

Canonsburg Borough Council Meeting  
Monday, November 9, 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**

Mr. Paul Sharkady-Present

Mr. John Severine-Present

Mr. Tim Bilsky - Present

Mr. Rich Russo - Present

Mrs. Fran Coleman - Present

Mr. Joe McGarry - Present

Mr. John Bevec –President- 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 and Public Works Mr. Tom Lawrence.

Mayor Rhome presented two Police Officers with recognition for saving a 15 year old boys life while he was choking during a seizure on October 4, 2015. Officers Brian DaPra and Anthony Cancilla were presented with accommodations from the Mayor's Office and the Canonsburg Council for the exceptional and professional efforts resulting in the preservation of life. Chief of Police, Alex Coghill stated the officers provided the Heimlich maneuver and a finger sweep to the young boy while he was choking during a seizure. Photos taken and recognition by each individual Council member.

**GUESTS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Ms. Kathy White, 566 Tannehill, Canonsburg, Pa approached Council regarding her mother's home on the corner of Blaine Avenue and First Street. She has lived in this home for 53 years. Ms. White stated due to the age of her mother and her medical history, it is difficult to park on the other side of the road. She stated that it is 50 feet from the alley to her mother's home. She stated her alley is gravel and not cleared of ice or snow. She stated the issue is not on her mother's side of the street which is the 400 block, however, the big issue on the street are the renters on the 500 block Ms. White asked Council to reconsider one sided parking on the 400 block and to enforce what is already on the books. Ms. White also discussed the raised sidewalk issue as well.

Mark Mazzeo, 614 Alpine Drive, Canonsburg, Pa approached Council regarding the access road off of Dan Caruso, which is behind his house. Mr. Mazzeo stated two weeks ago he found out because he saw survey paintings on his property line. He said it appears they will be clearing brush 8 feet off his property line. He asked Council to reconsider the path of where the road is going and also asked there be limited number of lights as his backyard would be lit up. Mr. Russo stated that there will be no lights for safety reasons. Mr. Russo stated there will be a basketball court. Mr. Mazzeo stated he called engineer, Mr. Wilmot, and he was not aware of the project. Mr. Mazzeo stated that no one on his street was aware of the plans. Mr. Mazzeo asked where the plans are clearly laid out. Mr. Russo discussed the master plan that was developed 10 years ago for the Basket Ball Court and also discussed that the Softball Association needs access to the lower field. Mr. Russo stated the plans were advertised

recently in the newspaper. Mr. Russo stated the current basketball court is no longer useful. One of the items in the master plan was to redo the basketball court. There were issues with using the same area for a new basketball court such as not impacting the neighborhood again as skate board park was added, the size of the area was no longer adequate and a creek that is starting to erode. The second plan was to put the basketball court directly behind Woodland in a wooded corner; there was opposition from the neighborhood and high costs for demolition which over ruled that plan. Part of the Capital plan was to have access to the lower softball field for the Softball Association. Using the old tennis court area is where the Park Board decided to use for the basketball court as it was not impacting the neighborhood because of a lot of trees and brush buffers. Mr. Mazzeo stated the brush stops at his house and he does not have a buffer. Mr. Mazzeo stated residents on Alpine are not aware of the plans. Mr. Russo stated that a resident was attending Park Board meetings. Mr. Mazzeo stated it appears that road is uncomfortably close to his backyard and he will have to put up a fence. Mr. Russo stated he would have to confirm that. Mr. Wilmot stated an associate from his office developed the plans; it is not the road but actually the fill to support the road that extends up to within 8 feet of his property line. Mr. Wilmot stated the road appears to be about 25 feet from his property line. It is not existing flat ground. Mr. Mazzeo stated it would cause additional noise and possibly additional light. Mr. Russo stated the Park Board has been working on the Park Project for 2-3 years and there is a meeting tomorrow that he is welcomed to attend. Mr. Bevec also stated the Park Board has a meeting tomorrow and encouraged Mr. Mazzeo to attend and report back to the Borough.

Mr. Robert Perry, 644 Alpine Drive, Canonsburg, Pa approached Council stating he lives next door to Mr. Mazzeo. Mr. Perry thanked Council and the Police Department for their exceptional work. He stated anything he states tonight will not change a thing. He stated he has lived on Alpine for 35 years. He stated it is a quiet neighborhood with the exception of the pool which pool has music all day long and the ball games have screaming all day long. Mr. Perry inquired about the advertising of the plans. Mr. Russo stated the bidding for the project has been advertised. Mr. Perry stated he knew nothing about the road and it will end up in his backyard. Mr. Bevec stated there have been articles in the press regarding the plans. Mr. Perry stated it will be another violation of a nice neighborhood with a basketball court and it will end up looking like its predecessor. Mr. Russo stated folks endorse recreation and a park is a park. Mr. Russo stated the Park Board is trying to lessen the impact. Mr. Russo stated the pool is a wonderful asset to the community and has added to the value of property and people move there because of the pool. Mr. Russo stated that Mr. Perry's voice does matter and welcomed Mr. Perry to a Park Board meeting. He suggested Mr. Perry write his comments and bring it to the Park Board Meeting.

