

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Of the
BOROUGH OF CARNEGIE
JANUARY 11, 2010

President Sarsfield opened the meeting.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Councilwomen Demko, Covi, Councilmen Sarsfield, Catena, D'Loss, Veres, Mayor Kobistek, Chief Harbin, Manager Brady and Solicitor Tucceri.

ADMINISTRATION

MOTION by Mr. D'Loss to approve the Minutes of December 7, 14, 28, 2009 and January 4, 2010. SECOND by Ms. Covi. (with amendments) MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Mr. D'Loss to approve the January 2009 invoices. SECOND by Mrs. Demko. Roll Call Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Mr. D'Loss to appoint Jordan Tax Services as the Mechanical Device and Business Privilege Tax Collector for 2010. SECOND by Ms. Covi. Roll Call Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Mr. D'Loss to re-appoint Richard Meyer, Mary Ann Paff and Charles Getz to the Chartiers Valley Industrial & Commercial Authority for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2012. SECOND by Ms. Demko. Roll Call Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCE

MOTION by Mr. Catena to approve the purchase of 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor from Woltz and Wind Ford at a price of \$19,807.00 under the SHACOG Purchasing Alliance. SECOND by Ms. Demko. Roll Call Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION by Ms. Covi to Advertise Ordinance Number 2334, An Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie creating a Handicapped Parking space near 340 Academy Street. SECOND by Ms. Demko. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Leigh White with the Carnegie Community Development stated that they will be hosting a meeting with the Confluence of Professional Women formerly the Carnegie's Business and Professional Women's Organization on Wednesday, January 27, 2010 in the Council

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Chambers and would like to see a lot of business owners and professionals at the event. They will be putting flyers out in the community for this event in a couple of days.

Also, Ms. White stated that for the third year the Carnegie Community Development will be doing the Facade Improvement Program with grants available up to the amount of \$10,000.00 dollars for individual business owners and building owners to apply to. Applications for the grants will be available within the next two weeks.

Mrs. White also added as a resident of Carnegie how well the streets have been maintained since all the snow we have had and appreciates all the hard work the Dept. of Public Works have done during this time.

Leo Adamo commented about the Industrial Park being closed for years and that none of our State politicians have done anything about it. He says they seem to have money for everything else but taking care of the streets here. Mr. Adams hopes that this Council will do something about this problem that he has been complaining about for years.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Brady wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated three things; the first being the Third Street Project is moving forward and this Friday they will have a Consultant selected and an Engineering firm will be chosen between Carnegie, Scott Twp., and Heidelberg to move forward with and at the next meeting will have a proposal to review from the selected firm. Ms. Brady says if anyone has any questions to remember the Google Group that can be accessed through the Carnegie Borough Website to stay connected and get updated on the project. The second thing is the update of the sewer Ordinance which will be proposed at the next Council meeting which a percentage will be a reduction in the current amount. Ms. Brady said currently we assess a ten percent late fee on all outstanding balances and is hoping Council will vote to reduce this. Lastly, Ms. Brady stated that she has been working on the 2009 Year in Review which will be a six month review since she hasn't been here a full year.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Tucceri had no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Kobistek said for the month of December 2009 there have been 31 arrests/citations, 140 traffic citations, 55 parking tickets and 866 complaints in self initiated activity. The Mayor said the total of criminal arrests in 2009 was 522 which is quite superb and he says the Chief and his men have done a great job. He also stated that

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traffic citations for 2009 were 913, parking tickets 1,365 and complaints and self initiated activity were 11,646 answered by our Police Department in 2009. Mayor Kobistek gave a DCR Report that if any tenant receives 3 prior reports they will receive in 10 days, a notice to the landlord that the tenant has to be evicted. He stated that anyone who rents in this Borough has to abide by our laws. Also, the Mayor and Chief of Police are currently discussing an implementation policy for the DCR's to make sure everything is handled in a timely matter and at the next meeting he will have an official policy to present on how these things work with the Administration in a certain time frame. Sergeant Lint was voted Officer of the Year by his peers. Sergeant Lint has been on the force for 15 years and many children in the area know him from the DARE program at the school. Also Chief Harbin and Sergeant Kennedy received the Ironman Award for being the only two officers that have not utilized any sick days in 2009. Mayor Kobistek reminded everyone of the Annual 5K Race and registration forms can be picked up at the Police Department or on our Website. The Mayor also mentioned that the Toys for Tots Program which is run by Chief Harbin was very successful and we had an overwhelming response from our Community and because of that some of the toys were given out to underprivileged children in our own area. He said our own Police Officer Matt Reider played Santa Claus and distributed the toys. The Mayor also said that the Police Department has an intern from the University of Pittsburgh who is an Administrative Criminal Justice student and Carnegie resident.

Mayor Kobistek stated that we do have an Ordinance in Carnegie for residents to clean off their sidewalks and it is the responsibility of the business owner and homeowner to make sure the sidewalks are cleaned off within 24 hours of a storm, since we have a lot of elderly people in this town who are walkers. Also he said he would like the Council to look into cutting back the door-to-door soliciting hours in the winter months which now states the hours between 9:00 am to 9:00 pm and doesn't think anybody should be soliciting anything a 9:00 pm at night since it gets dark earlier in the winter.

Mayor Kobistek has talked to Crafton Borough about their Zoning and they changed most of their R-2 Zoning where you can take a single family residents and turn it into a multiple apartments and they appraised mostly a R-1 Zoning for those areas and thinks our Borough should look into doing this also especially in the areas of Beechwood where we have beautiful old homes that we don't want to see as three or four apartments.

