

**Connellsville City Council
Minutes
August 18, 2015**

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, Ritch and Karpiak. Also attending was Solicitor Witt. Absent was Councilman Zolbrod.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:

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

Resolution No. 8-5-2015: "To adopt the revised City Clerk job description; to appoint Vernon Ohler as City Clerk; and to enter into a related employment agreement with Vernon Ohler; subject to the acceptance of Vernon Ohler and his/her entry into said employment agreement with the City."

Lincoln stated the Job Description is updated and it will not just be a City Clerk, it will also be a City Manager.

Karpiak thanked Joyce Shaffer for everything that she has done for the City. He also stated Vernon Ohler is always there when he needs him.

Ritch thanked Joyce Shaffer and Shelley Primus for keeping City Hall afloat for the past four months. He congratulated Vernon Ohler.

Lincoln thanked Linda Goodlin and Tom Currey for helping during the transition as well as Janine Brooks.

Geyer complimented the Administrative Staff on how well everyone has done. He noted Joyce Shaffer worked very hard to get a lot of things straightened out and how great she did on paving the way with the new software. He added Shelley Primus and Tom Currey have stepped up when something needed done. Geyer noted Council was busy helping as well when Union Employees could not perform certain duties. He stated the knowledge of the City Mr. Ohler brings to the table is great and he has managed many employees throughout his career. He added Vernon has always done what has been asked of him.

Vernon Ohler, City Clerk then took his seat at Council table.

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

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ethan Keedy, Grand Opening, passed on good Connellsville experiences from visitors

Melissa Tzan, Recreation Board activity update

CITY TREASURER JAYNES REPORT:

Jaynes congratulated Vernon Ohler

CITY CONTROLLER BROOKS REPORT:

Brooks congratulated Vernon Ohler

CORRESPONDENCE:

Downtown Connellsville, Mum Festival September 12, 2015

Resolution No. 8-1-2015: “To close Crawford Avenue between Arch Street and Pittsburgh Street from 7:00 AM until 6:00 PM on Saturday, September 12, 2015 with a rain date of September 13, 2015 for the Sixth Annual Autumn Mum Festival; pending review and approval of Police Chief and Fire Chief.”

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

Proclamation – Payne A.M.E. Church, 140 years

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 8-2-2015: “To approve the minutes from the July 19, 2015 City Council Meeting.”

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

Resolution No. 8-3-2015: “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 Karpiak, Ritch and Geyer and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Police Department Report

Lincoln discussed the Neighborhood Crime Watch, thanking Perry Culver and the Senior Center for their help.

Resolution No. 8-4-2015: “To accept the resignation of Aaron Zolbrod from City Council effective August 18, 2015.”

Lincoln read the Letter of Resignation from Aaron Zolbrod

Mayor Lincoln and Council thanked Mr. Zolbrod for his time, work and dedication to the City.

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

Lincoln announced Council has 30 days to fill Aaron Zolbrod’s place on Council. He noted letters of interest will be accepted at City Hall until September 7th at 5 PM.

Resolution No. 8-6-2015: “To place out for bid car #30, 2010 Chevy Impala Police Vehicle. Bids are to be in a sealed envelope marked “Bid on Police Vehicle” and include a Certified Check or Money Order in the amount of 10% of the bid and received no later than 4:00 PM on September 14, 2015 in the City Clerk’s Office, 110 North Arch Street, Connellsville, PA 15425. The City of Connellsville reserves the right to reject any or all bids.”

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

REMINDERS:

August 21st, East Park, Lego Movie, sponsored by the Recreation Board

August 22nd, Finley Fighter’s Walk for Site at Yough Park, for information visit finleyfighters.com

August 25th, Crime Watch, City Hall

September 12th, Mum Festival, sponsored by Downtown Connellsville, 724-320-6392

September 12th, Spaghetti Dinner at the Connellsville Eagles for Sydney Michaels who has Dravet Syndrome, call Julie Borris at 724-317-6493

October 3rd, Tangled Up In Brew at Yough Park, sponsored by the Recreation Board

October 11th, 21st Annual Fall Foliage Ride/Walk, Yough Park, sponsored by the Yough River Trail Council, contact Ted or Phyllis Kovall at 724-628-6078

GEYER:

Resolution No. 8-7-2015: "To hire Kisiel and Associates, 815B Memorial Blvd, Connellsville, PA 15425 as the City's IT Person(s) effective immediately."