Mr. Mazzeo asked if there are elderly neighbors that cannot make the meeting how they can make their wishes known. Mr. Bevec stated they could write their comments down and he could bring them to a meeting.

#### **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

Mr. Bevec welcomed and congratulated the three incoming Council members: Tina Bails, Harry Bowman and RT Bell. Mr. Bevec offered assistance to the incoming Council members, if needed. Mr. Bevec also congratulated Fran Coleman and Joe McGarry.

#### **Outstanding Committee Reports**

None

#### **VOTING ITEMS:**

##### **1. Motion to approve Engineer's report of November 2, 2015.**

Motion by Mr. Bilsky to approve Engineer's report of November 2, 2015. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman

All in favor. Motion Carries.

**2. Motion to approve CHJSA report of November 2, 2015.**

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve CHJSA report of November 2, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Sharkady.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

**3. Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2015 and October 12, 2015.**

Motion by Mr. Severine to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2015 and October 12, 2015.

Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

**4. Motion to reject all McBurney Flood Control Program bids.**

Motion by Mr. Bilsky to reject all McBurney Flood Control Program bids. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

Bids were over budget.

**5. Motion to reject all Water Alley Control Program bids.**

Motion by Mr. Sharkady to reject all Water Alley Control Program bids. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

Bids were over budget.

**6. Motion to reject all Chartiers Creek Flood Control Program Bids.**

Motion by Mr. Sharkady to reject all Chartiers Creek Flood Control Program Bids. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

Mr. Wilmot stated the project was for removal of debris which has already has been awarded and done.

Mr. Severine withdrew the second motion and Mr. Sharkady withdrew his first motion. No motion.

**7. Motion to reject all Park/Road/Basketball Court Project bids.**

Motion by Mr. McGarry to reject all Park/Road/Basketball Court Project bids. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

Bids were over budget.

**8. Motion to approve new Civil Service Testing for Police hires.**

Mr. McGarry made a motion to approve new Civil Service Testing for Police hires. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

All in favor with one descending vote by Mr. Bilsky. Motion Carries.

**9. Motion to approve the Charles Place Plan of Lots as Per Planning Commission and Engineer's recommended approval.**

Motion by Mr. Bilsky to approve the Charles Place Plan of Lots as Per Planning Commission and Engineer's recommended approval. Seconded by Mr. Sharkady.

All in favor. Motion Carries.

**10. Motion to add one (1) sided parking South Side of 400 and North 500 block of Blaine Street for a ninety (90) day trial.**

Motion by Mr. Severine to add one (1) sided parking South Side of 400 and North 500 block of Blaine Street for a ninety (90) day trial. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

Mr. Bevec stated he was under the impression it was the same side on both blocks. Mr. Severine stated there are only two houses on the south side of 500 block. Mr. Bilsky stated he heard some concerns regarding the area and wanted the thoughts of other Council members. Mr. Severine stated there is no way getting anything up around the bend on the bottom of the 400 block. Mr. Severine stated the problem is from Second Street up to the apartments, which is three houses. Mr. Severine stated cars are constantly getting hit around that bend. Mr. Bevec stated his mother lives on that street and he knows the area well. Mr. Bevec stated that they could not do just half a block. Mr. Russo stated that it was a 90 trial period, and if there are reasons to change as a result of the trial period, that it will be considered. Mr. Russo said to take each step first. Each home was discussed. Mr. Bevec stated for the record that the Borough has made changes during the 90 day trial. Mr. Bevec suggested to Ms. White

that her mother temporarily park with flashers on if unloading her groceries. Mr. Bevec encouraged Ms. White to come back and bring neighbors.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Bilsky-No

Mr. Russo-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-No

Mr. Bevec-Yes

4 Yes. 3 No. Motion Carries.

**11. Motion to re-affirm park board members.**

Motion by Mr. McGarry to re-affirm park board members. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

A. Rich Russo term ends 12-31-20 (5 year)

B. Terri Startare term ends 12-31-19 (4 year)

C. Leanna Coyle term ends 12-31-18 (3 year)

D. John Severine term ends 12-31-17 ( 2 year)

E. Lou Gadani term ends 12-31-16 (1 year)

F. Tina Bails term ends 12-31-20 ( 5 year)

G. Jesse Rigby term ends 12-1-16 (1 year)

**Roll Call:**

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. Russo-Yes

Mr. Bilsky-Abstain

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-Yes

Mr. Bevec-Yes

6 Yes, 0 No. 1 Abstain. Motion Carries.

Mr. Severine inquired how it is determine the years of the term and can they be made all even years.

