

**Connellsville City Council
Minutes
November 21, 2017**

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE: Pastor Smith led invocation

OATH: Thomas Patton, Detective/Lieutenant

Resolution No. 11-9-2017: "To open up all bids for asbestos abatement and demolition of the homes that are in the Hazardous Mitigation Program."

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

Councilman Karpiak read bids as follows:

Advanced Builders, Restructure Demolition - \$324,500.10, Entire Project - \$399,595.10

Custom Contracting, Demolition - \$161,000

While reviewing bids, Mayor Lincoln called for the Treasurer's Report and Controller's Report

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Weaver read her report

CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT: Controller Brooks read his report

Jadell Minniefield Construction, Asbestos Inspection - \$9,200, Asbestos Removal - \$23,000, Restructure Demolition - \$142,000, Entire Project - \$174,200

Ligonier Construction Company, Restructure Demolition - \$198,030

Nevaeh Pipe Bursting, LLC, Restructure Demolition - \$275,000

Reclaim Company, Asbestos Inspection - \$14,950, Asbestos Removal - \$126,500, Restructure Demolition - \$345,000, Entire Project - \$292,560

Stash Trucking, Asbestos Inspection - \$9,200, Restructure Demolition - \$141,450, Entire Project - \$150,650

T & B Excavating, Inc. – Entire Project - \$192,329

Tedesco Excavating and Paving, Inc. – Asbestos Inspection - \$28,750, Asbestos Removal - \$46,000, Restructure Demolition - \$172,500, Entire Project - \$233,450

Mayor Lincoln called for the meeting to continue while Solicitor Witt reviewed all bids

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

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Pastor Don Smith discussed Pray Connellsville and thanked Mayor Lincoln and members of City Council for unity and for helping the Senior Citizen Board for becoming tax exempt with Fayette County.

Councilman Tom Karpiak announced the Eagles provided over 200 meals for Thanksgiving.

Mayor Lincoln announced the ministry is having a Thanksgiving Lunch tomorrow (Nov. 22nd).

CORRESPONDENCE:

Dolly Tissue, Connellsville Community Center Board, Appointments to the Board

William Colvin, Request to be appointed to Community Center

Resolution No. 11-1-2017: "Appoint William Colvin to The Greater Connellsville Area Community Center Board as a voting member; term to expire the first Monday in January 2020 and appoint Ken Johnson as a non-voting member."

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

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 11-2-2017: "To approve the minutes from the October 17, 2017 City Council Meeting."

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

Resolution No. 11-3-2017: "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 Councilmembers Keedy, Tzan, Karpiak and McIntire and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Police Department Report

Chief Hammerle discussed vehicles being broken into then noted 3 persons were apprehended. He then discussed theft of packages from porches. Hammerle requested residents have their packages delivered to someone they know who is home or have someone you know watch for the package to be delivered then hold on to it for you. He added people are out driving around looking for packages.

Mayor Lincoln asked residents to call 911 when you see something suspicious in your neighborhood.

Mayor Lincoln announced if residents see any person(s) going door to door trying to sell Electric, Gas, Etc., ask to see their Peddler's License. "If they do not have one, close the door and call 911." he stated. Mayor Lincoln added they want everyone to follow the rules and get the license. He clarified this application process allows the Police Chief to verify they are not criminals and keep our citizens safe. Mayor Lincoln added you do not have to show your bills or give personal information to anyone.

Chief Hammerle discussed the hiring process for Patrolman. He stated one person stood out among the others, scoring highest on the written and oral exams. He announced his name as James Tyler Garlick. Chief Hammerle announced his high education.

Resolution No. 11-7-2017: "To hire James Tyler Garlick as patrolman, starting December 1, 2017. Wages to be dictated by the CPOA contract with wages to be taken out of line item 410.142."

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

Mayor Lincoln announced Mr. Garlick will be sworn in at the December City Council Meeting.

Mayor Lincoln addressed Police Chief Hammerle, noting the school district is looking into getting a Police Dog. He added that he knows Hammerle was misquoted as stating he was against them getting the dog. Mayor Lincoln asked him if he would like to clarify the error.

Chief Hammerle stated he discussed with school security entering into an agreement with the dog. He added he is not against "a dog". Further, he stated he is not interested in a "bomb

dog” because he does not see the department getting many calls for that type of search. Hammerle stated if he picks up the phone he can have “bomb dogs” at his disposal in ½ hour to an hour.

Chief Hammerle stated he is interested in a “drug dog/tracking dog – patrol dog” noting it would be beneficial to the department.

