



CARNEGIE BOROUGH PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, December 8, 2014

Workshop Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. | Voting Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

Call Meeting to Order

Moment of Silence | Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Council

Councilperson Boyd – Present, Councilperson D’Loss – Present, Councilperson Demko – Present, Councilperson Luvara – Present, Councilperson Sarsfield – Present, Council President Catena – Late Arrival, Mayor Kobistek – Present.

Public Comment on Listed Motions

No public comment on listed motions.

Administration (Councilman Sarsfield)

MOTION to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting on November 10 and December 1, 2014.

Seconded by Councilman D’Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to advertise for the 2015 General Fund Budget, Sewer Fund Budget and Liquid Fuels Budget.

Seconded by Councilman D’Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to advertise the 2015 Borough Council Meeting Schedule and the 2015 Planning Commission meeting schedule.

Seconded by Councilman D’Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to advertise Borough Ordinance No. 2406, an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie continuing Ordinance 981 of 1982, as amended by Borough Ordinance 2344 providing for setting of Carnegie Borough’s Business Privilege Tax for the Year 2015.

Seconded by Councilman D’Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to advertise Borough Ordinance No. 2407, an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie continuing the Local Tax Enabling Ordinance No. 806 (Mechanical Device), No. 808 (Real Estate Transfer), 809 (Earned Income), No. 2279 (Local Services) as amended, No. 2284 (Occupation) and No. 2285 (Per Capita) for the Year 2015.

Seconded by Councilman D'Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to advertise Borough Ordinance No. 2408, an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie continuing Ordinance 2386 (Providing for Non-Owner Occupied Dwelling Registration) for 2015.

Seconded by Councilman D'Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to advertise Borough Ordinance No. 2409, an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie levying and assessing Real Estate Taxes for General and Specific Purposes for the Year 2015.

Seconded by Councilman D'Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to adopt Resolution No. 2014 – 27, a Resolution of the Borough of Carnegie authorizing the issuance of a Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note, Series 2015.

Seconded by Councilman D'Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to advertise a special meeting to take place on December 29, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. to finalize and adopt the General Fund, Sewer Fund and Liquid Fuels Budgets for 2015 and any other Borough Business.

Seconded by Councilman D'Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to exonerate Carnegie Borough real estate taxes on 1 Veterans Way (102-B -287-01) for Year 2014.

Seconded by Councilman D'Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

Finance (Councilman D'Loss)

MOTION to approve the December Bill List and Bill List Addendum.

Seconded by Councilman Sarsfield. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Works (Councilman Boyd)

MOTION to approve Payment Estimate No. 1 to R & B Contracting & Excavation, Inc., in the amount of \$125,560.80 for work completed on the Franklin Avenue and Wabash Avenue drainage stormwater improvements.

Seconded by Councilman D'Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to approve a Change Order for Contract No. 2014-1B Lining, Sewer System Repairs with Tri-State Grouting, Inc., in the amount of -\$101,941.00 and approve a final payment of \$5,719.20.

Seconded by Councilman D'Loss. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Safety (Councilman Boyd)

No Motions.

Community Development and Code Enforcement (Councilman Luvara)

MOTION to ratify the decision of the Planning Commission recommending to Council the lot subdivisions submitted by NVR, Inc. (Prestley Heights Land Development), Lot and Blocks (103-E-139 and 103-E-203).

Seconded by Councilman Boyd. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION to adopt Borough Ordinance No. 2405, an Ordinance of the Borough of Carnegie, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, repealing Chapter 13, Part 2, related to use of the Borough of Carnegie Alarm System.

Seconded by Councilman Boyd. Vote: UNANIMOUS. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration (Councilman Sarsfield)

No administration report for this month.