Mr. Kipp responded that the terms have to be staggered per ordinance. Mr. Bevec stated you do not want a whole board leaving at one time. Mr. Russo noted for Kim to bring all Board member's seats that are up and the rotation in January. Mr. Bilsky commented that any appointment of board members should be done at a re-organization meeting with Council.

**12. Resolution to appoint members to the CHJSA Operating Authority.**

A. Rob Luksis term ends 12-31-18 ( 4 year)

B. Steve Lucas term ends 12-31-17 (3 year)

C. Mr. James Maund term ends 12-31-16 (2 year)

D. Mike Alterio term ends 12-31-15 ( 1 year)

Mr. McGarry made the motion to pass the Resolution to appoint members to the CHJSA Operating Authority. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Bilsky-No

Mr. Russo-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mr. Bevec-Yes

5 Yes, 2 No. Motion Carries.

Mr. Derrico stated Council just has to approve the Resolution. Mr. Derrico stated Council has to approve Houston's appointment and Houston has to approve Canonsburg's appointments. Houston has chosen Mr. Alan Zofchak again. He has a five year term on the Resolution. Mr. Derrico received this information from Mr. Matta, the CHJSA Solicitor. Mr. Russo asked if this is a requirement to move the new entity forward. Mr. Derrico stated it is a requirement and recommends Council approve the motion.

Resolution Appoint the Canonsburg Houston Joint Authority

Resolution of the Council of the Borough of Canonsburg, Washington County, Pennsylvania  
(hereinafter "the municipality")

Whereas, the Canonsburg Houston Joint Authority is now by a recent Amendment a fully functioning operating Authority with all of the duties, rights and responsibilities of a Municipal Operating Authority, it is necessary to name the members of the Authority, therefore this Council hereby names the following, with their respective terms:

Mike Alterio 1 Year  
James Maund 2 Years  
Steve Lucas 3 Years  
Rob Luksis 4 Years  
Alan Zofchak 5 Years

Mr. Sharkady inquired about voting again in January as the terms end in December. Mr. Bevec stated that is technically not true because the Operating Authority was created on October 1, 2015. So if Council does not ratify members now, there are no board members on that Authority because it is a brand new Authority. Mr. Bevec stated it is not the continuation of the regular Authority. Mr. Derrico stated he was going along with their Solicitor. Mr. Russo stated they will have an October renewal date. Mr. Bevec stated that going forward, no member comes off until a new member is appointed. Mr. Derrico stated it does not make a whole lot of difference from a legal point of view. Mr. Russo stated the bonds could not be issued without a board in place. Mr. Derrico stated Houston has voted to appoint Mr. Zofchak, however, he is not sure if they voted on the other four people. Mr. Bevec stated he was told that only Mr. Zofchak was appointed. Mr. Severine asked if they were voting for each individual at a time or all at once. Mr. Bevec stated all at once per the Resolution.

**13. Motion to adopt the 2016 Preliminary Budget at December 14, 2015 Voting Meeting.**

Motion by Mr. Russo to adopt the 2016 Preliminary Budget at December 14, 2015 Voting Meeting.  
Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

**Roll Call:**

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

3 Yes, 4 No. Motion Not Carried.

Discussion held regarding a \$67,030.00 deficit. Mr. Bevec stated there was a deficit as the 11 acre parcel of land has no bids. There will be a budget meeting November 16, 2015. Mr. Severine stated it was a coincidence there were not bids because they did not allow a road to go in and because of other restrictions. Mr. Bevec stated a condo developer would have been interested if Gladden was allowed. Mr. Bevec said there was also a short timeline given to investigate a due diligence on a right away to Euclid. Mr. Bevec stated that maybe the future board would revisit to make more attractive. Mr. Bevec stated that 40% of the land was usable on the North or East side. The other part of the land as

sewage pipes. Mr. Bevec stated Council could pass the preliminary budget and clean it up by December. Mrs. Coleman stated she cannot see passing a budget with a deficit. Mr. Russo stated Council was not voting on a final budget yet. Mr. Bevec stated the law requires advertising for 30 days. Budget meeting next Monday, November 16, 2015 at 7:00 pm. Everybody was encouraged to attend to next week. Mr. Kipp stated there was time to advertise the meeting next week. Mr. Russo asked if the County Reassessment Real Estate tax Assessment is for 2016 or 2017. It is for 2017.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

