

Connellsville City Council MINUTES
5 PM – MAY 20, 2025

This meeting of the Connellsville City Council was held this evening at 5:00 PM. Attending this meeting was Council members Keedy, Addis, Topper and Tiberio and Mayor Lincoln. Also attending was City Clerk Smith and Solicitor Witt.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE: Invocation led by Pastor Greg Voss

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Lincoln reminded everyone who signed up for Public Comment that they have three (3) minutes to speak and the City Solicitor will be running the timer and notify you when your three minutes is up.

James Flynn, Connellsville Recreation Board President

Mr. Flynn stated he cannot wait until June 11th for the Sunset Bazaar since the first one was rained out. He noted he submitted three names for council to vote on to become playground instructors and introduced them. He requested permission to write up a procedure manual for the instructors to follow including where the equipment would go and requested permission to use the fire hall for the equipment boxes for six weeks.

Councilman Topper answered that one of the side doors to the right would work to store the boxes. He instructed Mr. Flynn to coordinate with Jimmy Bigam and stated there is a lock on the door.

Solicitor Witt suggested he and council get the Procedure Manual.

Mr. Flynn replied that he would submit it to Councilman Topper and Solicitor Witt. He added the program will begin June 23rd, run six weeks at five parks where the schedules will be posted along with social media and the newspaper. He continued that all the speakers and people that are there, he will make sure all of their security clearances are turned into Councilman Topper.

Mayor Lincoln stated to turn them into Shelley.

Mr. Flynn agreed.

Mayor Lincoln suggested he reach out to Chip Rowen for a "Good to Know" on the Recreation Program.

Mr. Flynn stated he will do that. He then stated they need new roofs in the restrooms behind the stage at East Park in the garage. He continued that Jimmy Bigam got a bid for \$7,900 by Harris Construction Company and they are going to vote on that at the next Recreation Board Meeting. He noted he just wants council to be aware of it.

Mr. Flynn then stated there will be materials donated for the bacchii court behind the Sr. Center to be cleaned up and run a bacchii tournament for seniors beginning mid-August through early fall.

Robert Ruck, Parking issues on North First Street

Mr. Ruck noted he lives on First Street and is the second house from the hotel. He stated years ago they had signs "Permit Parking Only" and when he requested years ago to have them replaced, they disappeared. He continued his brother, who lives next door, wrote a letter to the Traffic Commission and they turned it down. Mr. Ruck added they were never notified of the meeting to give their input. He stated cars are blocking their driveway and that he gave pictures to the City Clerk proving what they are up against. He added the lot across the street, the City sold and it belongs to Farris and is posted. Mr. Ruck noted when there is an event, the parking fills up. He added his brother has three cars and the hotel took the alley that he used to park in. Mr. Ruck requested that they can have the signs back for Permit Parking Only. He stated when they had the signs, they had no trouble what so ever.

Mayor Lincoln stated he spoke with Public Works and they are going to paint the curbs on both sides of the driveway so people know not to park there.

Mr. Ruck stated he would like to have the signs back and he would be grateful. He reiterated his case to council.

Mayor Lincoln stated they will get the curbs painted and then rely on the Police Chief to inform the men that no-one can park there.

Michael Comiskey, Mural on Parking Lot Wall in City's parking lot

Mr. Comiskey stated he lives on East Green Street and his wife Mary Ann is the one who fixed up the building on South Pittsburgh Street where the Plot Twist is and three apartments. He requested that his wife could paint a mural on the retaining wall in the parking lot behind her building. He noted it is 167 feet long and 6 feet high which allows for a mural of the bike trail on it. Mr. Comiskey continued they are working with Randy Stewart to paint the mural and the Lions Club has agreed to sponsor the project and there is a fundraising plan in place to have this done. He requested permission to paint the retaining wall and remove the parking meters that are there. He added that the work would take about two weeks and it can begin once the meters are removed. He notified council that she is free to do this project in either June, August, or September.

Mayor Lincoln stated the he and City Council wants to see is what the mural will be before they say yes. He requested the picture be emailed.

Mr. Comiskey showed City Council the picture of what the mural will be.

Mayor Lincoln stated that they cannot vote to approve removal of the parking meters because it is not on the agenda and they will do that in June.