Finance (Councilman D'Loss)

Councilman D'Loss reported the Borough is in the last month of negotiations on three labor agreements: the Police Department who is represented by their own Association, the Department of Public Works who is represented by the Teamsters, and the Administration who is represented by the Steelworkers. We are in the final process of concluding these negotiations. We hope to have them concluded so that Council can ratify them at our December 29, 2014 Special Budget Meeting. We have built certain assumptions into those negotiations based on the Budget, of course, and it is good that we can approve all of those agreements at the same meeting. As far as the Budget is concerned, we did note that we have a special meeting scheduled for December 29, between Christmas and New Years, to approve the Budget. We are not anticipating at this time any increases in property taxes or the Business Privilege Tax, but included in that Budget are commitments to purchase two new fire trucks: ordering one in 2015, and then another one the year after. Those are major capital investments for our Borough. Also, we will be building a new garage for the new street sweeper that we purchased for the Department of Public Works. So, some capital improvements coming for the Borough in the following years, yet we were able to hold the line on taxes. We feel pleased we were able to do that. Thank you.

(Council President Catena is now present)

Code Enforcement and Community Development (Councilman Luvara)

Councilman Luvara reported that he and Code Enforcement Officer, Terry Roma, and Borough Manager, Steve Beuter, have been meeting on a continuous basis to review certain code ordinances to revise them, and in certain instances to delete them because they are out-of-date or obsolete. At the same time we are in constant review of the fee schedule in hope of updating those. After the first of the year, we have another four ordinances either being repealed or revised and some significant changes in the fee schedule in order to answer revenue and revenue collection. I am very pleased with the progress we have been making, and hopefully this will help us all to run a more efficient government.

Public Works (Councilwoman Demko)

Councilwoman Demko reported that she would like to thank our Department of Public Works for the beautiful job they did decorating Third Street and Main Street for the Holiday Season.

Public Safety (Councilman Boyd)

Councilman Boyd reported an unusual number of calls (11-calls) for the Fire Department due to a weather event that occurred on November 24, 2014. It was a very interesting and challenging day with a variety of calls from everything from to a telephone pole falling down to transformer at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seaton smoking, to an injured deer in the neighborhood of Cabbage Hill, a power surge at Rosslyn Heights at Carnegie Office Park with scorching inside the building, to a serious call at Honus Wagner when a transformer caught fire and a few floors of the building had to be evacuated. That was an interesting and challenging day, but no one was hurt and all is well.

President's Report (Council President Catena)

Council President Catena spoke with regard to the Borough's decision to hire a part-time Code Enforcement Officer stating that with all the code enforcement calls received every day in a Borough of this size, it is hard to respond to each and every one in a timely manner. The hiring of an additional, part-time code enforcement officer will hopefully alleviate some of those concerns with a much better response time.

Council President Catena also extended his thanks to all those involved in the budget process for the Borough. He thanked Council members, the Mayor and all those who contributed to bringing about a successful budget for 2015. He stated it was a true community effort on everyone's behalf.

Councilman D'Loss also thanked the President for stepping up to take control of the budget while he was negotiating three labor contracts, and Councilwoman Demko thanked the President for his knowledge and contributions to the budget process. Councilman Luvara commended the President for his leadership role in this process.

Council President Catena extended his thanks to Councilman Sarsfield, D'Loss and Boyd for their dedicated efforts in negotiating the three labor contracts for the Borough. He stated they deserved to be commended for their dedicated efforts in seeking this process through.

Last, the President addressed the issue of the Scott Township Bottom Dollar Food store which will be closing in February of 2015. He stated he received word that Aldi Foods, the food chain that purchased all the Bottom Dollar Food stores, is in fact interested in converting the Scott Township Bottom Dollar Food store into an Aldi's. He stated this is great news for the residents of the tri-communities of Scott, Carnegie and Heidelberg. This was a true community effort on the part of all three communities. More news will follow in the coming months.

Manager's Report

The Borough Manager reported that Administration submitted a grant on December 5, 2014 via the American Water Charitable Foundation 2015 Building Better Communities for Carnegie Park. Specifically, to upgrade and enhance the rain garden located adjacent to the skate park. If awarded, the project would create a nature-based outdoor classroom utilizing the rain garden.

Also, the Manager stated that with the upcoming weather all roads conditions need to be reported to the Department of Public Works and/or Administration in order to make sure all calls and conditions are addressed.

