

## **Canonsburg Borough Council Voting Meeting**

February 13, 2023

6:30 PM

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Chandler at 6:30 pm.

**Moment of Silence** called by Mr. Chandler.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Roll Call:**

Mr. Eric Chandler, President – Present

Mr. Lawrence - Present

Mr. John Severine - Present

Mr. Edward P. Yorke - Present

Mr. Richard Russo - Present

Mr. Richard Bell, Vice President - Present

Mrs. Tina Bails - Present

**Others Present:** Borough Manager Denise Lesnock, Mayor David Rhome, Solicitor Joseph Dalfonso, Public Works Director Brian Moody, Police Chief Alex Coghill, Code and Zoning Enforcement Officer Melissa Graff

**Absent:** Engineer, Jeff Marcink.

### **GUESTS:**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Harold Close, 332 Fieldbrook Dr., Washington – I am here to let the council know that I am bringing suit against John Severine, our attorney is drafting the letter. One day when I was down in east end Canonsburg, John was going door to door having a petition signed. I'm sure as elected officials you know that you can't go door to door with petitions in opposition of an upcoming agenda item. We are in the process of making an application with our engineer group. Basically, I think John is acting independently, and I don't think that council has anything to do with this or is aware of his illegal actions or what he has done. I would like to

put you on notice that any information coming from Mr. Dalfonso, he works for the borough, does not work for John independently and any legal advice should not come from him as it would be wasting council's time and the residents of Canonsburg's retainer fees. So, that letter is forth coming, and I am respectfully asking this council to tell Mr. Severine to cease and desist. Again, a lawsuit is coming forward and for him to recuse himself from anything that has to do with the corner of 546 Euclid/409 Perry Como Ave.

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

We have two new members to our junior council which are Medha Biradar and Bella Santoro. We also have those who still is on junior council, Ally West who has been with us for the last 7-8 months and Maddie who has been with us the last 7-8 months. Prior to that we had Matthew Thomas who is now graduated and now in college and Ethan Buckovinsky who will be graduating this year; however, he had some other responsibilities so he could not carry on. So, welcome and we will actually get you guys sworn in today.

My last comment is congratulations to Canon McMillan High School Wrestling Team which placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the state.

#### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Rhome reported on the following:

1. Swearing in of Joseph A. Chirumbolo to the Canonsburg Police Department
2. Swearing in of Joseph V. Graff, Jr. to the Zoning Hearing Board
3. Swearing in of three new Junior Council people:
  - a. Medha Biradar
  - b. Bella Santoro
  - c. Nelly Sanchez (Absent)
4. Swearing in of Renee Coltura as Parking Enforcement Officer

#### **VOTING ITEMS:**

**1. Motion to approve January 13, 2023, meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.**

Mr. Russo made a motion to approve the January 13, 2023, meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine – Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**2. Motion to approve all bills presented on the current warrant lists.**

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve all bills presented on the current warrant lists. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**3. Motion to approve advertising Ordinance #1372 (an ordinance to approve, adopt, and enact an ordinance codification for the Borough of Canonsburg).**

Mr. Russo made a motion to approve advertising Ordinance #1372 (an ordinance to approve, adopt, and enact an ordinance codification for the Borough of Canonsburg). Seconded by Mr.

Severine.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Lawrence – Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**4. Motion to approve Resolution #02-2023 (reducing the police pension contribution rate to 4% of compensation for 2023).**

Mr. Russo made a motion to approve Resolution #02-2023 (reducing the police pension contribution rate to 4% of compensation for 2023. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke – Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries

**5. Motion to approve Resolution #03-2023 (reducing the non-uniform pension contribution rate to 2% of compensation for 2023).**

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve Resolution #03-2023 (reducing the non-uniform pension contribution rate to 2% of compensation for 2023. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo – Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**6. Motion to approve accepting Police Patrol Officer Zachary Powell as a regular full-time Canonsburg Police Officer having fulfilled his one-year probationary period.**

Mrs. Bails made a motion to approve accepting Police Patrol Officer Zachary Powell as a regular full-time Canonsburg Police Officer having fulfilled his one-year probationary period.

Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**7. Motion to approve Spartan Construction Services Pay Application No. 6 in the total amount of \$128,589.30 for work completed to date on Contract 2021-08.**

Mr. Lawrence made a motion to approve Spartan Construction Services Pay Application No. 6 in the total amount of \$128,589.30 for work completed to date on Contract 2021-08.

Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Russo – Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**8. Motion to approve WG Land Company, LLC Pay Application No. 6 in the amount of \$25,935.00 for work completed to date on Contract 2021-06.**

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve WG Land Company, LLC Pay Application No. 6 in the amount of \$25,935.00 for work completed to date on Contract 2021-06. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Lawrence – Yes

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**9. Motion to approve WG Land Company, LLC Change Order No. 4 in the amount not to exceed \$24,810.00 for additional structural work on Contract 2021-06.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve WG Land Company, LLC Change Order No. 4 in the

amount not to exceed \$24,810.00 for additional structural work on Contract 2021-06.

Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Yorke – Yes

Mrs. Bails – Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**10. Motion to authorize KLH to advertise the Giffin Ave Sewer Repair Project.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to authorize KLH to advertise the Giffin Ave Sewer Repair Project.

Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Russo – Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**11. Motion to authorize KLH to advertise the Main Pavilion roof project, pending design completion and final review with the Borough.**

Mrs. Bails made a motion to authorize KLH to advertise the Main Pavilion roof project, pending design completion and final review with the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Lawrence- Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**12. Motion to authorize KLH to advertise the Pool House porch addition project, pending design completion and final review with the Borough.**

Mrs. Bails made a motion to authorize KLH to advertise the Pool House porch addition project, pending design completion and final review with the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion

**Roll Call:**

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Yorke – Yes

Mr. Severine – Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**13. Motion to approve an Autism Walk at Town Park on September 23, 2023, and allow them to use the Main Pavilion at no charge.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve an Autism Walk at Town Park on September 23, 2023, and allow them to use the Main Pavilion at no charge. Seconded by Mr. Bell.



No questions on the motion. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**14. Motion to approve Chamber Bunny Run held April 1, 2023.**

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve Chamber Bunny Run held April 1, 2023. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**15. Motion to approve giving \$5,000.00 from our Capital Projects account to put towards the Town Park 100<sup>th</sup> celebration.**

Mr. Russo made a motion to approve giving \$5,000.00 from our Capital Projects account to put towards the Town Park 100<sup>th</sup> celebration. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**16. Motion to approve allowing Town Park 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration to use pavilions free of charge (monetary value \$1,950.00).**

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve allowing Town Park 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration to use pavilions free of charge (monetary value \$1,950.00). Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

Mr. Russo – Tina, is that in addition to the donations or were you looking to because we had a discussion about paying for it or do the donations

Mrs. Bails – Yeah, we discussed it and then you said put the \$5000.00. Yes, and it is not all of

the pavilions

Mr. Russo – We only have three pavilions to rent

Mrs. Bails – Yes, we have the Yoney, the Main and the VFW. And we already have as of February 6<sup>th</sup>, they were taking reservations and we had no problems that they were going to be blocked because of the community activity and the girls didn't have any issues

Mr. Russo – So, we'll do three weekends?

Mrs. Bails – Four

Mr. Russo – Four weekends

Mrs. Bails – All of the weekends will have a pavilion rented

Mr. Russo – So, if you do a pavilion each weekend, that's four. Are you going to do all three each weekend?

Mrs. Bails – No, you're gonna have all three only 2 weekends. Memorial Day weekend we have none, in June you I believe we have two

Mr. Russo – Ok. I just thought we were talking about the donation in lieu of all of that. Do we know what that impact is in addition to the \$5000.00?

Denise Lesnock, Borough Manager – It's \$1950.00

Mr. Russo – In addition to the donation?