Resolution No. 11-4-2017: “To adopt the Fair Housing Resolution as follows:

LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL PERSONS of the City of Connellsville that discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status(families with children), or handicap (disability) is prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Act) and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act adds the additional protected classes of age, ancestry and use of guide or support animals because of the blindness, deafness or physical handicap of the user or because the user is a handler or trainer of support or guide animals. It is the policy of the City of Connellsville to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status, handicap, age, ancestry and use of guide or support animals because of the blindness, deafness or physical handicap of the user or because the user is a handler or trainer of support or guide animals. Therefore, the City of Connellsville does hereby pass the following resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED, that within available resources the City of Connellsville will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status, handicap, age, ancestry and use of guide or support animals because of the blindness, deafness or physical handicap of the user or because the user is a handler or trainer of support or guide animals to seek equity under federal and state laws by filing a complaint with the local Fair Housing Officer, Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, whichever is chosen by the person filing the complaint.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Connellsville shall make publically known this Resolution and through this publicity shall cause owners of real estate, developers, and builders to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Act, the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, and any local laws or ordinances.

FURTHER ACTION will at a minimum include, but not to be limited to:

- (1) Publicizing the name and contact information of the local Fair Housing Officer, which will include the process to file a complaint if a person feels they have been discriminated against in housing in any manner and other applicable fair housing information through local media and community contracts; and
- (2) Conduct at least one fair housing activity annually to better inform the public of their rights under the Fair Housing Law and Pennsylvania Human Relations Act; and
- (3) Use the fair housing logo on all materials dealing with housing programs such as but not limited to:
 - a. Public advertisements for vacancy or discussing the program
 - b. Applications for assistance
 - c. Contracts
 - d. Municipal letters dealing with the federal programs

If you're a person with a disability and require a reasonable accommodation to be able to access any notification, please contact the business offices of City of Connellsville 110 North

Arch Street, Connellsville, PA 15425, 724 628 2020, connellsvillecityclerk@gmail.com
www.connellsville.us .

If you're Limited English Proficient and require a document translation of any notification, please contact the business offices of City of Connellsville 110 North Arch Street, Connellsville, PA 15425, 724 628 2020, connellsvillecityclerk@gmail.com
www.connellsville.us .

Approved at the regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Connellsville held November 21, 2017."

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

Resolution No. 11-5-2017: "BE IT RESOLVED, to accept and adopt the Redevelopment Authority's Four-Factor Analysis for Limited English Proficiency Persons, including but not limited to the Certification included therein, and to authorize and direct the Redevelopment Authority to implement such analysis and all related conclusions and certifications."

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

Resolution No. 11-6-2017: "To approve the Connellsville Housing Authority's request for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release all operating funds for fiscal year 2017 through 2020 as the City of Connellsville has determined no further environmental review is required."

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

Resolution No. 11-8-2017: "To enter into the HMGP Grant Agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency for the acceptance and use of federal and state funds; to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk, and any other necessary City officials, to execute such grant agreement on behalf of the City; to authorize a single audit for all affected fiscal years; and to authorize all City officials and employees to take such action as is necessary to effectuate and comply with the terms of such grant agreement."

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

Mayor Lincoln motioned to hold a Special Meeting on November 30, 2017 at 4 PM to award the demolition contracts for the Hazard Mitigation Program. Council agreed.

Resolution No. 11-10-2017: "To adopt the SECTION 504 compliance officer/GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE
FY 2017 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The City Council of the City of Connellsville hereby designates the City Clerk of the City of Connellsville, to serve as Section 504 Compliance Officer throughout the implementation of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Citizens with Section 504 grievances must submit them to the Section 504 Compliance Officer within **two weeks** of the date the person filing the grievance becomes aware of the alleged discriminatory action. The office will respond in writing to written citizen grievances. Citizen grievances should be mailed to: City of Connellsville, 110 North Arch Street, Connellsville, PA 15425. All written citizen grievances will be responded to within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the comments.

Should any individual, family, or entity have a grievance concerning any action prohibited under Section 504, a meeting with the compliance officer to discuss the grievance will be scheduled. The meeting date and time will be established within five (5) calendar days of receipt of the request. Upon meeting and discussing the grievance, a reply will be made, in writing, within thirty (30) calendar days.

If the citizen is dissatisfied with the local response, they may write to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, Keystone Building, 400 North Street, 4th floor, Harrisburg, PA 17120. DCED will respond only to written comments within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the comments.”

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

REMINDERS:

November 22nd, 11 AM - 1 PM, Morning Glow Ministries, Room 212, Community Center, Thanksgiving Dinner

November 23rd and 24th, City Hall will be closed

November 23rd, 11 AM - 1 PM, Senior Center, Thanksgiving Dinner (Mayor Lincoln thanked everyone who donated or is helping).