Mr. Catena said over the past few months he has received several complaints from individuals in those single family units that are turning in to multi-family units. He said that the Council needs to look at in the near future is to putting a moratorium or propose something to prevent single family units being turned into multi-family units.

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Mr. Catena also has had several complaints from individuals regarding the snow not being removed on Washington Avenue by the business owners and a lot of the businesses are near the elementary school which is a danger to the children who walk to the school. He says the Council will be reinforcing the Ordinances on this issue.

Mayor Kobistek said there was an article in the City paper on Baby Faces' Seconds and it had a great review and it highlighted Carnegie which he felt Leigh White had something to do with but she did not. Also there was an article about the Third Street Gallery going green. He also wanted to complement the Public Works Department on the snow removal. He ended by thanking Leigh White for expanding the Façade Program and if he can work with her in any way to let him know and he appreciates everything she does for the program.

Mark Cantley -509 5th Avenue – said the Parking Lot across from Third Street said that the gravel gets into the streets from that parking lot and he watched some child who was riding his bike who cut his knee up and he helped him up and drove him home. He came back and shoveled the gravel back into his driveway of the business which took him two hours to do. Mr. Cantley talked to the business owner to do something about it but he still hasn't. Mr. Cantley wanted to know if he and Council can put a committee together like a watchdog group and make phone calls and try to take care of these issues and document and report back to Council with the results.

Also Mr. Cantley stated that people who work in this town but do not live here who take their cigarette breaks outside their buildings just throw their butts on the sidewalks and curbs and it makes the streets look bad.

Ms. Covi said that she agreed with Mr. Cantley about people throwing their cigarette butts on the sidewalks and streets.

Mayor Kobistek said he will take this issue up with the Council for discussion before they put a committee together on this.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Veres said that Mr. Cantley had a good idea of cleaning up Carnegie but include that all of their commercial properties that are over inflated with all the high prices on them and all the garbage and weeds around them should be included in the package.

Mr. Veres also stated that last week he had called Marcella and she started to tell him that she is having trouble driving and walking and is not putting in the hours as she use which was up to 120 hours a week. She told him she is looking for volunteers to help out if anyone has any free time. He says she is having some financial problems for fixing her building up. He says there are a lot of historical artifacts in the building that are from

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Carnegie. He stated that if Marcella is not there to run it anymore that Council along with the residents of Carnegie should start thinking about what to do regarding the Historical Society and how to keep it open. Marcella has never asked the Borough for any money and she does all her own fund raising over the past 20 years and she has done a great job. Mr. Veres said that something has to be done with that facility to make it more efficient since Marcella will be thinking of retiring in the next two years or sooner.

Mr. Sarsfield said that a while ago he bought a copy of the by-laws and he spoke to Mr. Tucceri about it and he will take a look at it again and advise Council what they can do about this issue.

A resident inquired about the ice on the roads.

Ms. Brady said that Public Works has been out three times since the storm over the past three days chipping away the ice and are not certain just because of the temperatures if the water main break is a run off of somewhere else just because how cold it is they can't get to fix it yet. Also the water company is busy with breaks all over Carnegie and the County. Ms. Brady is asking the residents to be patient and our workers are out there chipping and salting the roads particularly Run Street.

Mr. Veres also stated that he was sick all weekend and couldn't figure out why then it occurred to him on Monday morning that this was the first time in 10 or 15 years that the Steelers have not been in the playoffs at the end of the year.

Mr. D'Loss said that the 5K run that the Chief organizes every year is important even if you are a walker instead of a runner. He encourages every resident in Carnegie to walk or run during this event.

Ms. Covi also encourages everybody to come and join in the 5K Run/Walk also. She also stated that she helps out the Chief and registers the runners/walkers.

Ms. Demko has no comment.

Ms. Covi wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Catena said that the 5K Race is getting bigger and better every year and the Chief does a bigger and better job every year. He stated that it is a benefit for our Carnegie Volunteer Fire and Rescue Bureau and the money goes towards a great cause so we need all the support we can get for this cause. As far as the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Bureau goes Mr. Sarsfield, John Kandracs and himself had a meeting with Revenue Rescue who are a third party billing agency that he talked about at the town hall meetings regarding what to do with the fire department and how to raise funds for them. What Revenue Rescue basically does is bill the insurance companies for Motor Vehicle Accidents,

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House Fires and basic calls for service. The Council will be looking at the False Alarm Ordinance also. He says by going through this service it saves the Borough between \$8,000.00 to \$16,000.00 dollars that the Borough would not have. The Borough averages around 300 fire calls a year. The Borough is waiting on information from Chief Kandracs and the Borough will give it a try. Mr. Catena will be giving Ms.Covi the information since she is now the new Chairperson for the Fire Department.

Mr. Sarsfield said he wished everyone could see how much hard work the Council will be doing to get things done. He also said the Council met with our State Elected Officials on December 28, 2009 to discuss some preliminary plans that will help move our Community forward. The Council will also be meeting with our CDC on January 13, 2009 on building a master plan and how to attract businesses in our Community. On January 18, 2009 Mike Finnerty is having a meeting in Moon Township on what county resources will be available to us.

Mr. Sarsfield feels that everyone on the Board has strengths in certain areas with business experiences and union experiences and the whole mix. He also commended Sargeant Kennedy and Officer Wards who were called out on a call for an armed individual and how they showed great restraint and how they protect lives. He thanked them for a great job and keeping our Community safe.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION By Mr. D'Loss to terminate a clerical employee effective immediately.
SECOND by Ms. Demko. Roll call vote: Unanimous.

MOTION by President Sarsfield to adjourn the meeting. SECOND by Ms. Covi.