James Moore, Sports Leagues

Mr. Moore discussed summer and fall sports leagues for youth through adults he was proposing to City Council. He stated they would like to start the three-on-three basketball as soon as possible. He informed council he runs the Connellsville Basketball Association and there is a lot of interest on this. He noted he is trying to get a girl's flag football league going. Mr. Moore stated there will be an adult kickball league, fall deck hockey and in conjunction with the hot dog eating contest at his restaurant outside the Polish Club. He added he spoke with the Recreation Board at their last meeting and they instructed him to go to the next City Council Meeting.

Mayor Lincoln stated they cannot vote on this due to it not being on the agenda.

Mr. Moore stated he can push all of his dates back.

Councilman Topper questioned if the Recreation Board informed him, he will need to book some dates because there are other events going on and it has to be done so that no-one overlaps.

Mayor Lincoln stated Woodruff Park will be under construction this summer. He stated the basketball court, dugouts, concession stand and fencing will be repaired. He questioned Karey Bell if he knew when the repairs would begin.

Mr. Bell replied at least mid-July and they gave a six-month time limit to complete due to fencing around the park.

Councilman Topper questioned if the basketball court would be usable.

Mr. Bell replied yes.

Mr. Moore questioned what kind of insurance he would need.

Councilman Topper and Mayor Lincoln advised Moore to meet with Rita Smith, City Clerk, over details.

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT:

CITY CONTROLLER'S REPORT: Read by Christian Korba, City Controller

CORRESPONDENCE:

Sally Stoots, John Woodruff Race, July 9, 2025, 7 PM

Resolution No. 5-1-2025: "To temporarily close the following streets on July 9, 2025 for the John Woodruff Run/Walk; Starting at Falcon Stadium on South Arch Street towards W Gibson Avenue and East Gibson Avenue towards Isabella Road to West Green Street to South Arch Street back to the stadium; pending review and approval of Police Chief, Public Works Foreman and Fire Chief."

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

Len Ruper, Polish Club, Request to use alley by City Garage, August 31, 2025

Resolution No. 5-2-2025: "To grant the Connellsville Polish Club permission to use the alley between the Polish Club and the Public Works garage for their club picnic on August 31, 2025 from 11 AM until 6 PM; further authorizing items listed on the utilization form; pending review and approval of Police Chief, Public Works Foreman and Fire Chief."

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

Benjamin Hoffman, Request to temporary closure of North 2nd Street, July 5, 2025

Mayor Lincoln read Hoffman's letter to council and questioned the exact location of his request.

Resolution: "To temporarily close North Second Street, Meason Avenue to North First Street, on Saturday, July 5, 2025 from 1 PM to 10 PM, pending proof of Liability Insurance and review and approval of the Police Chief, Public Works Foreman and Fire Chief."

Mayor Lincoln stated he spoke with Ben Farris who stated he spoke to someone about a year ago about parking over there and was not aware of an event being held over there and not supportive of putting vendors on anything on his property. He stated he does not want 500 people or vendors around his business or on his property and that is the concern that he has.

Ben Hoffman stated it would be kept on the street and the triangle would be closed off for the public. He stated he asked Mr. Farris if his family could park on his property and he stated yes. Hoffman made it clear that he would be using only the road for the event and not Farris's property.

Council and Hoffman discussed the location.

Mayor Lincoln questioned Solicitor Witt who replied he still has a lot of questions. Solicitor Witt questioned Ben Hoffman if this is strictly a private family event.

Ben Hoffman answered on his property; there is a private family event. He continued that on the street; it is not a private family event.

Solicitor questioned if this is being done by a company or non-profit, is it profit or not for profit?

Ben Hoffman stated it is not an organization.

Councilman Topper questioned if there will be vendors with Hoffman replying yes. Topper then questioned if the vendors will be charged with Hoffman answering yes. Topper then asked Hoffman if he is collecting that money with Hoffman answering yes and stating he would be in charge of distribution of the funds. Hoffman noted \$200 will go to the Festival Association for the fireworks and the rest of the money will be determined by the family on that day.

