

**Connellsville City Council  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

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 Keedy, Karpiak, Tzan and Topper. Also attending was City Clerk Ohler and Solicitor Witt.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Led by Pastor Don Smith

**REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Brandi Roselli, Macken Engineering, Discussed the Comprehensive Plan and noted it is in the "Comment Period until March 22, 2019." She further added once the comment period is over, Council needs to hold a Public Hearing that will need legally advertised. Roselli stated after the hearing, Council will hopefully adopt the plan by resolution at the April 16th meeting due to grants the City received to pay for the plan. She noted it needs to be adopted by April 17, 2019.

Mayor Lincoln asked what will happen with any comments the City received.

Roselli answered she will collect them and give them to the committee to review. She added if she does receive comments, she will get them to the City prior to the public hearing. She stated it will be up to the City to review the comments and decide if they wish to address the comments or not.

Tom Currey, Planning Commission Yearly Review. He noted the total of building permits was one million-eight hundred and fifty-five thousand-one hundred and forty-four dollars. Currey noted it is just shy of Two Million in building permits.

Mayor Lincoln questioned Currey if the State has changed or will be changing the mandate for the City to use a stenographer at Zoning Hearings.

Currey noted he is not aware of any changes being made to that law.

Solicitor Witt stated Council can discuss any possible options.

Currey then stated what the City charges for the Zoning Hearing covers the cost of advertising the meeting which is approximately \$200 and then pays the stenographer. He further added the City does not make money off the charge.

Tom Currey then discussed the Comprehensive Plan approval by the Connellsville Planning Commission.

Pastor Don Smith stated it is a pleasure to be a part of prayer to City Council and part of the Ministerial Association.

Mayor Lincoln added the Ministerial Association is very important in the City and he is happy all the churches work together.

**CITY TREASURER'S REPORT:** Presented by City Treasurer Marilyn Weaver

**CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT:** Presented by City Controller Bruce Witt

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Partner Parishes, Street closure request

**Resolution No. 2-1-2019:** "To close the ally from North Prospect Street to North Cottage Avenue on Friday, June 14, 2019 from 5 PM until 9 PM and Saturday, June 15, 2019 from noon until 9 PM for the Partner Parish two-day festival; pending review and approval of Police Chief and Fire Chief."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

New Haven Hose, Street closure request

**Resolution No. 2-2-2019:** "To close the following streets beginning 8:30 PM on May 18, 2019 for the New Haven Hose Neon Nights 5K: South 7th Street to West Crawford Avenue, right onto South Arch Street then left onto West Green Street and straight onto East Green Street, right onto Sycamore Street then right onto Davidson Avenue, right onto Race Street then left onto West Green Street, right onto South Arch Street then left onto West Crawford Avenue and left onto South 7th Street; pending review and approval of Police Chief and Fire Chief."

Mayor Lincoln stated this is a big fundraiser for New Haven and is a great time for residents. He noted you do not need to run and can walk. He further added that people dress up and many people volunteer.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

El Canelo Restaurant, Street closure request

Mayor Lincoln announced the next event there will be a Mariachi Band and a fun event.

**Resolution No. 2-3-2019:** "To grant El Canelo Mexican Restaurant Permission to close North Meadow Lane, from Crawford Ave. to Orchard Alley on May 5, 2019, for Cinco de Mayo, from noon until 9 PM; pending review and approval of Police Chief and Fire Chief."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Connellsville Veterans Commission, Memorial Day Parade

**Resolution No. 2-4-2019:** "To close West Crawford Avenue to North Pittsburgh Street and East Crawford Avenue to the Memorial at North Pittsburgh Street and Memorial Blvd. for the

Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, 2019; pending approval of Police Chief, Fire Chief and Penn DOT.”

Mayor Lincoln added the parade is at 10 AM.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Mayor Lincoln announced a committee has been formed to bring back the Honor Roll to the City. He added there has been numerous meetings. Mayor Lincoln stated the first business is to find a location for the Honor Roll preferably around Crawford Avenue.

#### **REGULAR AGENDA:**

**Resolution No. 2-5-2019:** “To approve the minutes from the January 15, 2019 City Council Meeting.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-6-2019:** “To waive the Four-Day Resolution Rule to allow for items submitted after the Four-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 Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

#### **MAYOR LINCOLN:**

Police Department Report – read by Mayor Lincoln

Mayor Lincoln reminded residents that parking in a fire line will get you a ticket.

Mayor Lincoln announced Officer Garlik is working hard on obtaining funding for the K9 Unit. He noted that Garlik has raised over \$5,000 towards the K9 Unit and thanked everyone who has donated to help fund the unit. He stated the school is looking into how they can help fund this legally. Mayor Lincoln added this would be a great benefit for the school.

