

Canonsburg Borough Special Council Meeting
Monday, December 21, 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 - Absent

Mrs. Fran Coleman - Present

Mr. Joe McGarry - Present

Mr. John Bevec –President- Present

Others Present: Solicitor Mr. Patrick Derrico, Canonsburg Borough Manager Mr. Bob Kipp, Mayor David Rhome

GUESTS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS:

None

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to adopt the 2016 Final Budget.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to adopt the 2016 Final Budget. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Roll Call:

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Severine-No

Mr. Bilsky-No

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mr. Russo-Absent

Mr. Bevec-Yes

Mayor Rhome-Yes

4 Yes, 3 No, 1 Absent. Motion Carries. Mayor Rhome made a comment that Public Safety and Financial Responsibility are the two most important issues that all towns are faced with. He stated all the Department Heads demonstrated their needs during the budget hearings. He commended those that supported Public Safety as being important to the citizens of Canonsburg, which is why he would like to vote, “yes,” to passing the budget.

Mr. Severine inquired if the new fireman was going to move to the Borough. Mr. Bevec and Mr. Kipp stated it is not a necessity nor is it in the contract as a requirement. Mr. Severine asked if the position is salaried or hourly. Mr. Kipp and Mr. Bevec replied, “salaried.” Mr. Severine inquired about where the individual resides as he would not be able to make it to the Borough if an emergency arose. Mr.

Severine stated if he is a full time fireman why he shouldn't come anytime. Mr. Bevec stated he is a fireman when on duty; he does not necessarily have to be a volunteer member. Mr. Severine questioned what other fireman in other townships work an 8-4 shift. Mr. Bevec stated they may have all different shift schedules. Mr. Severine stated the new fireman is working daylight Monday through Friday and that is not a full time fireman. Mayor Rhome stated his primary job is Fire Inspector with the secondary part as a firefighter. Mr. Severine inquired if Jay was going to stay in his place. Mr. Bevec stated his position was not changing at all. Mr. Kipp stated when it snows, that Jay gets called to operate the plow truck. Mr. Severine stated that he recalls Mrs. Coleman making a statement some time ago that he was going to get cut back. Mrs. Coleman stated it was only a comment on how his hours should be allocated. Mr. Severine asked if that was going to happen, Mr. Bevec stated it depended on the Board next year.

Mr. Bevec stated it is a no tax increase budget.

2. Motion to adopt the 2016 Salary Ordinance No. 1324.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to adopt the 2016 Salary Ordinance No. 1324. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Roll Call:

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Bilsky-No

Mr. Russo-Absent

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mr. Bevec-Yes

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

No questions.

3. Motion to adopt 2016 Tax Ordinance.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to adopt 2016 Tax Ordinance. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Roll Call:

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. Russo-Absent

Mr. Bilsky-No

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Bevec-Yes

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

Mr. Severine stated that they have not done anything with the air ways; he stated he has brought it up before. Mr. Kipp recommended Mr. Severine review prior emails from a year ago which indicate that it cannot be done. Mr. Severine said it can be done and he will look it up again. Mr. Bevec stated their will be a new Council and can look at a new ordinance next year.

4. Motion to adopt 2016 CDBG Resolution No 11-15.

Motion by Mr. Bilsky to adopt 2016 CDBG Resolution No 11-15. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

Roll Call:

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. Russo-Absent

Mr. Bilsky-Yes

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Sharkady-Yes

Mr. Bevec-Yes

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

Mr. Kipp read the ordinance.

Mayor Rhome mentioned working with Kerry Fox and if there was an easier way for the survey process. Mr. Bevec asked if a phone call can be made. Mr. Severine stated it is more than a phone call. Mr. Kipp suggested for next year that his staff can go out in daylight hours and provide a survey, with a memo and self return envelope. Mr. Kipp said this has been successful in the past. Suggestions to put inside doors.

5. Motion to hire Joshua Smith and Michael Pasquale as Part-time Police Officers.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to hire Joshua Smith and Michael Pasquale as Part-time Police Officers.

Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Roll Call:

Mr. Sharkady-No

Mr. Severine- No

Mr. Bilsky-No

Mr. Russo-Absent

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mr. Bevec-Yes

Mayor Rhome-Yes

4 Yes, 3 No, 1 Absent. Motion Carries.

Mrs. Coleman asked if Mr. Pasquale worked in Houston. Mr. Rhome stated “yes” and said he was Valedictorian of his class of the Allegheny County Police Academy. Mr. Severine asked where the candidates worked prior. Mayor Rhome stated Mr. Smith was a veteran coming out of the military and this will be his first position as a police officer, he was an officer in the military. He has passed all of his necessary items. Mr. Pasquale is presently a Police Officer in Houston and McDonald and comes highly recommended. Mr. Bilsky asked why one of the candidates was removed and Mr. Pasquale added. Mayor Rhome stated the other candidate moved to the South. Mr. Severine inquired about the number of full time and part time police officers. Mayor Rhome stated there are 16 full time and 2 part time for a total of 18. Mr. Severine inquired about gaining a full time officer. Discussion held regarding the number of part time and full time police officers. Mr. Severine stated it was 15 full time and 3 part time. Mr. Bevec stated hours cannot be change without Council’s approval. Further discussion held regarding the number of police officers from a few years ago. Mayor Rhome stated a full time officer was hired for the school. Mr. Bevec suggested Mr. Severine ask the Mayor to bring the information to the next meeting. Mr. Bevec again stated the hours cannot be changed without Council’s approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Rhome discussed a meeting with Allegheny Power/ West Penn Power regarding changing to LED streetlights, with a savings of an excess of \$10,000.00, according to the data provided by the Federal Government. Mayor Rhome stated the Borough has over 600 streetlights with an array of different lights. Mayor Rhome had a streetlight agreement for review, no charge for the changeover of the heads. Mayor Rhome stated in order to move forward, the Borough needs to sign off on the agreement and be the first on the list to start the change over the first quarter of next year. Mayor Rhome stated that 12 will be installed first to make sure Council is satisfied. Discussion held about Carnegie and the change in their lights and did not have to sign an agreement. Mr. Kipp discussed eligibility for the SPEC grant. Mr. Bevec asked to see the agreement for his review. Mr. Derrico reviewed the agreement and felt it was in order. Mr. Bevec confirmed, for the record, that the data shows a savings of an excess of \$10,000.00. Mr. Bevec reviewed the information from Allegheny Power.

Mr. Severine asked if they were flat LED lights. Mr. Bevec stated he was not sure. Mr. Bevec explained the difference of LED lighting vs. current lights. Mr. Bevec discussed Act 129 and said it is a grant program. Mr. Bevec stated that individually they are paying for the lights by contributing a percentage on the electric bill every month to West Penn, it is going to into one fund and being distributed back. Mr. Bevec stated the money is kept in the Borough.

Motion to approve the agreement with West Penn Power for LED streetlights.

Motion by Mr. McGarry to approve the agreement with West Penn Power for LED streetlights.

Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Roll Call:

Mr. Sharkday-No

Mr. Severine-Yes

Mr. Bilsky-No

Mr. Russo-Absent

Mrs. Coleman-Yes

Mr. McGarry-Yes

Mr. Bevec-Yes

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

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

A. 2016 Salary Ordinance No. 1324 (See Above)

B. 2016 Tax Ordinance NO 1325 (See Above)

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McGarry made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Coleman.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Submitted by: Michelle LoBello

