

**Connellsville City Council
MINUTES
March 20, 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: Father Bob led invocation

REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Brandi Bee, 3 D Memorial Bridge Mural

Collen Murphy, Hope Floats Walk sponsored by Central Fellowship Church

Resolution No. 3-1-2018: "To approve the Central Fellowship Church's "Hope Floats" event on June 30, 2018 on North Arch Street, Crawford Avenue and Third Street, pending approval of the Police Chief and obtaining all other necessary approvals."

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. 3-2-2018: "To permit local artist Brandi Bee permission to do a mural in Yough Park under the Memorial Bridge at no costs to the city."

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.

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT:

CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT:

CORRESPONDENCE:

Tom McFadden, Veterans Commission, Memorial Day Parade, May 28, 2018

Resolution No. 3-3-2018: "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 28, 2018; pending approval of Police Chief, Fire Chief and Penn DOT."

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.
Mary Kay Dunaway, Request to be appointed to the Housing Authority

Resolution No. 3-4-2018: “To appoint Mary Kay Dunaway to the Connellsville Housing Authority effective immediately; term to expire the 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.

Connellsville Community Center Board of Directors, Request for seats on the board

Resolution No. 3-5-2018: “To accept the resignation of Lawrence Herman from the Board of Directors of the Connellsville Community Center effective immediately.”

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. 3-6-2018: “To appoint Kenneth Johnson to the Board of Directors of the Connellsville Community Center as a voting member; 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. 3-7-2018: “To appoint Larry Nicholson to the Board of Directors of the Connellsville Community Center; term to expire the first Monday in January 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.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 3-8-2018: “To approve the minutes from the February 20, 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. 3-9-2018: “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 Topper, Tzan, Karpiak and Keedy and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Police Department Report

Chief Hammerle discussed Police Department software that is needed. He noted the biggest cost is the initial setup of approximately \$15,000.00. Hammerle explained this software would allow them to complete one form and the next form they need would automatically be filled out for them. He noted this allows them more time on the street and less time doing paperwork. Hammerle stated it would not come from tax payers monies, funds would be used from the Special Investigation Fund. He added this new "Visual Alert System" is compatible with the new system in the vehicles. Further, he noted the monthly maintenance cost is less than what is paid out now. Hammerle stated the system updates automatically and there will be no charge for that.

Proclamation: April is "PA 811 Safe Digging Month"

Mayor Lincoln stressed the importance of dialing 811 before digging. He notified everyone if you bust a line that belongs to the water or gas companies, for example, the fine is excessive.

Resolution No. 3-10-2018: "To approve the purchase and installation and setup of the Visual Alert Law Enforcement Software for a cost of approximately \$15,000.00; money to be taken from the City's Police Evidence 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. 3-11-2018: "To reallocate \$12,000 from line item 351.090, Grant Reimbursement, to line item 411.551, New Haven Hose Allocation."

Mayor Lincoln noted the monies will not be coming from any line item. He noted it is 'new money' that is a reimbursement from last year along with money from the parking meters.

Karpiak questioned if New Haven Hose exhausted all other forms of monies before the City foots the bill.

Mayor Lincoln answered there were no other grants available through the Redevelopment Authority or funds elsewhere. He noted City Clerk Ohler figured out how the City could help.

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. 3-12-2018: "To transfer ownership of the property at 101 Lincoln Avenue from the City of Connellsville to the Connellsville Redevelopment Authority."

Mayor Lincoln stated the Redevelopment Authority will be much more successful in finding a buyer and developer for the property than the City.

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. 3-13-2018: "To endorse a letter of support for the Mountain Watershed Association and their ongoing efforts to enhance the Youghiogheny River."

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:

Recycling Days: March 27th & March 28th, April 10th, 11th, 24th, 25th

June 2nd is Electronic Recycling Day for City residents

March 21st, Comprehensive Plan Open House at Murphy Hall, 4 PM - 7 PM

March 22nd, State Rep. Ryan Warner's Office from 10 AM - 2 PM, Questions concerning Social Security, Veterans Benefits and Medicare will be answered by US Rep. Bill Shuster's representative. Call 724-437-1105 to attend.

March 23rd, State Rep. Warner's Open House from 5 PM - 7 PM

March 31st, Free Easter Dinner at the Senior Center from 11 AM - 1 PM

March 31st, YRTC Spring Race, Register at 8 AM, Race at 9 AM, www.youghrivertrail.com info

April 4th, Cornerstone Care Mobile Lab at the Community Center, 10 AM - 3 PM, 724-228-1089

April 7th, 5th Annual Clean Up Connellsville, 8 AM - 3 PM, Yough Park, contact MB@TEACHPA.org or call 724-320-6073

April 7th, New Haven Hose Hoagie Sales

April 21st, Porter Theater's Blue Grass/Moongrass, 5 PM, Porter Theater on Facebook for info

April 7th, Eagles Bike Ride and fundraiser for the Connellsville Police Department

KEEDY:

Resolution No. 3-14-2018: "To approve changing the signatures on the Police Evidence Account to Chief William Hammerle, Captain William J Huss and Detective Lieutenant Thomas Patton."

