor stated that Council should be proud of them.

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XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An Executive Session pertaining to real estate and potential litigation began at 7:46 P.M.

No action was taken after the Executive Session.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 P.M.

Mary A. Solomon

ATTACHMENTS:

None