

**Connellsville City Council**  
**MINUTES**  
**AUGUST 21, 2018**

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 Father Dan Carr

**REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Chuck Hubbell, Change for Polio by the Rotary Club

**CITY TREASURER'S REPORT:** Absent

**CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT:** Absent

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

New Haven Hose, Halloween Parade, October 30, 2018, 7 PM, Street Closure request

**Resolution No. 8-1-2018:** "To close Pittsburgh Street from Green Street to Crawford Avenue; Crawford Avenue from Pittsburgh Street to Seventh Street on October 30, 2018 for the annual Halloween Parade; 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.

Lions Club Request, August 26, 2018, 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM, Street Closure request

**Resolution No. 8-2-2018:** "To close Meadow Lane from Crawford Avenue to Orchard Alley on Sunday, August 26, 2018 from 6:30 PM until 9:30 PM for the Lions Club's final Summer Concert Series; 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.

**Resolution No. 8-3-2018:** "To close Meadow Lane from Crawford Avenue to Orchard Alley each Sunday in June, July and August 2019 from 6:30 PM until 9:30 PM for the Lions Club's Summer Concert Series; 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.

**Resolution No. 8-4-2018:** "To set Trick or Treat for Wednesday, October 31, 2018 from 6 PM until 8 PM."

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.

#### **REGULAR AGENDA:**

**Resolution No. 8-5-2018:** "To approve the minutes from the July 17, 2018 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. 8-6-2018:** "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

**Resolution No. 8-7-2018:** "To relieve Youghioghney Coffee Co from City of Connellsville Ordinance #1449, as amended, and allow a "Sandwich Board Sign" (billboard) to be erected on Parcel ID #05-06-0429; North Pittsburgh Street."

Mayor Lincoln stressed the need for City Council to fix the Sign Ordinance, noting they (Council) should not have to do this to allow a business to put a small sign on the sidewalk.

Councilman Karpiak agreed noting if you have a business you need a sign.

Councilman Topper stated the billboard will only be on the sidewalk while the business is open.

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. 8-8-2018:** “To approve and enter into an agreement with Collect Towers, LLC, for a portion of property owned by the City having Tax Parcel Number 05-07-0249, for the purposes provided under such agreement; and to authorize and direct the Mayor, City Clerk and such other City officials and employees to execute such agreement and to take such action as is necessary to effectuate such agreement.”

Mayor Lincoln explained this company wants to erect a 190-foot tower next to the Public Works Building. He added it is a 5-year agreement with the City getting \$900 per month and an extra \$200 if the City adds cell providers to the tower. Mayor Lincoln announced after 5 years the City will get an increase of 15%. He further added the Agreement will allow a “signal booster” on the tower. Mayor Lincoln stated he is hopeful that Fayette County will come up with the funds needed to put it on the tower.

Councilman Karpiak stated the tower will be in a good location and out of the way.

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. 8-9-2018:** "To approve the sale of a 2013 Chevy Impala Police Cruiser, through Municibid, to Welcome Motors of Chicago IL for the amount of \$2,906.00."

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:**

August 25th, Comedy Night at the Porter Theater, 8 PM, Mike Vecchione, \$20 at the door

August 26th, Final concert at Lions Square, 7 PM - 9 PM, Tane Lynee & Shadow Creek

The 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, Free Community Lunch, 11:30 AM - 1 PM, Christian Church, 212 S. Pittsburgh Street

Recycling: August 28th and 29th, September 11th, 12th, 25th and 26<sup>th</sup> – Mayor Lincoln stressed recycling is not every other week, it is scheduled. He added if you miss recycling, you are welcome to take it to the City’s large green dumpster. Mayor Lincoln added that anything but TV’s can be put in there.

Saturdays throughout August and September - Yoga on the Yough, 9 AM - 10:30 AM and the Farmer’s Market, 8 AM - Noon

September 1st, New Haven Hose Hoagie Sales

September 1st, Wellness on the Yough, 11 AM - 4 PM

September 3rd, Offices at City Hall will be closed for Labor Day

September 8th, Mum Festival, 10 AM - 5 PM

September 9th, Learn to Jam, Carnegie Library, 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

September 14th, October 12th, Scott C's Car Cruise, 712 E Crawford Ave, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM

September 15th, Chamber's Yard Sales, 724-628-5500

September 22nd, Connellsville Police Bike Run, Yough Park

October 6th, Tangled Up in Brew, Yough Park, 6 PM - 10 PM

Mayor Lincoln announced funds will be used to build a Dog Park adding sponsors and Chinese auction donations are still needed.

October 6th, Fall Clean Up Day

October 14th, 24th Annual YRTC/Bud Murphy's Fall Ride/Walk, 724-628-6078 or visit [www.youghrivertrail.com](http://www.youghrivertrail.com)

Mayor Lincoln thanked the YRTC and catholic students for all of their work at Yough Park.

October 30th, Halloween Parade, 7 PM

October 31st, Trick or Treat, 6 PM - 8 PM

Sign up for Code Red Alerts at [www.fcema.org/codered](http://www.fcema.org/codered) and save the severe weather warning phone number to your phone: 800-566-9780

Mayor Lincoln encouraged residents to sign up for this alert system.