Councilman Keedy questioned Hoffman "There is a main festival that will be going on in town, that has been going on for years on that date, and you want to hold another one on the opposite side of town?" He continued that Hoffman is advertising it as a "Fireworks and Fines Market." He added the fireworks cost \$12,500 and Hoffman wants to donate \$200, and fireworks is the draw to the festival. Keedy stated he is not ok with that. Keedy added there was the assumption that the Festival Association should have come "to you" asking if we could work together. He questioned how the Festival Association was supposed to know that someone else wanted to have an event that day. Keedy explained the Festival Association is established and been sponsoring this for years and

Hoffman should have gone to them requesting to be a part of their event. He noted he was shocked and surprised to find out on Facebook that there was another event advertising fireworks and markets. Keedy explained that one of the vendors for the Red White and Boom saw the ad and was confused, wondering where they were to register. Keedy stated the fireworks is a very hard thing to get funded being \$12,500 and only \$3,800 has been raised so far. He clarified the economy is not great and businesses can only give so much, causing them to rely on the entertainment, vendors, food, and drinks to help offset that cost. Keedy stated the festival does not make money, they lost \$5,000 last year. He noted they have thousands of people enjoy a wonderful night and that is why they do it. Keedy stated "To have another event that same night, advertising for vendors that would have them on the opposite side and does not go towards the fireworks, will diminish the efforts of the Festival Association to make this a very successful event. The insinuation that we should have come to a certain individual and asked how we can do this together, when we did not know someone else is planning something, is asking a lot for us to do."

Solicitor Witt stated this is the first time that he saw this information and still has questions such as how it is being structured and is it a sole proprietorship. He added it sounds like it is for profit and not for profit. He said another question he has is parking. Witt questioned if this would create another draw in another part of town in addition to sections already.

Mayor Lincoln stated what concerns him is that the event center will probably be having an event since they know how many people draw to town for the festival. He noted there will be no parking down there and Mr. Ruck and other homeowners will be coming at us stating they were at our meeting over parking and now this. Mayor Lincoln stated that he does not want to stop people from having events, but feels this could have been done better. He questioned Hoffman about council approving closing the strip previously for his family event. He added he does not have an issue with his family gathering.

Councilman Keedy stated he does not feel that would be a hinderance to the festival and anymore inconvenience than was done in the past. He continued that seven vendors is a lot for an already crowded downtown.

Ben Hoffman stated it could be less, noting that it depends on the interest. He added his baseline was 10 x 10.

Solicitor Witt stated it is a great concept but there are questions. He explained that a large event on one side of town and another large event on the other side of town, pose a safety concern.

Police Chief Hammerle stated he has a safety concern. He stressed that it is all he can do to get the coverage needed to take care of the Red White and Boom Festival. He added that he is not only speaking for the police, he is speaking for EMT's and the fire department. Chief Hammerle reiterated that having the yearly event on this side of the river takes all his men and another event on the other side is not possible for him to cover. He added that he is against it, just for that reason of the safety concern.

Mayor Lincoln added the Auxiliary Police will be stretched. He explained they have to be on the bridge because no one is allowed on the bridge for the fireworks and around the houses on First Street so no one gets close to the fireworks.

Chief Hammerle stated the man power on the auxiliary is minimal at this time.

Councilman Topper questioned where the funds from 30 to 70 vendors, who is that going to? He stated that it is very difficult to raise money right now. He adding they are trying to help every nonprofit and organization in town. Councilman Topper stated he does have a problem with taking funds away from a nonprofit and he does not know where their funds are going to. He stated if something were to happen during the event, who does it fall to and what the liability issues are.

Benn Hoffman stated they are having Liability Waivers put together for the event. He stated it would cover the Pop-Up Connellsville and (could not make wording out).

Councilwoman Tiberio questioned if "Pop Up Connellsville" refers to him (Hoffman).

Ben Hoffman answered that it is now, but was not his original idea. He continued that someone had come to him about it.

Councilwoman Tiberio questioned who Pop Up Connellsville is.

Ben Hoffman answered it is a woman from South Connellsville who does not want her name shared publicly. Hoffman continued to speak and words could not be made out due to his not speaking at the podium by the microphone.

Mayor Lincoln questioned Ben Hoffman if he still wanted the closure for his family event if council is not for his having an event.

Ben Hoffman answered yes.

Mayor Lincoln questioned Solicitor Witt if they could have separate resolutions or they vote or not vote.

Solicitor Witt stated it could be tweaked.

Ben Hoffman requested they vote on his request.

Councilman Topper questioned what Pop Up Connellsville is and if it is a business.

Ben Hoffman answered??

Councilman Topper questioned if they have done other events that council may know about.

