

**Connellsville City Council  
Minutes  
September 15, 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.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Invocation led by Rev. Suzanne Zampella

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

**REMARKS FROM VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jennifer Soisson, Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Mary Grace Butela, Angels of Mercy Animal Rescue, Spay and Neuter Program

Jamie Speelman, Angels of Mercy Animal Rescue, Spay and Neuter Program

**CITY TREASURER JAYNES REPORT:**

**CITY CONTROLLER BROOKS REPORT:**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Letters of interest for vacant Council seat:

Dr. James McIntire  
Larry Herman

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**Resolution No. 9-1-2015:** "To appoint Larry Herman to fill the vacant council seat for the remainder of 2015."

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. 9-2-2015:** "To approve the minutes from the August 18, 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. 9-3-2015:** "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

**Resolution No. 9-4-2015:** "To open bids received for car #30, 2010 Chevy Impala Police Vehicle."

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.

Two bids were received:

Chicago Motors, Inc., \$1,807.00

Mark Gaudino, \$1,828.00

**Resolution No. 9-5-2015:** "To accept the bid of Mark Gaudino in the amount of \$1,828.00 for car #30, 2010 Chevy Impala Police Vehicle; to be sold as-is; pending review and approval of City Solicitor."

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. 9-6-2015:** "To adopt the Community Development Block Grant Citizen Participation Plan as the Official Plan for the City of Connellsville's CDBG Program."

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. 9-7-2015:** "To close Pittsburgh Street from Green Street to Crawford Avenue; Crawford Avenue from Pittsburgh Street to Seventh Street on October 27, 2015 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 Councilmen Karpiak, Ritch and Geyer and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 9-8-2015:** "To set Trick or Treat for Saturday, October 31, 2015 from 5 PM until 7 PM in the City of Connellsville."

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. 9-9-2015:** "To accept the resignation of Bethany Brown from the Connellsville Planning Commission effective immediately."

Mayor Lincoln noted there are two vacancies on the Planning Commission and asked if anyone is interested in serving on the board to submit a letter to City Hall.

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. 9-10-2015:** "Fair Housing Resolution: 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, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, handicap or disability is prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Law) and the Pennsylvania Human Act. 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, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, handicap or disability, or familial status (families with children). This notice will serve to advise all residents of the City of Connellsville that the following actions, if based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status (families with children), or handicap, are considered discriminatory:"

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. 9-11-2015:** “To approve request by the “Connellsville Falcon Football Parents Association” to hang three (3) banners located on East Crawford Avenue, West Crawford Avenue and South Arch Street upon approval from Penn DOT’s District Traffic Engineer.”

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. 9-12-2015:** “To enter into agreement with Bradley Coatings Group, Inc. for the City to excavate and install a parking area to be used both as public parking and business parking for Bradley Coatings Group, Inc., all cost to be absorbed by the City of Connellsville.”

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. 9-13-2015:** “To raise the installation fee of “Handicap Parking Signs” from \$75 to \$125 and a yearly maintenance fee of \$20.00.”

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. 9-14-2015:** “Be it resolved, based on information provided by the City Engineer, the City Code Enforcement Officer, the City Board of Health, and the Redevelopment Authority, to recognize the dangerous condition of the WCVI Building as an imminent threat to the health, safety, and welfare of City residents and other persons; to declare an emergency with respect to the condition of the WCVI Building and to authorize the immediate demolition and abatement of the public nuisance of such structure, in conformity with all applicable laws and ordinances.”

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. 9-15-2015:** “To approve and authorize the use of the East Side Fire Station on Saturday, October 4, 2015 for the mobile clinic spay and neuter program; upon satisfactory execution of a waiver and release and proof of an adequate certificate of insurance and other requested documentation, at no cost, expense or maintenance responsibility.”

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.

Fall Cleanup Day will be October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please place items at your curbside the night before. Item that will not be taken: hazardous, toxic and items containing Freon and TV’s.

**REMINDERS:**

The City is searching for a Christmas Tree for in front of City Hall

Compost will be available starting September 28<sup>th</sup> at the Public Works Garage and the Sewage Authority

Every Wednesday at 11 AM, Children’s Story Time at Carnegie Library

Every Wednesday at 3 PM – 4:30 PM, Fall Survivor at Carnegie Library

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

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Fall Cleanup Day

October 10<sup>th</sup>, Running Dead, 8 AM at the Community Center, [connellsvillezombies@gmail.com](mailto:connellsvillezombies@gmail.com)

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

October 17<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM – 3 PM, The Dr. Who Club at Carnegie Library

October 27<sup>th</sup>, Halloween Parade, Contact New Haven Hose for information 724-626-1171

October 31<sup>st</sup>, Trick or Treat, 5 PM – 7 PM

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 6 PM, Harvest Ball, Aaron's Building, \$75 per person, call 724-626-8420

#### **GEYER:**

Geyer announced the Mum Festival was a success

Geyer discussed the Budget Meeting dates

**Resolution No. 9-16-2015:** "To pay \$379,398.00 into the Police and Fire Fighters Pension Plans in order to satisfy the 2016 Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMO), monies to be taken from General Fund Account. \$353,443.00 to be deposited in the Police Pension Plan and \$25,955.00 to be deposited in the Fire Fighters Pension Plan."

Geyer noted that this number is less than budgeted.

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

**Resolution No. 9-17-2015:** "To sign Agreement for City of Connellsville LED Conversion Project, Regional LED Conversion Project by and between the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation."

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. 9-18-2015:** "To advertise for the position of Laborer for the Connellsville Public Works Department; Money to be taken from line item #1430.144. Applications due October 12, 2015."

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. 9-19-2015:** "A resolution expressing the support and commitment of The City of Connellsville in joining and cooperating with other municipalities in exploring and assessing the possible creation, administration, and operation of a Land Bank to serve said municipalities in accordance with the Pennsylvania Land Bank Act (2013); approving the execution of a letter of support; and appointing a member of City Council to serve as Connellsville representative to the land bank exploratory working group."

Tom Karpiak was appointed as the City's Representative

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. 9-20-2015:** "To appoint George Kosisko Public Works Foreman effective September 1, 2015."

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 announced if you want to contact George call 724-628-2020 ext. 301.

**RITCH:**

**Resolution No. 9-21-2015:** "To approve use of the volleyball courts, "Cat's Courts", for an "Adult Volleyball League" by Sam Cook at a fee of \$300, plus providing the proper liability coverage to the City in the amount of \$500,000.00 - \$1,000,000.00 with the City named built in the policy."

Mayor Lincoln announced Mountz Creek is available for rent, both the pavilion and the entire park.

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.

**VACANT COUNCILPERSON:**

Tom Currey read the Health/Code Officer Report  
New Haven Hose Report

**Resolution No. 9-22-2015:** "To adopt by resolution recognizing New Haven Hose Company's Organization Member Roster of trained Firefighters, Hazmat Awareness first responders, Hazmat Operations first responders, and Rescue Technicians in accordance with Federal EPA regulations 40 CFR 311."

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. 9-23-2015:** "To accept the bid of Advanced Disposal 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."

Mayor Lincoln announced there will be recycling two times a month.

Geyer stated he is not satisfied with Advanced Disposal and if the issues continue, Council will take quick action to nullify the Agreement.

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

**Resolution No. 9-24-2015:** "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.