November 25th, Light Up Night (Mayor Lincoln announced from 3 PM – 5 PM kids are invited to City Hall to make ornaments for the tree. He added Liz Jones will be here and the Good Neighbor Club Kids from the high school. Mayor Lincoln added there will be hot chocolate and Christmas caroling with Adam Ruck and Duncan Hartz. He thanked Cellurales for donating the tree. He added Santa may even show up).

Connellsville Chamber of Commerce, Buy Local Day

November 28th and 29th, Recycling Days

Until Friday, December 1st, Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4 p.m., Highlands Hospital Auxiliary's Annual Parade of Trees/Highlands Hospital Lobby from. Drawing will be held 6:00 p.m. Dec 1, 2017. Cost \$2.00 per ticket

December 1st at 7:30 PM, 2nd at 7:30 PM and 3rd at 2:30 PM, Porter Theater, Musical Tribute to the Holiday Season, Tickets \$10, RSVP or door

December 2nd, Christmas Parade at 11 AM, West Crawford Avenue to North Pittsburgh Street to Apple Street to North Arch Street, Santa will be at Lions Square

December 2nd and 3rd, Connellsville Christmas

December 3rd, 6 PM, Wesley Church, Bluegrass concert

December 9th, 9 AM, St. Rita's Cookie Sale

December 12th, 13th, 26th and 27th, Recycling Days, new calendars will be out soon

December 14th and 15th, Toys For Tots boxes will be picked up throughout Connellsville

December 16th, CAHS Patriots - laying of the wreaths, visit the Patriots Facebook Page

December 16th and 17th, Faith Bible Church, 7 PM, Living Christmas Tree, Free

KEEDY:

Resolution No. 11-11-2017: "To introduce Bill No. 4 of 2017, AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES PAYABLE BY THE CITY OF CONNELLSVILLE FOR THE VARIOUS POSITIONS ENUMERATED HEREIN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT HEREWITH."

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

Resolution No. 11-12-2017: "To introduce Bill No. 5 of 2017, An Ordinance of the City of Connellsville, County of Fayette, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the real estate tax rate and residence tax rate for all city purposes for the fiscal year 2018, and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith."

Councilman Keedy stated taxes will not be raised.

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

Resolution No. 11-13-2017: "To introduce Bill No. 6 of 2017, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CONNELLSVILLE, FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, SHOWING THE ESTIMATED RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES, AND LIABILITIES OF EVERY KIND FOR ALL THE FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018 WITH THE BALANCE OF UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS AS THE BASIS FOR FIXING THE LEVY AND TAX RATE FOR SAID FISCAL, YEAR APPROPRIATING THE VARIOUS AMOUNTS SHOWN AS PROPOSED EXPENDITURES HEREIN FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY FOR SAID FISCAL YEAR FROM THE REVENUE AVAILABLE FOR SAID FISCAL YEAR FOR THE DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS, AND SPECIFIC PURPOSES SET FORTH HEREIN, AND THE REPEALING OF ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT HEREWITH."

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

Councilman Karpiak questioned the need for a Tax Anticipation Note.

Councilman Keedy explained it was something they requested information on from various banks. He noted that is a decision they will have to make in December. Councilman Keedy

added that years ago the City was in a condition that they could not pay off the TAN Note, but now they can question if they even need one. He stated he would rather take a small one and be safe than not take one and be sorry.

Councilman Karpiak asked Councilman Keedy why there would be a need for a TAN Loan.

Councilman Keedy answered the City taxes do not come in until March. He added the City has January, February and a bit of March to go through with only the money that is left over at the end of the year. Keedy added the TAN money helps the City through those months.

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Resolution No. 11-14-2017: "To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk permission to sign all necessary contracts and paperwork for the Green-Light Go grant with Penn DOT."

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

TZAN:

Resolution No. 11-15-2017: "To enter into an agreement with Desmone Architects, to perform a feasibility study for City Hall at a price of \$18,500. Money to be taken out of line item 489.000 Miscellaneous Expenses."

Councilwoman Tzan stated this is foundation money the City received to pay for this study to provide improvement and hopefully upkeep to City Hall.

Councilman Karpiak added the building does need work and up to code and sometimes you have to spend money to save money in the long run. He added the Police Department needs a lot of work.

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

Councilwoman Tzan stated there will be new metal roofs put on at East Park.

MCINTIRE:

Health/Code Officer Report
New Haven Hose Report

Councilman McIntire asked all residents to be aware of turning their space heaters off when they are gone.

Councilman McIntire also addressed dogs being left out in the cold. Council reminded residents of the new Levi's Law stating the time that animals are and are not permitted outside.

Mayor Lincoln congratulated Chief Topper for being elected Chief of New Haven Hose for another year. He noted Topper goes above and beyond for both New Haven Hose and the City.

Resolution No. 11-16-2017: "That his meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn."

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