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 what will be owed on the Firemen's MMO and discussed the payment. He also noted that as of now, all is going well with the City audit.

KARPIAK:

Public Works Report

Councilman Karpiak discussed Nassau Street and the water line, noting that is a high priority to him. He stated they need to know where the line is and the job will get done.

Resolution No. 3-15-2018: "To accept the bid of Hunter's Excavating & Electrical, LLC to install storm inlets and pipe on East Apple Street at a price of \$82,399.40; pending review and approval of City Solicitor. Money to be paid by County LSA Grant and City Liquid Fuels Account."

Kerrey, City Engineer from Widmer Engineering, stated they will begin in early April and be complete in 120 days.

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. 3-16-2018: "To place the bid out for the 2018 Street Paving Program. Bids will be accepted until April 16, 2018 at 4 p.m. at City Hall. Money to be taken from Liquid Fuels Account."

Kerrey, City Engineer from Widmer Engineering announced there is West Green Street from South Pittsburgh to Arch Street, Newmyer to Vine Street and Isabella Road, Davidson Avenue from Chestnut Street to Oak Street, Sycamore Street from Austin Avenue to Newmyer Avenue, Oak Street to Austin Avenue to Davidson Avenue and an unnamed alley behind Connellsville Counseling from Gallatin Avenue to Porter Avenue.

City Clerk Ohler stated those streets are coordinated with the water and gas companies, therefore the City is good to start.

Councilman Karpiak noted the Southside has needed this for a long time.

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. 3-17-2018: “To hire Drew Nicholson as a summer worker for the Public Works Department at a rate of \$7.50 per hour for a maximum of 35 hours per week for the summer season, such cost to be taken from line item 01430-145.”

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 Karpiak announced the City is still looking for summer workers. He added they would prefer you have a driver’s license. “Just stop in City Hall and pick up an application then we will talk to you.” Councilman Karpiak added.

TZAN:

Councilwoman Tzan announced the Recreation Board is still searching for coaches for the Summer Camps. She added it could be high school students or anyone and it would be around 20 hours throughout the entire summer. Councilwoman Tzan noted there is basketball, volleyball, tennis and more. She asked that anyone interested to please message the Recreation Board’s Facebook Page or call Vernon Ohler at City Hall.

Resolution No. 3-18-2018: “To approve the contract between the City and the Connellsville Girls Softball League for use of the ball field at East Park. Liability insurance will be provided by the league as stated in the contract. Fees to be determined.”

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. 3-19-2018: “To approve the contract between the City and the Dunbar and Connellsville Softball Team for use of Woodruff Park Field on Tuesdays and Fridays, starting April 2, 2018 to September 20, 2018, at a fee of \$200 per team. Liability insurance will be provided by the leagues as stated in the contract. Fees to be determined.”

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. 3-20-2018: "To accept the resignation of Matthew Ptacek from the Connellsville Recreation Board effective immediately."

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 Matthew Ptacek for all his service, noting he has been on the Recreation Board for a long time.

Councilwoman Tzan agreed noting his hours at work don’t allow him to serve.

TOPPER:

Health/Code Officer Report

New Haven Hose Report

Resolution No. 3-21-2018: "To seek grant funding through Senator Toomey's Office to be coordinated with the adoption of a "Knox Box" ordinance. Funds would help offset costs for materials and supplies needed for interested property owners."

Councilman Topper explained what a Know Box was as follows: "Say you own a commercial building and you are not open 24 / 7, if you have an automatic alarm system that rings in to 911 and emergency personnel are notified, when emergency personnel get there and the owner is not there, this is a key that only the fire department has to get in if the owner is not there. He added if they can't get into the building they may have to take the door down which can be costly to the owner. If they get in and it's a garbage fire, they can put it out before it gets worse. Councilman Topper added that they would like to see an ordinance requiring business owners to purchase a \$350 Knox box, which is cheaper than replacing a door.

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 announced the county signed with an "All Call System" called Code Red. He noted New Haven has been looking into something similar which is a call out system to residents. He added it is like a school delay call. Councilman Topper stated it will be a recorded message that tells you what is going on such as flooding, train derailments, big events to small events such as snow parking and garbage service delay. Councilman Topper stated the county hopes to have this in place the next few weeks. He stated word will be getting out about it and the website is fcema.org. He noted if you are a resident and want to sign up, watch their website to sign up and you can get a call at your home, your cell or an email. Councilman Topper stated the county is paying for this service. He added if you know someone elderly; sign them up because it will be useful.

Councilman Topper discussed New Haven's Liability Insurance. He stated the City covers the vehicles. Councilman Topper noted the portable hand tools are covered by New Haven Hose. He stated they looked into coverages and ensured there is not a double coverage, saving the City money.

Mayor Lincoln announced the Redevelopment Authority approved the purchase of a new generator for New Haven Hose. He added when it is complete, there will be a warming center on both sides of the City. Mayor Lincoln stated the Redevelopment Authority also approved scuba gear for the rescue boat.

Resolution No. 3-22-2018: "That his 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.