

BOROUGH OF CARNEGIE  
AUGUST 10, 2009 COUNCIL MEETING  
7:00 PM (Workshop Meeting @ 6:00 PM)

President Sarsfield Called the Meeting to Order.

Moment of Silence; Pledge of Allegiance

Chief Harbin stated that Officer Quattro started back in April, however, due to other events the swearing in of Office Quattro was put on hold until now. Chief Harbin asked Mayor Freshwater to begin swearing-in.

Mayor Freshwater: Please raise right hand. Please repeat after me—"I [Officer Quattro/Officer Reider] do solemnly swear to support, obey, and protect the Constitution of the United States of America, and the Constitution and Laws of this Commonwealth, and I will discharge the duties of police officer will dignity..."

Officer Quattro and Officer Reider: [Officer Quattro/Officer Reider] do solemnly swear to support, obey, and protect the Constitution of the United States of America, and the Constitution and Laws of this Commonwealth, and I will discharge the duties of police officer will dignity.

Mayor Freshwater: "...And I further swear that I do not further indent to further the aims of another organization that advocates the over through of the United States or the Commonwealth, or any employee of the Carnegie Police Department."

Officer Quattro and Officer Reider: And I further swear that I do not further indent to further the aims of another organization that advocates the over through of the United States or the Commonwealth, or any employee of the Carnegie Police Department."

Mayor Freshwater: Congratulations Officer Quattro and Officer Reider.

Chief Harbin: We got a bonus when we hired Officer Quattro because he brought along Dax, a K-9 Officer. Officer Quattro, please introduce Dax.

Officer Quattro: He is a German Sheppard and very friendly. He is an excellent dog, very social. You see, I allow him to run around here and is very people friendly. I brought him to work today at the Boys and Girls club and will be very beneficial to the community.

Chief Harbin: Officer Reider would you like to say anything?

Officer Reider: I am very fortunate to be in Carnegie and I am excited to hit the roads and enjoy the small town. It's a very good town.

President Sarsfield: I would like to ask the members of the Carnegie Colt League team to come forward. I would like to present them with a letter of recognition as they won the City League champion down there. "Borough of Carnegie in Letter of Recognition to this the 10<sup>th</sup> Day of August, 2009, does hereby recognize the Carnegie...."

Councilwoman Demko and President Sarsfield congratulate the team.

The coach (name unknown) wanted to thank the team and recognize how proud he is to work with this team.

President Sarsfield also wanted to recognize the sponsor of the team.

**PRESENT:** Councilwomen Demko, Freshwater, and Kelly, Councilmen Carini, Catina, and Sarsfield, Mayor Freshwater, Chief Harbin, Manager Brady, and Solicitor Lucas

President Sarsfield: Before starting the Council meeting tonight, Councilwoman Kelly has an announcement:

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Councilwoman Kelly: This is my last meeting this evening. I have moved and my resignation is for tonight.

Role Call vote: Unanimous.

Councilman Catina: I make a motion to appoint Carol Covi to the unexpired term of Dorothy Kelly.

Roll Call vote: Unanimous.

Sarsfield: District Justice Dennis Joyce is here, please come forward to read.

Councilwoman Freshwater: Is there an oath?

Justice Joyce: Please state your name

Carol Covi: Carol Covi.

Joyce: "I [state your name] do solemnly swear..."

Covi: I Carol Covi do solemnly swear

Joyce: "...to support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States. And the cons and laws of this commonwealth and I will not disregard the duties of Councilperson with fidelity."

Covi: ...to support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States. And the cons and laws of this commonwealth and I will not disregard the duties of Councilperson with fidelity.

V. Freshwater: Hey Joe, does everything have to come as a surprise to us?

Solicitor Lucas: I didn't know what was happening

Councilman Carini: The Borough Manager should know and didn't tell us

Manager Brady: I did not know about the resignation or appointment.

Carini: Sure you did.

Lucas: I thought it was at the end of the meeting.

### **Old Business**

Councilman Catina made a motion to approve changes to garbage collection services on Marshall Avenue from rear to front collection with Allied Waste Services.

Sarsfield: Council met with Allied Waste to discuss several changes, Council decided Marshall Avenue is the only change that needs to be made.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **Public Comment on Motions**

Jack Hibistic: My question is on Public Safety about the vacant property ordinance. I have happy about the vacant property ordinance and thank you for your hard work. I would like to add that something about nuisance properties to avoid teenage loitering or drug usage. Require people that own the property to secure the property. Thank you Council.

### **Administration**

Councilwoman Covi made a motion to approve July 13, 2009 Council Meeting Minutes. **SECOND** by Freshwater. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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Covi made a motion approve August invoices. SECOND by Demko. Roll Call vote: unanimous. Covi made a motion to approve the purchase of sewer software to aide in the collections of delinquent accounts in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00. SECOND by Carini. Comment by Carini is that the cost is too high. President Sarsfield said the price is overstated and grants may help bring the cost down more. The program will help collect because its efficient. It is a high price tag but sometimes you have to invest. Councilwoman Freshwater asked how long it will take to realize the savings. Sarsfield said three years. Freshwater said there are more important items. Roll Call vote: No—Councilman Carini and Councilwoman Freshwater. Yes—Councilwoman Covi and Demko, Councilman Sarsfield and Catina. Councilman Catina stated that even though it is a high fee, and we will try to renegotiate and will help in the efficiency of tax collection but the software will more than pay for itself. MOTION CARRIED.

