

Connellsville City Council
Minutes
August 15, 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:

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

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Weaver read a statement from the Tax Office Facebook Page:

"Today I was notified by the Connellsville Area School District that the Fayette County Tax Assessment Office made a keying error in reference to data entry of the Homestead Exclusion discount. A handful of people were missed. This means the approval process was completed but the discount was not entered or calculated on the bills. If you applied for the 2017 Homestead Exclusion and were approved, you may not have received an accurate school tax bill. Bills were already mailed to the residents or an escrow company on August 1st. I have the list of names for the few residents that were affected.

We are making every attempt to contact them.

I have manually corrected each bill and a revised bill is being mailed to reflect the Homestead Exclusion discount. If you have questions feel free to call the office at 724-628-2020 ext. 205."

City Treasurer Weaver also read the following:

I want to give you an update on some of your concerns in reference to NOT receiving your 2017 Connellsville School District Taxes which were mailed by the Connellsville Area School District on or before August 1st. Although, the City of Connellsville Tax Office has no control over the mail system, we would be more than happy to print you a copy of the bill. Either you can pick it up here in the office or I can email or fax to you. You can also send your request to <https://www.facebook.com/ConnellsvilleTaxOffice/> or connellsvilletaxoffice@gmail.com and make sure you follow up with your local mail carrier as the school district has assured me the taxes were mailed in a timely manner. If you are planning to sign up for the "four (4) installment plan", you MUST pay your first installment on or before August 31st. We are here to serve you in any way we can! Don't hesitate to contact us.

CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT: Absent

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 8-1-2017: “To approve the minutes from the July 13, 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. 8-2-2017: “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 read by Chief William Hammerle

Chief Hammerle stated he can't comment on the two fatalities in July until the State Police have their investigations complete. He added Connellsville Police are done with their investigation.

Mayor Lincoln questioned why car #40 needs to be replaced.

Chief Hammerle answered it was in an accident and should have been taken off the road. He noted they built it back up and used it for an emergency vehicle. Hammerle stated in a couple weeks he hopes to have two new vehicles.

Mayor Lincoln stated that the Police Department is under the budget and thanked Chief Hammerle for watching every penny. He added he understands the police need a new vehicle for safety.

They discussed the carbon monoxide recall.

Mayor Lincoln announced Council will be accepting Kenny Jayne's retirement letter. He added Jaynes worked for the City for 25 years.

Chief Hammerle stated they wish Jaynes well and hate to see him go.

Councilman Karpiak thanked the following police officers: Hominsky and Wissler. He stated they investigated a burglary and showed kindness and compassion to the family over and above what they had to do. Karpiak further thanked Chief Hammerle for his leadership to the police force.

Resolution No. 8-3-2017: "To accept the Retirement Letter from Kenneth H. Jaynes from the Connellsville Police Department effective August 15, 2017."

Mayor Lincoln thanked Mr. Jaynes for his 25 years of service to the City of Connellsville and for all he did. He wished Jaynes luck with whatever he decides to do next and wished him an enjoyable retirement.

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. 8-4-2017: "To set Trick or Treat for Sunday, October 29, 2017 from 6 PM until 8 PM."

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. 8-5-2017: "To grant the City Clerk permission to apply for LSA Grant Funding for repairs to the Connellsville Senior Center."

City Clerk, Vernon Ohler, explained the issue the Sr. Center building was having.

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. 8-6-2017: "To grant the Connellsville Rotary Club permission to make improvements and upgrades to the stage on Veterans Plaza. All materials and labor to be supplied by the Rotary Club."

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. 8-7-2017: "To grant permission to the Connellsville Rotary Club to place their emblem on the stage on the Veterans Plaza after their renovation project."

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. 8-8-2017: "To place a NO OUTLET sign on Loudon Ave. as recommended by the Traffic Committee."

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. 8-9-2017: "To grant the Connellsville Redevelopment Authority permission to Request proposals for the 2018 Comprehensive Plan."

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. 8-10-2017: "To approve new Lease Agreement between the City of Connellsville and Trailside Lodging LP for the parking lot."