Ben Hoffman answered no.

Mayor Lincoln announced that council will vote on his proposal and if it does not pass, council's next meeting is June 17th, and that gives Hoffman enough time to submit a letter to have the lane closed for his family gathering.

A vote upon the adoption of the resolution resulted as follows: Voting nay were Councilmembers Keedy, Addis, Topper and Tiberio and Mayor Lincoln. There were no affirmative votes. The majority of the votes being nay, the resolution was not adopted.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Ben Hoffman to attending the meeting.

John Malone, Somerset Trust, Road closure request for car show, June 24, 2025 at 5 PM

Resolution No. 5-3-2025: “To close South Seventh Street from West Crawford Avenue to Graham Avenue from 5 PM until 11 PM on June 24, 2025 for Somerset Trust’s Car Cruise; further authorizing items listed on the utilization form; pending review and approval of Police Chief, Public Works Foreman and Fire Chief.”

Mayor Lincoln stated John Malone reached out to him regarding canceling the car show since the Tom and Jerry’s Plaza going under construction in June. He noted he suggested this as a temporary alternative so they do not have to cancel the event. Mayor Lincoln stated he noted the 18 wheelers need to get through Seventh Street and he needs to know they can get through if need be.

Councilman Addis stated that West Penn’s trucks are usually done by 2:00 PM.

Mayor Lincoln stated all should be good then.

An unknown female in the audience spoke and stated the entertainment will still be at the train station and cars will be on Seventh Street.

Mayor Lincoln added that Somerset Trust supported the fireworks before they were in the City and he appreciates them very much. He continued that there is a big draw for their car shows and it is a great event. Mayor Lincoln added he feels there is something going on here, that they are giving all of their money to a certain event that is not a city event. He stressed that he wants the residents and business owners to know that the city government will never use tax payer dollars to pay for fireworks, ever. He thanked Somerset Trust again, noting they always sponsor city events when requested.

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

REGULAR AGENDA:

Resolution No. 5-4-2025: “To accept the minutes from the April 15, 2025 City Council Meeting.”

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

Resolution No. 5-5-2025: “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 Keedy, Addis, Topper and Tiberio and Mayor Lincoln. The majority of the votes being affirmative, the resolution was adopted.

MAYOR LINCOLN:

Police Department Report: Read by Bill Hammerle, Police Chief

Mayor Lincoln requested an update on trading in the police vehicle.

Chief Hammerle stated it is the Durango and it is not satisfying the department's needs, therefore they are moving to a Ford Explorer. He added they have worked out a deal on the trade in which they will get \$19,000 for the trade which makes the new vehicle around \$28,000.

Mayor Lincoln questioned the funds being Special Investigation Funds.

Chief Hammerle answered yes and that is not tax payer monies.

Chief Hammerle then stated he hopes to hire a new patrolman this evening. He continued that he is down two men since once had shoulder surgery and that will be at least two months until he comes back. He added his guys are getting burned out and hopes a new guy will alleviate that a little bit. Chief Hammerle reminded council since summer is here, the guys get busier and guys go on vacation.

CDBG and CV Report

PROCLAMATION: EMS Week, May 18 – 24, 2025



WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services fill healthcare gaps by providing important, out-of-hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating the Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, I, Mayor Greg Lincoln, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of **May 18 - 24, 2025**, as: **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK**

The 51st anniversary of EMS Week theme is **EMS WEEK: We Care. For Everyone.** I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities in honor of the EMS profession and the essential service it provides.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the
City of Connellsville, this 20th Day of May
in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-five.

Greg Lincoln, Mayor, City of Connellsville

Mayor Lincoln presented Fayette EMS with the proclamation.

PROCLAMATION: Buddy Poppy Day, May 26, 2025



WHEREAS: The annual distribution of Buddy Poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliaries of the United States has been officially recognized and endorsed by governmental leaders since 1922, and

WHEREAS: VFW Buddy Poppies are assembled by disabled veterans and the proceeds of this worthy fundraising campaign are used for the benefit of disabled and needy veterans and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans, and

WHEREAS: The basic purpose of the annual distribution of Buddy Poppies by the Connellsville VFW Post #21 Auxiliary is eloquently reflected in the desire to "Honor the dead by Helping the Living," therefore

I, Greg Lincoln, Mayor of the City of Connellsville do hereby urge the citizens of this community to recognize the merits of this cause by contributing generously to its support through your donations for Buddy Poppies on the day set aside, May 26th, 2025, for the distribution of these symbols of appreciation for the sacrifices of our honored dead.

