

Canonsburg Borough Council Voting Meeting

October 9, 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. Edward P. Yorke - Present

Mr. John Severine - Present

Mr. Richard Russo - Present

Mr. Carl Lawrence - Present

Mr. Richard Bell, Vice President - Present

Mrs. Tina Bails - Absent

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:

Scott Shearer, PFM (Sewer Plant Sale) – Mr. Shearer gave a presentation on the rates proposed by the two companies for the sale of the sewer authority

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mike Roman, 426 Chartiers Ave – Borough Council and the mayor have received in their packets an invitation to the invite only open house at the Robert's Stone House Restoration. I just wanted to mention to the mayor and also to Brian that included with that invite is the closing of a street, Orchard Ave for approximately five (5) or six (6) hours to set up some tents for food and for some other beverages. So, is there anything that we need to do to satisfy

the borough just to close a street? The street is Orchard Ave, located on the upper side of N. Central Ave., to the right of The Roberts House, where the two (2) parking lots are. We are also going to notify the residents who live behind that there is access to their homes from the upper lot.

Mr. Lawrence – Is that not Locust?

Council – It's Locust

Mr. Roman - I'm sorry it is Locust. But anyway, is there anything else we have to do?

Mayor Rhome – So, I haven't had a chance to talk to Chief, but I don't think he would have a problem with that, but we don't have another meeting beforehand, so we really need to talk about it tonight as long as council is okay with it. We can close it for that period of time, five (5) or six (6) hours.

Mr. Chandler – We can't add it to the voting item because it wasn't

Joe Dalfonso, Solicitor – There's an exception to the Sunshine Act for the minimalist of items that if a resident during public comment brings in, this isn't going to cost the borough any money, so it would be acceptable to add that

Mr. Chandler – Ok

Mr. Roman - Also, for Brian, we are going to have to borrow a couple of horses and some cones.

Brian Moody, Public Works Director – That's no problem

Mayor Rhome – The police department will take care of that

Mr. Severine – I'm just curious, since there is a parking lot up there, did you ever reach out to the school since the school doesn't use that anymore?

Mr. Roman – That's being taken care of. There's a meeting with the school to get permission

Mr. Severine – Wouldn't it be more feasible to use the parking lot instead of the road?

Mr. Roman – We are working on that, John

Mr. Severine – Ok

Mr. Chandler – What I would ask is, council always asks anytime shutting down parking lots or whatever, if you can get the residents to sign off on that they are ok with it

Mr. Roman – There are five (5) houses back there and I've got letters to distribute to everybody just alerting them to that fact. They'll just have to use the upper lot to access their

homes

Mr. Chandler – Yeah, we're just asking if you can get them to sign off on it, then we will be good

Mr. Roman – Ok. Sounds good

Councilman Yorke – I am one of the representatives to the sewer authority, and when this presentation came about I was one of the ones last, in fact I was filled in on the way in from different people calling me up knowing more about what was going on than I did. So, I took it upon myself to learn. I went out to probably one of the most qualified places to get it and seen Mrs. Graham out there in the city of Cleveland. More or less, she took me by the hand, filled me in on a lot of areas that were discovered. I wish with my gut feeling I felt good about this, and that's where I'm coming from. My gut feeling, I don't feel good about that. I'm telling my council members and I'm telling the public it's more of a gut feeling. Moving this quick on this much money is not the way to go. That's my report. Thank you

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

President Chandler first deferred to Economic Development Director for her report, then deferred to Councilman Yorke. President Chandler then reported on one last thing. In the packet, we missed it that Mr. Graff, Jr. submitted a letter of interest for the Park and Recs Board.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Economic Development Director reported that it's just about the same update as she gave at the last economic development meeting. Currently working with two (2) of the buildings that are for sale in town now have contingent contracts in place. The Citizen's Bank Building and also the Cigar Shop. So, working with those folks and we will see how it all pans out. She went on to report that she is working with Erik Mark on an open space he has open in town to bring in a short-term tenant as a pop-up establishment for the holiday season, so we should have that finalized by the end of the week. She continued to report that she has a viewing at Tri-State Antiques on November 10, 2023, with some people that are interested in that building and she will keep everyone posted. With regard to events, the event calendar coming

up is the Halloween Crawl, with the children hosted by the Chamber of Commerce, on Saturday, October 28, 2023. The holiday schedule with the merchants and the bar owners, for the Jingle Bar Hop will be November 25, 2023, the Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration is December 1st and 2nd, and the Merry Merchant Christmas Crawl will be December 9th. Finally, she and Eric are working with WQED on Fred Rogers Be My Neighbor Day that will be scheduled for February

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Rhome reported that the only thing he has is some voting items for approval so we can get moving tomorrow morning to get them done in a timely fashion. Most of them are about Old Fashioned Christmas, and we are right up against it

VOTING ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve September 11, 2023, meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve the September 11, 2023, meeting minutes of Canonsburg Borough Council. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Bails - Absent

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

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

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

Mr. Lawrence made a motion to approve all bills presented on the current warrant lists.

Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mrs. Bails - Absent

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke – Yes

Mr. Russo – Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

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

3. Motion to approve an invoice from Quintin Areford Construction in the amount of \$5,800 (repair of Woodland Avenue Island resulting from a vehicular accident).

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve an invoice from Quintin Areford Construction in the amount of \$5,800 (repair of Woodland Avenue Island resulting from a vehicular accident).