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. 8-11-2017: "To permit Chief Hammerle to begin all necessary paperwork and requirements for the purchase of a new police vehicle."

Mayor Lincoln stated if there are any car dealerships in the City that would like the City's business, they are to go through the Co-Stars Program and apply.

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. 8-12-2017: "That all Department Heads submit their Department Reports to the Administrative Secretary before 5 PM on the Tenth (10th) of each month. There will be no exceptions to this rule. Reports not submitted before 5 PM on the Tenth (10th) of each month will not be on that month's Agenda."

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. 8-13-2017: "To permit employees to participate with the United Way's "Day of Giving" on September 8, 2017. Each participating employee must use his or hers own Vacation and/or Comp time."

Mayor Lincoln thanked Joyce for organizing and getting employees to sign up for the Day of Giving.

He thanked her and the employees who are giving up their personal time to help others.

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. 8-14-2017: “To modify their FFY 2014 CDBG Program as follows and to direct the Connellsville Redevelopment Authority to file the appropriate paperwork with DCED: 1. To modify the City’s FFY 2014 CDBG Program to eliminate the clearance activity and to allocate the \$58,837.19 to a new activity - City Hall Accessibility Project.”

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. 8-15-2017: “To modify their FFY 2015 CDBG Program as follows and to direct the Connellsville Redevelopment Authority to file the appropriate paperwork with DCED: 1. To modify the City’s FFY 2015 CDBG Program to eliminate the Recreation Activity and to allocate the \$45,000.00 to a new activity - Connellsville Community Center Gym Flooring Project. 2. To Modify the City’s FFY 2015 CDBG Program to eliminate the Sidewalk Activity and to reallocate the \$41,000.00 to the Road Reconstruction Project - new activity Budget: \$162,000, as well as change the location from Murphy Avenue to Francis Avenue.”

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 stated he has been working with Amy and Misty at the Flood Recovery Center and they are going to have a “Picnic of Reflection” on August 27th at Woodruff Park from 1 PM – 4 PM. He added they have been given donations of hot dogs, chips, Hamburg’s and drinks. Mayor Lincoln stated there will be a bounce house and a DJ. He further noted it will be a time to reflect back on what this flood did to the community and how people were brought together. He asked for the volunteers, businesses, churches, residents and everyone involved to attend. Mayor Lincoln stated they want it to be a great “Community Day” in the City. He further stated we all need to give thanks there was no loss of life.

REMINDERS:

Yoga at Yough Park, from 9 AM – 10:30 AM, this Saturday and next Saturday
Lions Square Concerts, 7 PM - 9 PM, This Sunday is “Tane Lynne & Total Package”. 27th is “Wally Gingers Orchestra”
August 19th, Jessica’s Journey Fundraiser, East Park, Visit her Facebook Page for information
“Jessica’s Journey New Lungs New Life”

August 26th, Electronics Waste Collection, Fayette County Fairgrounds, 9 AM - 1 PM

Mayor Lincoln announced the large green dumpster at the City Garage is not for televisions; therefore residents should not throw them in there.

Councilman Karpiak added the camera will pick up anyone using the dumpster.

August 26th, Police Bicycle Poker Ride at Yough Park

August 27th, IC Church, Paint and Dip, 2 PM - 4 PM

September 2nd, Wellness on the Yough, 11AM - 4 PM, Tony - 724-366-5786

September 8th, St Rita's Spaghetti Dinner, Bucci Hall, 11 AM - 5:30 PM, \$8, 724-628-5119

September 9th, Mum Festival, 10 AM – 5 PM

October 7th is Tangled in Brew at Yough Park, Tickets are \$15 presale

This Friday at East Park is Utopia, the last movie of the summer

October 29th, Trick or Treat, 6 PM - 8 PM

KEEDY:

Resolution No. 8-16-2017: "To close out special Investigation account at PNC Bank."

Councilman Keedy explained this will give the Chief of Police access to get on the computer and see how and where the money is being spent. He added the City will get 2.5% interest rate.