**Resolution No. 2-7-2019:** "To grant Tyler Garlick permission to apply for the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Grant."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-8-2019:** "To grant Tyler Garlick permission to apply for the National Association of Chiefs of Police K9 Matching Grant."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-9-2019:** "To grant Tyler Garlick permission to apply for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Grant."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Officer Garlick for this time, hard work and dedication to this project.

Mayor Lincoln stated PEMA informed the City they can notify more homes in the flood plain of the mitigation. He added there are some residents that are interested.

**Resolution No. 2-10-2019:** "BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Connellsville that Vernon Ohler, City Clerk, is hereby authorized to execute for and in behalf of the City of Connellsville, a public entity established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, all required forms and documents for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) or the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288 as amended by Public Law 100-707) or the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) program or Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) program under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq), National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-325) and the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-264), as pertains to federal mitigation grant programs indicated below."

Mayor Lincoln added the City cannot do anything with the property and added it must remain green. He further added the City will lose tax dollars but wants to look out for the residents.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

#### **REMINDERS:**

Mayor Lincoln reminded residents the City requires persons going door to door selling items or services to obtain a Peddler's Permit from the City. He announced IGS applied for Peddler's Permit and have been approved. Mayor Lincoln stated they can begin on February 18, 2019 and end February 18, 2020. He announced they are not permitted to use harsh sales tactics and residents do not have to show them their bill or anything they choose not to do.

Recycling: Wards 2 & 4 are on Tuesday, Wards 1 & 3 are on Wednesday  
Pickup: February 26th, 27th, March 12th and 13th, 26th, 27<sup>th</sup>

Mayor Lincoln stated if your garbage or recycling is not picked up, call 724-437-7336. Council discussed the missed garbage and dumpsters.

Christian Church, 212 S Pittsburgh St, Free lunch on the 2nd & 4th Monday of every month from 11:30 AM - 1 PM

February 23rd, 10 AM - 6 PM, Appalachian Creativity Center's Open House

March 9th & 16th, 5 PM - 7 PM, Appalachian Creativity Center, Stained Glass Art Class, \$50, 724-208-1746

March 9th, 11 AM - 2 PM, Simply Soup Walk, \$10, Downtown Connellsville

March 9th, 10 AM, Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting, Youghiogheny Holistic Living, 144 N 3rd Street

March 9th, 10 AM - 3 PM, Book Sale at the Library, \$7 & \$12 for a bag of books

March 22nd, Last day for Comprehensive Plan Comments to be turned into City Hall.

April 20<sup>th</sup>, Senior Center Easter Dinner. Mayor Lincoln stated there is a Facebook Page created for this event. He added it will be from 11 AM – 1 PM.

Mayor Lincoln announced on May 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a telethon for Community Ministries. He added it will be on Armstrong and the internet. Mayor Lincoln stated it will be taped at the cafeteria at the Connellsville High School. He stated it will be done like the Heart Telethon in the 80's. Mayor Lincoln stated the money will be for the ministries "Sharing the Harvest Campaign" that they do each year. He stated it will begin at 2 PM and end at 8 PM.

City Clerk Ohler added they will be reaching out to the press for a Press Conference.

#### **KEEDY:**

Councilman Keedy explained the City has been paying a lot of money in fees to PNC and some of the accounts that had money going in and coming right back out were in the negative. He further explained now the City will be gaining a lot of money in interest. He thanked Somerset Trust for putting half a million dollars into the City. Councilman Keedy stated the General Fund will stay where it is right now.

**Resolution No. 2-11-2019:** "To close the following accounts at PNC Bank. Police Evidence Fund, School Tax Account, Payroll Account, Senior Center Account, Recreation Fund, Library Fund, Disbursement Account, City Tax Account, Act 13 Account, and Fire Escrow Account."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-12-2019:** "To open the following accounts at Somerset Trust Company. Police Evidence Fund, School Tax Account, Payroll Account, Senior Center Account, Recreation Fund, Library Fund, Disbursement Account, City Tax Account, Act 13 Account, Fire

Escrow Account, General Fund Account and Money Market Account; and to authorize the City Treasurer, City Controller and Director of Accounts and Finance as signatories on such accounts."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Councilman Keedy discussed Library Board services provided to the City. He announced last year they provided over \$250,000 in free services to the citizens.

#### **KARPIAK:**

Public Works Report

**Resolution No. 2-13-2019:** "To approve Community Action's Overhead Banner Request, as submitted. Overhead banner is to be erected on East Crawford Avenue and Prospect Street from March 25, 2019 and removed April 29, 2019."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-14-2019:** "To approve City Mission's Overhead Banner Request, as submitted. Overhead banner is to be erected on East Crawford Avenue and Prospect Street from July 1, 2019 and removed August 22, 2019."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

#### **TZAN:**

**Resolution No. 2-15-2019:** "To appoint Mike Parlak to the Connellsville Recreation Board effective immediately; term to expire the first Monday in January 2023."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-16-2019:** "To accept the resignation of Pastor Don Smith from the Connellsville Senior Citizens Board effective immediately."