Mrs. Bails - Right

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails – Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**17. Motion to retain KLH Engineers for Code Enforcement Services at an hourly rate of \$65.00 per hour, on an as needed basis.**

Mr. Severine made a motion to retain KLH Engineers for Code Enforcement Services at an hourly rate of \$65.00 per hour, on an as needed basis. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

Mrs. Bails – I would like to have an executive session.

Mr. Chandler – Right now we have a motion

Mr. Yorke – We don't have a motion

Mrs. Bails – We don't have a motion yet

Mr. Severine – I'll make a motion

Mr. Russo – Now we have a motion

Mr. Chandler – We have a motion. Can I get a second?

Melissa Graff, Stenographer – I'm sorry who seconded that?

Mr. Bell – I did

Mrs. Bails – Now I would like an executive session because I would like to discuss this further than what we did last week before we vote on this

Joe Dalfonso, Solicitor – You need to request an executive session only if it is involving current code enforcement employees in that office. That is a permissible topic.

Mr. Russo – Can we defer that for the courtesy of these folks till the end and still vote at the end? Finish up the rest of the meeting so that these folks don't have to wait?

Joe Dalfonso, Solicitor – That's up to councils' discretion

Mr. Chandler – So what do you want to do?

Mr. Russo – I'm fine with the executive, but sometimes our executives end up being an hour long

Mr. Chandler – It's not going to be that long

Mrs. Bails – It's not going to be that long

Mr. Chandler – Alright so can we table it? Can we?

Joe Dalfonso, Solicitor – You have a motion and a second. I mean you can do that now. You need a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel related to code enforcement

Mr. Chandler – Alright. Can I have a motion to go into executive session to talk about code enforcement? Can I have a motion?

Mr. Severine made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel related to code enforcement. Seconded by Mr. Russo.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Lawrence – Yes

Mr. Yorke - No

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

6 Yes, 1 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

Mr. Chandler – Do we have to have a motion to come back from executive session?

Joe Dalfonso, Solicitor – You just need to note the time

Mr. Chandler – Time is 7:10 PM, back from executive session

Joe Dalfonso, Solicitor – You need a motion and a second on item number 17

Mr. Chandler – Do we have any further questions on the motion?

Mr. Yorke – Yeah, I would like to make a statement if I may. I would like to thank the committee, that would be Mr. Bell and Mr. Severine. They took me by the hand and enlightened me on a lot of things that went around that I was not aware of about code. I just want to thank those two gentleman for that and Mr. Russo

Mr. Chandler – Alright.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mrs. Bails – Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**18. Motion to retain Robert Maceiko as a grant writer for the Borough as a cost of \$500.00 a month contingent on completion of agreement.**

Mr. Bell made a motion to retain Robert Maceiko as a grant writer for the Borough as a cost of \$500.00 a month contingent on completion of agreement. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo – Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**19. Motion to accept KLH Engineers cost proposal for two-days of field work to prepare the storm sewer mapping total cost proposal (\$3,942.00).**

Mr. Lawrence made a motion to accept KLH Engineers cost proposal for two-days of field work to prepare the storm sewer mapping total cost proposal (\$3,942.00). Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails – Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**20. Motion to adopt the Volunteer Firefighter Leave Policy.**

Mr. Bell made a motion to adopt the Volunteer Firefighter Leave Policy. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine – Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**21. Motion to approve Canonsburg Street Department Memorandum of Understanding (Changing maintenance/firefighter position).**

Mr. Russo made a motion to approve Canonsburg Street Department Memorandum of Understanding (Changing maintenance/firefighter position). Seconded by Mr. Lawrence.

No questions on the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Falconi Field Lease (had meeting with baseball association)
2. Chartiers Flood Control Project (KLH will work with Goatscape)
3. Giffin Ave I&I Project (2023)
4. Peach and Ash Alley projects (2023)
5. Workshop on 2/27 at 6:30PM concerning future projects

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Mr. Yorke to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Seconded by Mrs. Bails.  
All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Submitted by:

Melissa Graff