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. 8-17-2017: "To open up a new Special Investigation Account at Somerset Trust Company."

Mayor Lincoln thanked Councilman Keedy for dealing with the finances.

Councilman Keedy replied with more eyes watching an account, the better off the City is. He noted the Police Chief, Bookkeeper and Tax Clerk will all keep an eye on it.

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 Keedy noted there will be an Audit Committee Meeting soon to discuss the last audit. He remarked the audit does look good.

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Councilman Karpiak announced the Public Works Department is doing paving now. He let the public know the areas and roads they will be working at.

Councilman Karpiak stated there is no charge to launch your boat from the boat ramp. He added "If you have a PA Sticker or your boat, you can launch your boat there."

Resolution No. 8-18-2017: "To open bids for stone and concrete for the boat ramp at Yough Park."

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.

City Clerk, Vernon Ohler, stated there are two bids for material and one for an excavator. He then opened the bids.

Coolspring Stone Supply, 2B, \$13.50 per ton, freight rate is \$5.50 which totals \$19/ton, R7 is \$27.75 delivered.

Ohler stated it is the same company with two different names.

Solicitor Witt reviewed documents.

Ohler stated the second price was on concrete. He also announced they put the stone under Coolspring Stone and the concrete under Gavco.

Solicitor Witt stated since they are for different products, they can be treated as the same.

City Clerk, Vernon Ohler, opened the next bid from Ligonier Stone and Lyme Company.

Ligonier Stone and Lyme Company, \$4,000.00 for concrete, 141 per cubic yard.

City Council, City Clerk and Solicitor reviewed, compared and discussed the bids.

Solicitor Witt suggested tabling the bids to review them.

Ohler suggested going with the excavation and placement of the stone and the ramp last. He noted they will table the concrete end of it.

Solicitor Witt stated Council can continue with the meeting, not adjourn then announce the time and date the meeting will continue. He added to post it at City Hall.

Resolution No. 8-19-2017: "To open bids for rental price on an excavator for the Yough Park Boat Ramp."

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.

City Clerk Ohler opened bid from Roger Suter and Son. Council reviewed bid noting the price of \$23,730.70 was not excavating but the entire package.

Council discussed the bid further while Solicitor Witt suggested moving on with the meeting and not adjourning.

Resolution No. 8-20-2017: "To enter into an Agreement with Penn DOT for a Green Light Go Grant."

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. 8-21-2017: "To permit the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to erect a detour on the following city streets E. Gibson Avenue and McCormick Avenue, as part as the bridge replacement project on North Pittsburgh Street Extension."

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 addressed the lack of parking spaces in front of City Hall. He stated he and Council decided to have the two Council Signs removed in front of the building, noting that they feel the spaces should be for the public. Karpiak stated when they (Council) need to park; they can find a space to park just like everyone else.

TZAN:

Councilwoman Tzan stated "Utopia" will be the movie this weekend at East Park. She added it will be the Recreation Board's last movie with pizza, snacks and the concession stand will be open.

Councilwoman Tzan announced the next event will be Wellness on the Yough.

Councilwoman Tzan said Tangled Up In Brew will be October 7th, adding the Recreation Board Members are selling "pre-sale" tickets for \$15.00 along with Atkins, Greenhouse Winery, Ruvos, Brillharts in

Scottsdale and City Hall. She stated if you can't make it to any of the mentioned places to message the Recreation Board on Facebook and they will meet up with you to sell you the tickets.

Mayor Lincoln added this year the new hotel is available and there was 11 rooms left for that night.

MCINTIRE:

Health/Code Officer Report

New Haven Hose Report

Councilman McIntire reminded residents to stop littering. He suggested keeping a plastic bag in their car for trash then throw it out when they get home rather than throw it out the window.

Councilman McIntire stated he noticed vehicles are not stopping at the crosswalks. He asked Mayor Lincoln what the Police Department can do about it and if it can be enforced.