Mayor Lincoln and City Council Members thanked Pastor Smith for all he has done for the Senior Center.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-17-2019:** “To approve the contract between the City and the Connellsville Girls Softball League for use of the ball field at East Park for the 2019 Softball Season. Liability insurance will be provided by the league as stated in the contract. Fees to be determined.”

Mayor Lincoln suggested if you are looking for a field to call your contact now before the fields are booked.

City Clerk Ohler announced to contact your league president and they can look into the fields to use.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-18-2019:** “To accept the resignation of Emily Richter from the Connellsville Recreation Board effective immediately.”

Mayor Lincoln the Councilwoman Tzan thanked Emily for all she has done for the Recreation Board and wished her well at her new business.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-19-2019:** “To appoint Francis McLaughlin to the Connellsville Recreation Board effective immediately; term to expire the first Monday in January 2022.”

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 2-20-2019:** “To grant General Braddock’s Fish Club permission to use Yough River Park on May 11, 2019 for their Fishing Day.”

Mayor Lincoln stated he spoke to Larry Anderson, the new President of the Braddock’s Fish Club. He added last year there was over 200 people and the bank filled with kids fishing. Mayor Lincoln stated they are stocking the river with super trout which are 24” or bigger and they will get 50 of them. He added they need to cover the cost of purchasing the super trout and are seeking funds. Mayor Lincoln stated they are looking to stock the Yough River Park with 12,000 to 15,000 trout a year. He thanked the club for what they bring to the City.

Councilman Karpiak added that all the fish that was stocked last year are still in the river because the rain and floods made it impossible to fish. He noted the Yough in Connellsville is the best place to fish.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Mayor Lincoln announced the upcoming City-wide cleanup is April 27<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM starting at Yough River Park. He added they would love to have kids and college age students to come help clean up the City and get it ready for the summer months. Mayor Lincoln thanked Aaron Zolbrod and Mary Beth Salentino for organizing this event. He added if you want to sign up or add a group to help, search the Facebook Page "Clean-up Connellsville" and you will see a link to sign up online.

Mayor Lincoln added May 11<sup>th</sup> is the "Garbage Day" where you put everything out the night before.

City Clerk Ohler announced October 5<sup>th</sup> is the fall clean up "Garbage Day".

Mayor Lincoln announced no-one is permitted to put your televisions in the City Dumpsters. He added there is surveillance cameras there now. Mayor Lincoln stated when you are caught, you will have a visit from the Connellsville Police to discuss that.

## **TOPPER:**

Health/Code Officer Report

New Haven Hose Report

April 14<sup>th</sup> is Breakfast with the Easter Bunny.

Councilman Topper announced he does not have the exact time but it is that day. He stated details are available on the Facebook Page and Website.

Councilman Topper discussed a vehicle accident on Eighth Street and his discussion with the Mayor Lincoln. He added the times of day and speeds people use on Eighth Street is out of hand. He added he realizes the Police Department are doing what they can there and have the "Aggressive Driving" through there. Councilman Topper added from Walmart to the Sheetz light is like a race track. He stated a car wrecked into a house. He further requested residents slow down because it is a residential area and a lot of wreck happen there.

Mayor Lincoln added he would like it if they State would allow them to use a radar gun.

**Resolution No. 2-21-2019:** "To reappoint Dale Cadwallader to the Connellsville Board of Health; term to expire April 1, 2024."

Mayor Lincoln thanked Doctor Cadwallader from taking time out of his busy schedule to stay on this board.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

Councilman Topper also thanked Doctor Cadwallader for staying on the board. He stated he this board is full of extremely educated and knowledgeable members and he is pleased to work with them.

Councilman Topper asked Mayor Lincoln if Peddler's Permits can be denied.

Mayor Lincoln stated the Chief reviews the applicant's paperwork.

City Clerk Ohler stated they do a check on each person individually for a company.

Mayor Lincoln stated the Chief will make sure there is no criminal background. He also tells them what they are and are not permitted to do – such as harsh sales tactics. Mayor Lincoln explained that a Peddler's Permit can be revoked as it has been done in the past.

Councilman Topper then stated that if anyone has a negative experience, please come forward and let the City know.

Mayor Lincoln agreed that if anyone has a bad experience with a peddler, please contact the Police Department because the Police Chief will not tolerate it.

**Resolution No. 2-22-2019:** "That this meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn."

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Affirmative were Councilmembers Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.