1. October Police Department report provided for review. 4,000 miles traveled, 56 walk through schools, 83 trips to the magistrate, and 619 calls.
  2. Parking Enforcement report provided for review. Parking revenue has decreased.
  3. Canonsburg ranked #6 for the most tax friendly retirement spots in Pennsylvania.
  4. Police Officer Anthony Cancilla will be leaving the Canonsburg Police Department in December.
  5. The Canonsburg Police, Fire and Ambulance Departments are participating in the Gift of Life Blood Donation on November 21, 2015 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm.
  6. Trucks for Maddox- November 21, 2015 the Fire Department, Police Department and the North Strabane Fire Department will participate. Collecting trucks at Wendy's for needy children.
- Mr. Russo inquired if the GC&C bus parked on West Pike Street on the sidewalk on the northern side was legal. Mayor Rhome stated parking on the sidewalk is not legal. The bus has been on the sidewalk. Mayor Rhome stated he will try to be a good neighbor and ask that the bus be removed from the community and he will have an answer in December.

### **FINANCE REPORT:**

Mrs. Coleman reported all bills and invoices were reviewed on November 6<sup>th</sup> 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 Mrs. Coleman to approve the bills.** Seconded by Mr. McGarry.

### **Roll Call:**

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

5 Yes, 2 No. Motion Carries.

### **Engineer's Report:**

Mr. Wilmot reported that 45% of the paving has been completed with only minor issues. There was a meeting today regarding safety. Mr. Wilmot stated that if anyone has any issue regarding safety or traffic issues to contact him or Mr. Kipp as that is not taken lightly. The contractor is getting paid for traffic control and safety the correct way. 80% of paving is completed on the East End. As of tomorrow, there will be 2 paving crews in addition to 2 milling crews with anticipation of completion in 10-12 days if the weather holds out. Mr. Russo inquired about a parking lot near a pavilion stating it

was not milled. Mr. Wilmot stated that it was okay as it was getting 3 inches of payment. Mr. Wilmot stated that if there is a good base and not an elevation problem, then milling is not necessary. Mr. Russo inquired about the VFW drive that was not milled. Mr. Wilmot stated that also was okay as it was getting 2 inches of overlay. Mr. Severine inquired if the Police Department will be involved on Cavasina Drive due to the paving during the worst traffic hours on that road. Mr. Wilmot suggested to consider the Police helping out on Saturday morning for safety. Mr. Coghill stated they suggested certain times when traffic is not as busy. The bid did not include the Police Department's assistance. Mr. Bevec stated that if the police are needed, it was not contracted and the rate would be negotiated. The contractor will mark up the rate, so Mr. Bevec suggested to keep that in mind as the Borough would have to pay for the marked up rate for police as it was not negotiated. Mr. Bevec said to consider the Borough paying for the police vs. the contractor negotiating a rate that will be marked up. Mr. Bilsky asked what the inspector thought of the work so far. Mr. Wilmot stated that only the alleys are completed and there has been no indication of poor quality with the exception of a few curbs regarding storm water. However, no quality issues. Mr. Bilsky discussed an oil splatter at 11 East Pitt. Mr. Severine discussed a channel of water on the 500 block of Fern Avenue.

**Solicitor's Report:**

None

**Manager's Report:**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Flood Control Grants Update (HMT)-reviewed with voting issues
  2. Puskar Lane Paving Update (HMT)- wait until paved
  3. Water issue on 100 block of West Pike Street- Mrs. Coleman working on including this in the 2016 Capital Budget
  4. Zoom Update-groundbreaking in early Spring
  7. Bookstore-no update
  8. Light Shields at Falconi Fields- still working on lights
- Add the 11 acre parcel in Cecil Township to Unfinished Business

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Open Bids for 11 Acre parcel in Cecil Township- move to unfinished business
2. Open Bids for Dump Truck:
  - Todd's Auto Body West Pike Street Canonsburg Pa for \$4,380.00
  - Route 18 Homes 940 Henderson Avenue in Washington Pa for \$6,250.00

Mr. Derrico to review both bids.

Mr. McGarry made a motion to accept the bid for Route 18 Homes of \$6,250.00. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. Russo-Yes

Mr. Bilsky-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-Yes

Mr. Bevec-Yes

7 Yes, 0 No. Motion Carries.

Mr. Lawrence stated he was hoping to receive \$5,500.00 for the dump truck.

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:**

Reviewed with Voting Items

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Held at 7:01pm -7:18pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Russo made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 pm. Seconded by Mr. McGarry. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

**Submitted by: Michelle LoBello**