View reminders and pavilion rental dates on the City's website: [www.connellsville.us](http://www.connellsville.us)

Councilman Keedy added September 9<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> is National Suicide Prevention Week

**KEEDY:**

**Resolution No. 8-10-2018:** "To hire Shanna Fuller as Tax Clerk/Bookkeeper at a yearly salary of \$24,000 with money to be taken from line item 403.140."

Councilman Keedy stated after meeting Shanna and seeing her personality, background and work ethic he feels she will be a great addition to the staff and get along well with the other employees.

Mayor Lincoln agreed and thanked her for applying and accepting the job.

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.

**KARPIAK:**

Public Works Report

Councilman Karpiak added leaf season is just around the bend.

**Resolution No. 8-11-2018:** "To enter into the agreement set forth by PennDOT for the York Avenue Bridge Project."

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. 8-12-2018:** "To Permit Youghioghney Coffee permission to block off two parking stalls for outdoor seating in the City owned parking lot at the rear of the coffee shop."

Mayor Lincoln stated he is very happy with the support the community has given the owner. He noted it is coffee on one side and odds and ends on the other.

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.

Councilwoman Tzan discussed East Park and all of the new work done at the park. She thanked Fayette Cultural Trust for all of the stone work that has been done. Councilwoman Tzan added there are all new cameras at the park as well and if you vandalize the park you will be caught.

Mayor Lincoln added there are recorded 24 hours and dispatch now has 2 big screen tv's watching both parks. He added before anyone calls 911, the police will be on the scene. Mayor Lincoln announced you will not be able to enter East Park without being seen. He added the City can thank the Recreation Board, NPP (Neighborhood Partnership Program) Grant and Redevelopment Authority for the cameras.

Councilwoman Tzan stated Second Ward Playground will be getting equipment in the next few weeks.

**TOPPER:**

Health/Code Officer Report

New Haven Hose Report

**Resolution No. 8-13-2018: “To adopt Ordinance No. 1535, Bill No. 3 of 2018, AN ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE KNOX BOXES AT COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS: WHEREAS**, the City of Connellsville has determined that an ordinance is necessary to require all commercial buildings with monitored alarm systems to install Knox Boxes, and;

**WHEREAS**, the benefits of installing Knox Boxes include providing immediate emergency access to firefighters, leading to increasing Fire Department efficiency; preventing costly forced entry damage and allowing undamaged doors to be re-secured after the emergency; and protecting property, inventory, equipment and supplies as well as firefighters against possible injuries.”

Mayor Lincoln stated one of the residents is concerned with someone else having a key to his Gun Shop.

Chief Bob Topper, Sr. stated Knox Boxes have been around since the early 70’s. He announced only the Fire Chief has control over the key for New Haven Hose. He further added this ordinance is in effect in thousands of communities around the country. Chief Topper explained that the Knox Box allows them access to the building at the time of the alarm. He noted that keys have never been taken before, but if that were to occur and they were to try and get in the building, the alarm would still activate. Topper, Sr. noted they have no control over codes or alarm systems and can’t deactivate them. He stated they go into the building and begin investigations as to why the alarm went off and hope the owner shows up close to that time. Topper, Sr. stated he looks at this as a safety issue adding when there are apartments over businesses, this will not only save property, but save lives. He announced that anyone with questions on the Knox Box Ordinance can contact him and he will be happy to answer all questions.

Councilman Topper added it is about \$318 for the standard Knox Box which is a one-time cost.

Councilman Karpiak voiced his concern and opposition over the fines and penalties to business owners opposed to placing a Knox box outside their business.

Council and Solicitor Witt discussed amending the ordinance to state business owners who do not want a Knox box must sign a waiver stating the Fire Company or City is liable to costs incurred from the fire department having to enter (break door down) the business in order to answer an alarm.

The Knox box was discussed further.

Councilman Keedy stated he hopes in the future there will be an amendment added that if a business owner does not want this, they do not have to. He added he would like to see them sign a waiver as well.

Councilman Karpiak agreed with business owners signing a waiver in which the fire department and the City are not responsible for damages incurred by the fire department entering the premises.

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.

Fire Chief Topper stated he has order forms for the Knox box. He added New Haven Hose or anyone else is affiliated with the company, noting business owners order directly from the company and it is delivered to them.

**Resolution No. 8-14-2018:** "To enter into an Agreement with Gaydos-Behanna Kennel as the City's Animal Control Officer at a Rate of \$250/month. Funds to be taken from line item 420.450."

Mayor Lincoln questioned the length of the agreement, noting he is only for an agreement that expires the end of the year.

Solicitor Witt stated it could be until the end of the year and then month to month until which time Council has another plan in place.

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. 8-15-2018:** "To exercise the one year extension option under section 3.1 of the Solid Waste Collection, Removal and Disposal Contract with Advanced Disposal of 1184 McClellandtown Road, McClellandtown, PA 15458; through October 30, 2019."

Mayor Lincoln stated the relationship with Advanced Disposal improved now that they have a new manager, Dave. He stated he has been fast in response and efficient and helpful.

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. 8-16-2018:** "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.