I urge all patriotic citizens to wear a Buddy Poppy as mute evidence of our gratitude to the men and women of this country who have risked their lives in defense of the freedoms which we continue to enjoy as American Citizens.

Signed

Mayor

Attested:

City Clerk

Resolution No. 5-6 -2025: “To authorize, approve and enter into the Auto-Theft Task Force Agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; further authorizing and directing the Mayor, City Clerk and Police Chief and City Solicitor to execute such agreement and to authorize City Officials and employees to take such action as is necessary to effectuate such agreement.”

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

Resolution No. 5-7-2025: “To advertise to accept sealed bids for the City of Connellsville Boat Ramp Extension Project until 4 PM on Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at City Hall; Each proposal shall be accompanied by security in the form of a Certified Check or Bid Bond payable to the City of Connellsville in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total bid in accordance with provisions of the Contract Documents; The work will consist of installing a ~32’ long concrete extension to the existing boat ramp at Yough River Park, along with a concrete ADA parking space and sidewalk; The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Widmer Engineering Inc., 225 West Crawford Avenue, Connellsville, PA 15425; Bids will be opened and read aloud at the June 17, 2025 City Council Meeting which begins at 5 PM; The City of Connellsville reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any informalities in the biddings; Money to come from the Boating Facility Grant through the PA Fish and Boat Commission.”

Mayor Lincoln questioned Karey Bell, Widmer Engineering, about the bids being put out for the project.

Karey Bell stated this is for the concrete work. He further explained the work and funds, but the recorder could not pick up his words since he was not at the podium.

Mayor Lincoln questioned if this dock was part of the grant.

Karey Bell answered it was part of the grant. He added it would need to be removed overnight for events like the river rally.

Mayor Lincoln questioned if that is something the Public Works could move and put on the truck or use the high lift.

Karey Bell answered that a small machine would be needed to remove it and the high lift may work.

Councilman Addis questioned how it would be secured and if the general public would be able to unclick it.

Karey Bell answered there would be a four-foot concrete small pier with a hole attached to the dock so if it ever came unattached, it would still be chained.

Mayor Lincoln questioned if it could be locked so no one could attempt to unclick it.

Karey Bell stated the supplier puts these all over the country so he assumes that all the precautions are there.

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

Resolution No. 5-8-2025: "To rescind Resolution No. 4-6-2025: To place the 2022 Dodge Durango with the Police Interceptor Package, in as is condition, out to bid on Municibid."

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

Resolution No. 5-9-2025: "To purchase a 2025 Ford Explorer for the Police Department for \$ \$47,643.08; funds to come from the trade in of the 2022 Dodge Durango in the amount of \$19,000 and the remaining \$ \$28,643.08 to be taken from the Special Investigations Account."

Mayor Lincoln questioned Chief Hammerle if he would be able to remove the equipment from the old vehicle.

Chief Hammerle replied that equipment does not fit that make and model, therefore we will have to get other equipment for it.

Mayor Lincoln then questioned if they are removing the equipment before the trade.

Chief Hammerle answered that it will go along with the trade, except the radios and cameras.

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

Mayor Lincoln moved to table the following resolution with no objection from council.

Resolution: "To enter into a PERMIT ISSUANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT with ARI Holdings, LLC; further authorizing the building code official to issue a construction permit pursuant to the Code without requiring the installation of an automatic sprinkler system, pending all terms and conditions have been met in said agreement and review of City Solicitor."

Mayor Lincoln requested Bill Whetzel, Uniform Construction Code Officer for the city, to give a current status of the permit.

Bill Whetzel stated he has been in conversations with Kerry Bell from Widmer Engineering. Mr. Bell advised Whetzel there has been revised drawings of Trippy Hippy Brewing and they are in the process of being reviewed. Whetzel stated he does not think there will be a problem getting them approved. He added they have to have the correct drawings to get them stamped and sent back and then the permit will be issued. He informed council there will be a sprinkler in the building, everything is going well and Mr. Leonard wants to get started soon.

Mayor Lincoln questioned how much of the building will be revised.