### **Code Enforcement**

Councilwoman Demko made a to approve curb cuts at 323 Center Avenue and 33 Wagner Street. SECOND by Freshwater. MOTION CARRIED

### **Finance**

Councilwoman Covi made a motion to appoint PNC as the Carnegie Borough Depository. SECOND by Demko. Roll call vote: unanimous.

Councilwoman Covi made a motion to advertise Ordinance 2317, an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie authorizing the request of the Allegheny County Elections Commission to place a ballot for the next election a referendum question seeking the assent of the electors for an increase in the Boroughs annual property tax rates for the purpose of supporting the Carnegie Borough Volunteer Fire Department. SECOND by Carini. President Sarsfield stated he and Mr. Catina spent a lot of time with the Fire Department working with the Fire Department to establish the fees to get where they need to be. It just hasn't been enough. We will be having a series of community meetings to discuss the items. We will announce in the near future dates, times, and locations. We hope the community becomes informed. Councilman Catina stated that this is a personal decision that residents will need to make on the matter and we did have meetings to discuss ways to save taxes. This will help examine options for the future for the fire department.

Solicitor Lucas read the Referendum in its entirety.

Roll call vote: Unamious. MOTION CARRIED.

### **Public Safety**

Councilman Catina made a MOTIONto adopt Ordinance 2313 an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie designating a Handicapped Parking Space near 214 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. SECOND by Demko. Motion Carried.

Councilman Catina made a MOTION to adopt Ordinance 2314 an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie prohibiting the use of skateboards in certain places in Carnegie Borough. SECOND by Demko. Motion Carried.

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Councilman Catina made a MOTION to permit the temporary closure of East/West Main Street from Washington Avenue to Chartiers Street from Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> through Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to accommodate the Arts & Heritage Festival. SECOND by Demko. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilman Catina made a MOTION to ratify the Addendum to Agreement to provide police and fire protection to Pennsbury Village Borough for the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012. SECOND by Demko. Roll call vote: MOTION CARRIED.

### **Public Works and Parks**

**Councilwoman Demko made a MOTION** to enact Ordinance 2316, and Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie prohibiting the excessive feeding of wild animals in Carnegie Borough. Sarsfield stated that there is a need for this ordinance because of feeding in excess wild animals. Council needed to enact this ordinance to prevent this behavior. This will stop attracting all kinds of specials. SECOND by Carini. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilwoman Demko made a MOTION to permit “Racers for Tots” to use the new Shelter at Carnegie Park to sponsor a Car Cruise on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from noon to 5:00 PM. SECOND by Freshwater. MOTION CARRIED.

### **Community Development**

Councilman Carini made a MOTION to adopt Ordinance 2315, an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie that determines and declares that several vacant and dilapidated structures, individually and collectively, constitutes blighted property within Carnegie Borough as defined by the Urban Redevelopment Law. SECOND by Demko. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilman Carini made a MOTION to enter into an intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the municipalities of Scott Township and Heidelberg Borough for the Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Program (LUPTAP). SECOND by Demko. Councilwoman Freshwater is opposed and Carnegie will need to raise taxes. This is a nice thought, and the new Borough Manager will need to work on grant writing. Catina questioned if this is to get grants. Freshwater said we can get grants without joining other municipalities. This grant is targeting the Third Street project. This allows us to get grants by joining municipalities and strengthens our effort. Freshwater asked how much is this going to cost the Borough. Brady stated it will cost \$20,000. Covi asked what is the payback is. Brady stated it will pave the way for development in Carnegie. Brady stated that the monetary vote was made last month. Carini stated a role call vote was needed. Catina stated the monetary vote was made last month. Lucas stated the appropriation was made but if he requests a role call vote we can make a role call vote. Role Call vote: No—Councilwoman Freshwater. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilman Carini made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to commence condemnation proceedings, including seeking Judicial authority to demolish properties in the Borough of Carnegie, on 521 Arch Street, 902 Chartiers Street, and 521 Cabbage Street. SECOND by Freshwater. MOTION CARRIED.

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#### **Reports**

Borough Manager – I have been sitting through a series of meetings focused on the G-20 summit. We have sign designs if businesses would like to advertise but if there are businesses or restaurants. This is a great opportunity for Carnegie.

Leigh White may speak to this but if anyone is interested in volunteering. They will be meeting at the Borough building on September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Borough Solicitor – No report.

Mayor Freshwater – Carnegie PD 55 criminal arrests, 72 traffic citations, 119 parking tickets, 983 complaints.

#### **General Public Comment**

A resident questioned a citation regarding a noise ordinance and if they use a volume meter to measure the noise meter. Council stated they will examine the Ordinance. Mayor Freshwater stated thank you for approaching Council, and thank you for examining your rights. Solicitor Lucas said he will examine the Ordinance.

A resident of Irishtown and the Pastor of All Saints Church approached Council with comment regarding concerns about the closing of streets during the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Festival. He wanted to know if anyone had questioned the impacts regarding residents, other business, and congregations during the festival because of lack of parking.

Former Councilwoman Dorothy Kelly provided comment and reflection on her service to the Borough.

#### **President Sarsfield Adjourned the Meeting.**