

February 17, 2015 City Council Minutes

This regular meeting of the Connellsville City Council was held this evening at 6:00 PM at City Hall, Connellsville, PA. Attending this meeting was Mayor Lincoln, Council members Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch. Also attending this meeting was City Clerk and Solicitor Witt. •

•**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:**• Pastor Don Smith•

Reminder of the procedures for public participation during City Council meetings. •

•**REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**••

Rick Schuphart and John Brenner, PA Municipal League of Cities, Requesting the City of Connellsville join the PA League of Cities. •

Councilman Geyer further explained the PA League of Cities and his previous experience with them. •

Councilman Zolbrod questioned if the league could give the City advice on things like fire hydrants. Schuphart answered yes. •

Joe Orszelack, Opposed to tenants being charged a “tax” to rent property in the City. •

David McIntyre, Representing the Shade Tree Commission, Discussed a proposal for East Park, including removal of 28 trees and dead limbs removed from half a dozen trees at a cost of \$7,500.00. •

Mayor Lincoln responded the City is going to try to have lumber companies go to East Park and see if they can cut the trees down and take the wood, noting that would save the City \$7,500.00. •

•**CORRESPONDENCE:**• •

Lisa Gasperi, request to make March 19, 2015 as Senior Citizen’s Day•

Chamber of Commerce, request Arch Street closed on Friday, July 3, 2015 for fireworks•

•**Resolution No. 2-1-2015:**• “To close North Arch Street from 4:30 PM until 10:00 PM on Friday, July 3, 2015 for the annual fireworks.”•

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Geyer, Karpiak, Ritch and Zolbrod and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted. •

•**REGULAR AGENDA:**•

Resolution No. 2-2-2015:• “To accept the minutes from the January 20, 2015 City Council Meeting.”•

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted. •

•**Resolution No. 2-3-2015:**• “To waive the 4-day Resolution Rule to allow for items submitted after the 4-day rule to be read at the meeting tonight, such Resolutions will be marked with an asterisk.”•

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

•MAYOR LINCOLN:•

• Police Department Report •

•Resolution No. 2-4-2015: •"To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an Agreement between the City of Connellsville and Fayette Festivals, i.e. Terry Cellurale, to hold an event, Independence Day Rockin' Rib Festival in the City of Connellsville, on July 4th and 5th, 2015; pending review of City Solicitor."

Fayette Festivals discussed the upcoming festival. •

Karpiak questioned how they are getting a Liquor License and what would be done to ensure there will not be underage drinking. He also questioned possible law suits against the City. •

Fayette Festivals answered that each winery that serves is required to get their own Liquor License, therefore, Fayette Festivals is not required to obtain a license. She added they will also have their own insurances. She also noted there will be craft and food vendors, dancing, competitions and closed off areas to keep the underage out. Fayette Festivals assured the City that there is no possibility the City will be sued. •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

•Resolution No. 2-5-2015: • "To introduce Bill No. 1 of 2015, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CONNELLSVILLE, FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA: An ordinance recognizing New Haven Hose Company as the fire department of the City of Connellsville; describing the organization of such company; recognizing the appointment of the Fire Chief and the Assistant Fire Chief; providing for oaths and bonds; prescribing the duties of the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, and firemen; and repealing Ordinance Nos. 13, 783, 1086, 1463, and all other ordinances inconsistent herewith."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

•Resolution No. 2-6-2015: • "To sign and enter into the Municipal Automobile Theft / Motor Vehicle Insurance Fraud Intergovernmental Agreement with the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) and to authorize and direct the Mayor, City Clerk and the Solicitor to execute such agreement on behalf of the City of Connellsville for 2015-2016."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

•Resolution No. 2-7-2015: • "To appoint Teri Hirko to the Connellsville Housing Authority; term to expire the first Monday in January 2020." •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

• **Resolution No. 2-8-2015:** • “To reappoint Vinny Traynor to the Police Civil Service Board; term to expire the first Monday in January 2020.” •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

• **Resolution No. 2-9-2015:** • “To accept the resignation of James P. Stefano from the Connellsville Planning Commission effective February 4, 2015.” •

Mayor Lincoln thanked Mr. Stefano for his service. He announced that if anyone is interested in serving on the Planning Commission, there is an opening and send a letter of interest to Shelley.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

• **Resolution No. 2-10-2015:** • “To permit Cary Truley, California University Law Enforcement student, to serve an internship with the Connellsville Police Department beginning February 23, 2015 and ending May 8, 2015.” •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

• **Resolution No. 2-11-2015:** • “To close North Arch Street from the north side of Crawford Avenue to the south side of Peach Street on July 4th and 5th, 2015 and permit Fayette Festivals to hold a Rib Fest; pending review and approval of Police Chief and Penn DOT.” •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

• **REMINDERS:** •

• February 24th at 6 PM is the Chamber’s Awards Banquet, Murphy Hall •

The next Recycling Days are February 10th and 11th •

Mayor Lincoln noted that there is a Recycling Dumpster at the City Garage for everything except paper. •

March 17th at 6 PM is the next Council Meeting •

March 19th, Economic Summit at the Senior Center •

May 2nd, Chamber of Commerce’s City-wide yard sale •

• **GEYER:** •

• Councilman Geyer thanked City Council for hearing the gentlemen from the League of Cities. •

•**Resolution No. 2-12-2015**• “To introduce Bill No. 2 of 2015, amending Ordinance No. 1413, the City of Connellsville Firefighters' Pension Plan with the Employers' reserved right to amend the Plan pursuant to section 11.01; and amends the Ordinance to coincide with the provisions of a Settlement Agreement dated December 17, 2014 between the City and the International Association of Firefighters (Local 1917).” •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted. •

•**Resolution No. 2-13-2015**• “To reimburse the City of Connellsville General Fund for allowable fire hydrant expenses of \$41,078.44 from the year 2013, Act 13 Account.” •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted. •

Councilman Geyer discussed the Pennsylvania League of Cities dues and membership information. •

•**KARPIAK**: •

• Public Works Report •

•**Resolution No. 2-14-2015**• “To direct the City Clerk to advertise for bid the following vehicle: 1994 Ford F600 Dump Truck with a Thiel Dump Bed, Snow Plow and Salt Spreader; Vehicle can be seen at the Public Works Building, 131 West South Street, Connellsville, PA 15425, Phone 724-628-2020 EXT 301; bids are due in the City Clerk's Office, 110 North Arch Street, Connellsville, PA 15425 no later than Monday, March 16, 2014 at 4:00 PM.” •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted. •

•**GEYER**: •

•**Resolution No. 2-15-2015**• “To approve the City of Connellsville joining the Pennsylvania Municipal League for the 2015 calendar year at no cost or expense to the City, as a result of the 2015 fee waiver; with any further membership extension or renewals to be approved by resolution of City Council.” •

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted. •

•**RITCH**: •

ZOLBROD •

• Health/Code Officer Report •
New Haven Hose Report •

Tom Currey stated the next Planning Commission Meeting is March 3rd, 7 PM at City Hall. He noted the new hotel will be discussed. •

•**CITY TREASURER JAYNES REPORT:** • Thanked Council for appointing him. Zolbrod explained “that all of the tax sales that happened for City property, the funds were received by the County...and they (funds) were never dispersed back to the City or other municipalities – wherever the sale occurred. So, the County didn’t have the manpower to process those payments.”•
Solicitor Witt explained the process. •

•**CITY CONTROLLER BROOKS REPORT:** •

Resolution No. 2-16-2015:• “That this meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn.”•

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmen Geyer, Zolbrod, Karpiak and Ritch and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.