Seconded by Mr. Russo.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Absent

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

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

4. Motion to approve S.E. Schultz Electric Pay Application No. 14 in the amount of \$8,143.28 for work completed to date on Contract 2021-09.

Mr. Severine made a motion to approve S.E. Schultz Electric Pay Application No. 14 in the amount of \$8,143.28 for work completed to date on Contract 2021-09. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Bell – Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Lawrence – Yes

Mrs. Bails - Absent

Mr. Chandler - Yes

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

5. Motion to authorize the Chief of Police to execute the Lexipol Master Service Agreement in the amount of \$26,636.10 to be funded out of the funds received from the Economic Development & Community Development Initiatives Program Contract.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to authorize the Chief of Police to execute the Lexipol Master Service Agreement in the amount of \$26,636.10 to be funded out of the funds received from the Economic Development & Community Development Initiatives Program Contract.

Seconded by Mr. Lawrence.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Absent

Mr. Russo – Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mr. Lawrence – Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

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

6. Motion to approve Resolution #09-2023 (Raising the fund balance from \$500,000 to \$600,000 in the General fund).

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve Resolution #09-2023 (Raising the fund balance from \$500,000 to \$600,000 in the General fund). Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mr. Russo - Yes

Mr. Severine - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Absent

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

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

7. Motion to appoint Eric Chandler to the Washington County Tax Collection Executive Committee.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to appoint Eric Chandler to the Washington County Tax Collection Executive Committee. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

All in Favor. Motion carries.

8. Motion to approve closing East Water St./Greenside Ave. (from East Pike Street to Central Ave) for a Fire Department open house event October 21st from 9am to 3:30pm.

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve closing East Water St./Greenside Ave. (from East Pike Street to Central Ave) for a Fire Department open house event October 21st from 9am to 3:30pm. Seconded by Mr. Severine.

No questions on the motion.

All in Favor. Motion carries.

9. Motion to set Trick or Treat for October 31st from 6pm to 7:30pm.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to set Trick or Treat for October 31st from 6pm to 7:30pm.

Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion

All in Favor. Motion carries.

10. Motion to approve Resolution #10-2023 (Christmas lights to be installed across Pike Street at Grandpa Joes and Colaizzo building like last year).

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve Resolution #10-2023 (Christmas lights to be installed across Pike Street at Grandpa Joes and Colaizzo building like last year). Seconded by Mr. Yorke.

No questions on the motion.

All in Favor. Motion carries.

11. Motion to approve 2,000 Turkeys to solicit donations at North Central Avenue at East and West Pike St. and at North Jefferson Avenue at West Pike Street on November 15th from 8am to 3pm.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to approve 2,000 Turkeys to solicit donations at North Central Avenue at East and West Pike St. and at North Jefferson Avenue at West Pike Street on November 15th from 8am to 3pm. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

All in Favor. Motion carries.

12. Motion to approve Canonsburg Chamber of Commerce's request for a Downtown Trick or Treat (merchants' event) on October 28th from 11am to 1pm.

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve Canonsburg Chamber of Commerce's request for a Downtown Trick or Treat (merchants' event) on October 28th from 11am to 1pm. Seconded by Mr. Yorke.

No questions on the motion.

All in Favor. Motion carries.

13. Motion to close Locust St from N. Central down to the dead-end road, on November 2, 2023, from 2:30 to 5:30 PM.

Mr. Yorke made a motion to close Locust St from N. Central down to the dead-end road on November 2, 2023, from 2:30 to 5:30 PM. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

All in Favor. Motion carries.

14. Motion to accept the County Hauling Garbage Bid option B1 for a five (5) year contract for manual collection and option B4 five years for recycling.

Mr. Russo made a motion to accept the County Hauling Garbage Bid option B1 for a five (5) year contract for manual collection and option B4 five years for recycling. Seconded by Mr. Bell.

No questions on the motion.

Roll Call:

Mr. Yorke - Yes

Mr. Severine - No

Mr. Lawrence - Yes

Mrs. Bails - Absent

Mr. Russo – Yes

Mr. Bell - Yes

Mr. Chandler - Yes

5 Yes, 1 No, 1 Absent. All in Favor. Motion carries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Falconi Field Lease
 - a. Left message for Zach, waiting to hear back from him
2. Borough Building Landscaping
 - a. Received estimate
 - b. Work won't be done until the contract is signed
3. Public Works parking lot paving (close to being done)
4. Public Works fence and gate (waiting for the completion of the bond project)
5. Amend Street Opening & Excavation Ordinance
6. E.J. Kleckner's Minor Subdivision at 503 and 505 West Pike St (will be a voting item on next month's agenda)
 - a. A variance is needed from the Zoning Hearing Board
7. Budget Workshop (October 16, 2023, at 6:30 PM)

8. Vacate Alley (Fifth St and Gladden Rd)
 - a. There is an existing sewage line so can't be moved forward

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Public Works Building dedication
2. Flat Roof over Fire Department (\$3000.00 emergency repair)
3. Meeting with Sewer Authority
4. Permit incentive for off-street parking
 - a. If applicant goes to Yoest for gravel, they will get the same rate as Brian (public works) gets
 - b. Issue zoning permits for off-street parking but waive the fees

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. Yorke to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. Seconded by Mr. Russo.
All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Submitted by:

Melissa Graff