Carnegie Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Report

Councilman Boyd reported for the month of November Carnegie EMS answered 283 calls, the Fire Department answered 42 calls, of which five (5) were false alarms.

Junior Council Report | Remarks

Hanna Brandebura: On December 17 the Bishop-Canevin Concert Choir is having a Christmas in the Courtyard from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Canevin High School. It is free admission.

This weekend Canevin will be presenting the Nutcracker, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Adults: \$15.00, children and seniors: \$12.00. Tickets are available at the door.

This Sunday Canevin's National Honor Society will watch your children for two hours while parents go street shopping.

Sara Mannes: “If it is worth doing, it is worth over-doing.”

Carlynton Thanksgiving Food Drive Baskets – great success, 25 baskets were filled with over 30-items per basket.

Fall Play was a huge success.

Tomorrow night is our Winter Concert: 7:00 p.m. Admission is free.

Saturday, December 13, Breakfast with Santa at the High School from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Letter from Santa room. Mrs. Claus and her helpers will be present. There will be a craft room. There will be a 50/50 raffle, and photos with Santa, including a hot breakfast with Santa featuring National Honor Society Members. All proceeds will benefit the Foods for Kids Backpack Program which supplies backpacks filled with food to about 30 students every week (anonymously), some student’s parents do not even know they are receiving this backpack because they fear the parents will take the food for themselves. We are very proud to have this program which is completely funded by the teachers and the school. They have been keeping this program going since about 2012.

Within the High School we have been hosting a Deck the Halls contest. We also hosted 12-Days of Holidays and today was Holiday sock day to increase school spirit.

We are very proud to be a part of Toys for Tots. Today we donated all of our toys to the Prestley Ridge Community and our overflow will be donated to Carnegie Borough.

We are being to volunteer for the Salvation Army – passing out toys on the weekend. More information is to follow regarding this project.

We are hosting a financial aid workshop on December 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Lastly, the Girls Varsity Basketball Knockout Nights are beginning. It is \$2.00 to play and this is completely run by the girl’s basketball team.

Mayor’s Report

Statement from the Mayor and Chief of Police:

“In light of issues occurring across the Nation, the Chief and I decided to take this opportunity to review all department policies and procedures to make sure that they are in line with the best practices of a progressive and professional police force. The Chief and I would like to re-enforce that our department is committed to respecting diversity and enforcing the laws of the Borough and the Commonwealth in an equitable and professional manner. “

Our doors are always open for anyone with any needs in the community. We just want to let everyone know that we take what is happening in this Country very seriously. We are trying to be as proactive as we possibly can and I we have the right Chief in place to do that.

For the Month of November 2014 – Criminal Arrests and Citations: 29; Traffic Citations: 23; Parking Tickets: 11; Complaints and Self-Initiating Activities: 963.

As everyone knows, the ramps are open now. They will re-close in March. We are committed to doing the best that we can to keep traffic flowing through the community. We will be having a meeting for anyone interested with ideas as to how we can improve upon what we did last year. That meeting will take place toward the end of January, beginning of February. I will have a firm date at our first January meeting.

I want to truly thank the Chief and the officers for coordinating the officers at all of the intersections and corners. They had to coordinate the positions every day. It was not an easy job, and they did a fantastic job.

Last month we talked about issues with raccoons in the community. We have had some raccoons in the area that have been acting weirdly during the day. Three raccoons were tested by the Allegheny County Health Department, and they came back with a report of no rabies, and we believe from talking with all the professionals that this problem is distemper. The good news about distemper is that it is not transferable to humans. At this time we will continue to test the raccoons or any animals that are outside their normal routine, but at this time there is no threat of rabies.

I would like to remind everyone that at this time of year scammers do not take a holiday. This is a very busy time of year for those people who are trying to take advantage of others. If anyone comes to your door and you are unsure as to whom they are, call our police department. And if they come in pairs, we do not want you to open the door when you see people coming in pairs. Also, be very careful with people soliciting you over the telephone or through e-mail for charitable donations. Make sure the company is a reputable charitable company. One way you can do that is we have plenty of organizations and churches within the community and if you can go to them locally, then you know they are reputable. That is one way.