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

Resolution No. 8-8-2015: "To rescind Resolution No. 7-5-2015 from the July 21, 2015 City Council Meeting."

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

Resolution No. 8-9-2015: "To close the following six (6) PLGIT Accounts: General Fund, #5049011, \$23,872.13; Recreation, 5049040, \$287.95; Parking and Revitalization, 5049053, \$112,122.40; Capitol Improvement, 5049066, \$51,641.99; Investment, 5049079, \$60.66; Capital Reserve, 5049092, \$6,045.89, all of which were earning an interest rate of .03%. Further authorizing these monies from General Fund, #5049011, \$23,872.13 to be transferred to PNC General Fund Account #2003790; Recreation, 5049040, \$287.95 to be transferred to PNC Recreation #1819499; Parking and Revitalization, 5049053, \$112,122.40; Capitol Improvement, 5049066, \$51,641.99; Investment, 5049079, \$60.66; Capital Reserve, 5049092, \$6,045.89 will be transferred to a new account at Scottdale Bank and Trust with an interest rate of .25%."

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

Resolution No. 8-10-2015: "To accept the 2013 Audit as prepared by McClure and Wolf, LLP, Certified Public Accountants."

Geyer added that next week, McClure and Wolfe will be starting the 2014 Audit.

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

Resolution No. 8-11-2015: "To refund the Department of the Auditor General the amount of \$7,746.00 for excess State Aid as recommended in the findings contained in the City of Connellsville Police Pension Plan Audit Report for January 2012- December 2013; money to be taken from Line Item 410.160 Police Pension MMO."

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

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Karpiak stated there is a new leaf which will make upcoming leaf pick-up easier.

Karpiak announced if there is any other municipality looking for a leaf vac, the City has a good one.

Lincoln thanked the Street Department for their help getting the Kyle Sage's Pavilion ready. He also thanked Widmer Engineering.

RITCH:

Resolution No. 8-12-2015: "To hire the following individuals as Summer Camp Employees retroactive June 2015: Jake Connell for \$500; William Ricks for \$250; Jay Miller for \$250; Brandy McGrath for \$250; Heather Trout \$250; Shirley Rosenberger for \$250."

Lincoln thanked the Connellsville School District for allowing the City to have the swimming pool again this year. He thanked the swim coaches for volunteering their time without pay.

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

Resolution No. 8-13-2015: "To open bid for the sale of the City owned vacant property on West Peach and North Arch Streets (Parcel ID 05-06-0363); the City of Connellsville reserves the right to reject any or all bids."

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

Resolution No. 8-14-2015: "To accept the bid of Carl Ritenour in the amount of \$4,000.00 for the sale of the City owned vacant property on West Peach and North Arch Streets (Parcel ID 05-06-0363)."

Ritch stated the property is by Sidewinders. He added he feels the Ritenour family is looking to develop that sight once they obtain Sidewinders.

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

Resolution No. 8-15-2015: "To appoint Bob Topper, Jr. to the Connellsville Recreation Board, as a voting member, effective immediately; term to expire the first Monday of 2020."

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

ZOLBROD: No longer Councilman. Read by Mayor Greg Lincoln

Health/Code Officer Report
New Haven Hose Report

Tom Currey, Health/Code/Zoning Officer stated if your grass is over 12 high, you need to cut it or will be cited. Also, the City has an ordinance prohibiting standing water in pools.

Resolution No. 8-16-2015: "To open the proposal for the City of Connellsville's three year garbage service contract, with an option for four years, beginning November 1, 2015 and ending October 31, 2018; the City of Connellsville reserves the right to reject any or all bids."

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

While waiting to open bids, Mayor Lincoln announced when school starts the new curfew will be in effect.

Resolution No. 8-17-2015: “To accept the bid of TABLE ALL BIDS for the City of Connellsville’s three year garbage service contract; with an option for four years, beginning November 1, 2015 and ending October 31, 2018.”

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

Geyer stated the new contract would begin November 1st, noting Council will take action at the next Council Meeting.

Resolution No. 8-18-2015: “To approve the request Sheetz, Columbia Gas, their contractors and representatives to permit the replacement of gas lines in connection with the plans submitted by Sheetz and Columbia Gas and their contractors and representatives during times and hours approved by the Police Department and Code Enforcement Officer and to withhold the application of the time and hour requirements of the City’s Nuisance and Zoning Ordinance to such project, with the provision of Sufficient notice to nearby and affected residents.”

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

Resolution No. 8-19-2015: “This this meeting of City Council does hereby adjourn.”

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