Karey Bell, Widmer Engineering, stated not much of the building will be changed other than some of the windows and adding the sprinkler system. He stated it is just cosmetic changes.

Mayor Lincoln questioned once Whetzel reviews the plans and approves, will he then issue the permit.

Bill Whetzel answered yes, he will issue it and he estimates that next week it will all be in order.

Councilman Keedy questioned what the new occupancy limit will be.

Bill Whetzel answered it is 217 right now, but feels he can get more than that. He stated whatever they determine for the final occupancy, will be the sign that they will put up.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Mr. Whetzel for working on this and his work in the city.

Resolution No. 5-10-2025: “To hire Barry Pritts as a patrolman for the Connellsville Police Department starting June 1, 2025; wages and benefits to be determined by the bargaining agreement between the city and Connellsville Police Officers Association”

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

REMINDERS:

MAY:

May 22nd, Fayette County Behavioral Health Wellness Event, Yough Park, 2:30 PM – 8:30 PM

May 26th, Memorial Day Parade, 9:45 AM

May 26th, Country Line Dancing, South Connellsville Fireman’s Club, 8 PM, \$5

May 31st, Kickball Tournament at Jamie McPoyle Field

JUNE:

June 5th begins the Farmers Markets at the East Side Fire Hall, Thursdays, 5 PM until 8 PM

June 6th, Connellsville Township Firemen’s Fun Fest, 4 PM, 905 Fireman Lane

June 7th, Pride In The Park, Yough Park, 12 PM

June 9th begins PE In The Park Summer Camp, Contact Jason, 724-433-9608, \$30 per week

June 11th, Sunset Bazaar, Cameron Park, 6 PM – 9 PM, vendors and music

June 13th, 14th, 15th, Yough River Rally, visit: The Yough River Rally on Facebook

June 21st, CPOA Golf Outing, Pleasant Valley Golf Club, Register at 8 AM, starts at 9 AM

Mayor Lincoln added the same day is the barstool open by the 20s club group

June 21st, Juneteenth, Yough Park, 11 AM

June 21st, Croquet Tournament, East Park, visit: Connellsville Parks and Rec. Board

June 28th at 11 AM – 6 PM and 29th at 12 PM – 6 PM, Braddock’s Crossing at Yough River Park

June 29th, Friends Day at East Park, visit: Connellsville Parks and Rec. Board

JULY:

July 5th, Red, White and Boom Festival, 3 PM

July 9th, John Woodruff 5K, 7 PM, Falcon Stadium, visit: The John Woodruff Club on Facebook or paper applications are available: Grimaldi Dental Associates, Fiesta Insurance Agency, Bud Murphy's, Rosensteel's House of Steel, Snap Fitness, John P Murtha Wellness Center @ Penn Highlands, YRT trailhead behind Martin's Grocery

COUNCILMAN KEEDY:

COUNCILMAN ADDIS:

Health Officer's Report

Councilman Addis stated the updated quality of life tickets are in the packets. He asked Tom Currey, Code Officer if he would like to add anything.

Tom Currey, Code Officer, stated to cut your grass if it is over 12 inches, use cans with lids at all times and burning is Wednesday and Saturdays from 1 PM until 9 PM.

Mayor Lincoln questioned Currey if there is an ordinance about blowing grass clippings into city streets or a state law?

Tom Currey answered the city does not and refer to the chief about the state law.

Chief Hammerle stated yes, there is a law and they can be cited. He stated if that happens to call 911.

New Haven Hose Report – Read by Councilman Addis

Fayette EMS Report - by Matt McNight

Mr. McNight thanked Mayor Lincoln and members of City Council for the Proclamation of EMS Week

Mayor Lincoln asked Mr. McNight what the status is on the city's overdoes rate.

Mr. McNight answered before he came to the council meeting, there was two people who overdoes in the parking lot at Nickman's Drug Store. He stated the rate is as bad as ever and the drugs are very wide-spread.

Councilman Addis asked Mr. McNight what advise he would have for someone who comes across someone like that before they touch them.

Mr. McNight stated he personally will not touch anyone without gloves on these days. He continued with you do not know where their stash is and it could absorb and cause you to overdoes. He noted that first responders carry Narcan since they can become exposed quickly and need to protect themselves. He also stated if someone has Narcan to be very careful and they provide it through their training center.

Mayor Lincoln questioned if this a on a daily basis.