Mayor Lincoln stated he has been discussing this issue with the Police Chief, noting he has been addressing this issue. He added with the growing number of visitors, they will not come back if they do not feel safe. He added if vehicles don't stop at crosswalks, they will not feel safe.

Councilman McIntire addressed the dog droppings outside the sidewalks in town reminding residents to pick up after their pet.

Mayor Lincoln stated the building on Pittsburgh Street will be taken down and new built and the spot where the WCVI Building is. He added Ritenour and Sons will be building housing on Arch Street soon. Mayor Lincoln stated in the next few months there will be a lot of new developments going on. He noted across from Keedy's will be a new place.

Councilman Karpiak announced Little Licious which is now catering will be opening up soon.

Resolution No. 8-22-2017: "To reconvene the August 15, 2017 meeting on August 29, 2017 at 4:00 PM."

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.

MEETING RECONVENED ON AUGUST 29, 2017 AT 4 PM.

This reconvened meeting of the Connellsville City Council was held this evening, August 29, 2017 at 4:00 PM at City Hall, Connellsville, PA. Attending this meeting was Mayor Lincoln and Council Members Keedy and Karpiak. Also attending was City Clerk Ohler and Solicitor Witt.

Councilman Karpiak announced Council will be accepting bids, noting there were three winning bids on three separate items.

Resolution No. 8-23-2017: “To accept the bid of Gavco in the amount of \$118.00 per cubic yard for concrete to be used for the boat ramp at Yough Park.”

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

Resolution No. 8-24-2017: “To accept the bid of Bullskin Stone and Lime LLC for the price of \$21.50 per ton.”

Councilman Karpiak noted this is for the R 7’s to be used at the boat ramp at Yough Park.

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

Resolution No. 8-25-2017: “To accept the bid of Roger Suter and Sons in the amount of \$8,400.00 for an excavator for the Yough Park Boat Ramp.”

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

Councilman Karpiak thanked everyone who put bids in with the City. He added the work will be done this year.

City Clerk Ohler noted the only thing that would hold the work up is if the river would go up.

Councilman Karpiak stated the Army Corps of Engineers who has been managing Yough Dam has been doing a great job with the high waters we have had.

Mayor Lincoln questioned if the City has heard from Victor Paving. City Clerk Ohler answered no.

Mayor Lincoln questioned PA American Water’s project on East Francis Avenue.

City Clerk Ohler answered they gave the City false information. He stated they are now going to mill from where they started the entire way down and start new putting it back to normal.

Mayor Lincoln stated the leak on Pittsburgh Street was fixed and Penn DOT came through and milled all of it up, "I don't understand why that even occurred."

Mayor Lincoln read the following:

World Christian Outreach Ministries, Block Party, October 7, 2017

***Resolution No. 8-26-2017:** "To permit World Christian Outreach Ministries to use Cameron Park for a "Block Party" on October 7, 2017 from 1 PM - 4 PM; rain date will be October 14, 2017."

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

Milton L Bishop Post No. 301, Sandra Newell, Poppy Day for Friday, September 1, 2017

***Resolution No. 8-27-2017:** "To grant permission to American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Post 301 to hold Poppy Day on Friday, September 1, 2017; Ladies Auxiliary shall be responsible to gaining approval from business owners and managers before selling poppies in front of businesses."

Mayor Lincoln thanked Mrs. Jones for all her years since she will no longer be handling the Poppy Days. He noted Sandra Newell will be taking over. Mayor Lincoln added Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been a part of the American Legion for over 50 years.

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

Mayor Lincoln then announced Sister Mary Agnes has been serving the Catholic Community for over 46 years. He stated Father Bob, who heads the Catholic Churches requested we proclaim September 24, 2017 as Sister Mary Agnes Day. He added they will be having a party that day. Mayor Lincoln said this will be fitting in thanking her for her service to the City for all these years.

***Resolution No. 8-28-2017:** "To make September 24, 2017 Sister Mary Agnes Day in the City of Connellsville."

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

Mayor Lincoln thanked and wished Sister Mary Agnes well in the future.

***Resolution No. 8-29-2017:** “That his meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn.”

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