Mr. McNight answered yes, absolutely. He stated he runs over one hundred calls a day and around five calls for overdoes. He also noted that he cannot remember a day not having an overdoes call. McNight stated the overdoes today began at Little Ceasars then ended in Nickman's with police vehicles, ambulances and dealing with two persons, both overdosed, and five people in a vehicle with it becoming chaotic and the people were belligerent and refusing help. He stated if someone is having a heart attack somewhere and we have all these resources tied up, it would not turn out well.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Mr. McNight for his service.

COUNCILMAN TOPPER:

Resolution No. 5-11-2025: "To extend the lease between the City of Connellsville and the Connellsville Senior Tigers for three years, from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028."

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

Resolution No. 4-12-2025: "To permit Jason Bandemer use of East Park for the 2025 season, June 9, 2025 through August 7, 2025, for PE In the Park; pending valid Insurance Certificates provided to and approved by the City Clerk prior to use of park."

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

The following resolution was removed as she was hired at the April 2025 City Council Meeting:

Resolution "To hire Morgan Sandzimier for the position of Summer Playground Instructor; wages to be paid from the Recreation Account."

Resolution No. 5-13-2025: "To hire Gabby Woods for the position of Summer Playground Instructor; wages to be paid from the Recreation Account."

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

Resolution No. 5-14-2025: "To hire Kylie Cole for the position of Summer Playground Instructor; wages to be paid from the Recreation Account."

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

Councilman Topper discussed the Recreation Board and many events that are coming up. He stated the splash pad at 12th Street Park should be open June 1st at 1 PM and the hours will be posted along with rules. He asked everyone to be responsible and safe.

Mayor Lincoln stated there are issues with people taking their dogs inside the deck hockey court so now there are signs stating "No animals permitted." He added if there are calls, they can get the footage, identify the individuals and the police will cite them. Mayor Lincoln reminded residents there is Woodruff Dog Park where residents can take their dogs to run and have fun. He added the city is working with Armstrong to get internet into the park for cameras there and that is the last step. He reminded residents they will only be renting the pavilion at 12th Street Park and they are not renting the splash pad. He continued that the park will remain open until October 1st.

Councilman Topper stated the project is ready to begin and Woodruff Park and there will be construction going on down there. Once that is done, he stated they will begin Pinnacle Park.

COUNCILWOMAN TIBERIO:

Public Works Report – read by Councilwoman Tiberio

Resolution: “To grant the Connellsville Moose three reserved parking spaces in the City’s parking lot on West Apple Street; cost to be \$115 per sign for a total of \$345 to be paid by the Connellsville Moose.”

Mayor Lincoln questioned Solicitor Witt if this will open up a can of worms for the city. He stated if the city gives them reserved parking, then next month, maybe someone else wants reserved parking and so on.

Solicitor Witt answered unless there is a distinct difference between the two, that could happen.

Councilman Topper questioned if the \$115 is the exact cost of the sign.

Councilwoman Tiberio stated that this goes back to when they discussed paid parking and leasing spots, adding that is a viable option.

Mayor Lincoln added the second part is enforcement. He stated that if they lease three spots, then the enforcement goes to the Police Department which takes from public safety to be parking attendants.

Councilwoman Tiberio stated this is the first she has seen this and questioned tabling it.

Mayor Lincoln stated they came in and spoke to Rita and this was the process of handling it.

Councilman Keedy stated he is good with tabling it. He noted that they were discussing parking in the downtown and west side.

City Clerk, Rita Smith, stated the bartenders have had to park behind the paint room and felt unsafe walking to their vehicles.

Mayor Lincoln and members of City Council discussed the lots further and decided to table the resolution.

Councilman Topper questioned if someone is parked in a businesses parking lot, can they just call the tow truck and not the police.

Solicitor Witt answered if it is properly posted with a sign.

Mayor Lincoln stated he does not want the police to be parking attendants.

Solicitor Witt stated Councilman Tiberio motioned to table it and Councilman Keedy seconded the motion with no objections; the resolution was then tabled.

Mayor Lincoln thanked Jim Bigam and the Public Works Department for their work at 12th Street Park, stating it looks amazing. He noted all that they do and emphasized he is very appreciative of them.

Resolution No. 5-15-2025: “That this meeting of the City Council does hereby adjourn.”

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