We are in the middle of our Toy for Tots Campaign. It's going well, but we are quite a bit behind what we were last year. So, we just wanted to put it out there that we are still accepting donations. A good percentage of the donations do stay within our community. We do deliver toys to several of the high rises within the community. So, when you give to the police department a good percentage of it does stay within the community.

The other night the Manager, Steve Beuter, and I attended the Girls Scouts Award Ceremony here in the building. The Girl Scouts who worked on the Adopt-A-Block program officially received their Silver Award this past Wednesday. It was a great ceremony, and we cannot thank them enough. And they are going to continue with that program, continue working on it. So, hopefully, next year they will roll out as strong as ever.

I want to thank those people who gave up their Thanksgiving Day to make Thanksgivings special for a lot of people in and around our community. We have two churches that did an excellent job servicing our community on that day. The Solid Rock Foundation ministries delivered about 120 some meals to a number of the high rises and individuals within the community. They did a great job and we appreciate that service. Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church had a open house that day and they served about 85 people at their open house and delivered about another 40 meals to others in and around the community. Obviously, that is a large number for a small community like this, but there is obviously a need, and we appreciate those who give up their time to serve others.

Danielle Bower has moved on and she is no longer the Executive Director of the Carnegie Boys and Girls Club. By the end of this month she will be at the head office as a consultant to direct all directors on how to run an effective club. Juan Perez will be the new Executive Director and here are some of the numbers from the Boys and Girls Club which are pretty impressive if you ask me. Flag football: there were 112 in the program; currently in the basketball program there are 160 kids; in the hockey program there are 126 kids, and the paid youth workers that support these programs whether it be refereeing, coaching or just helping with the organization numbered 26. So there are 26 of our teens who had jobs through the Boys and Girls Club.

There will be a Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 13 at Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Also on Saturday, December 13, the Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church will be having their Annual Russian Food Festival.

On December 18, here at the Borough Building we have a Community Blood Drive that is sponsored by Key Environmental and (Eud) Technical Services, which a company here in Carnegie. The hours are 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.

We had our Holiday Celebration over the weekend. I thought it was a pretty successful day. We serviced a lot of kids in the community, and I think the businesses did much better than they would have on a rainy day in December. So, I think it was a win-win all the way across. I want to thank Maggie Forbes and the Carnegie Library and the Library staff, they were all wonderful. Thank you for all of your assistance. We serviced at the Library over 120 kids. I want to thank Joanne of the CCDC organizing the business end of this event. The Wassail Walk was a success. Many businesses participated. It was a lot of fun. The businesses were just absolutely extraordinary with their effort. Many of them went out and decorated to the hilt. There are some beautifully decorated windows in our business district. You need to check them out.

Our Light Up Night was really nice. I really appreciate all the help we had for Light Up Night, and I want to thank some of the people. Southwest Meals-on-Wheels helped us with donations of cookies, for ornaments for the Library, so they were fantastic. Public Works – can't say enough, but to thank them for all the decorations around town. Want to thank Sue for her idea on Third Street. I want to thank the Rotary for singing Christmas Carols that day. I want to thank the Girl Scouts who stayed out there in the cold and rain for one hour solid and sang which there

should be a badge for that. I want to thank Pastor John Kent for providing the hot chocolate for the Light Up Night, and Bob's Diner for having a special Carol Covi cookie break. It was a really nice way to honor our colleague, Carol Covi, with free cookies, hot chocolate, coffee to anyone who attended between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. It was very nice, she would have loved it.

I want to thank the School, our Chief, the Police Department, and the Fire Department for making one young man's day absolutely special, and for all their help in many other ways.

I also want to thank STA for the shuttle. They provided a shuttle throughout the whole day free of charge.

I also want to thank Councilman Sarsfield and Phil Gardner our Constable for getting the lights on the tree. I appreciate that, I know it is not an easy task.

Lastly, I want to thank the members of the Carol Covi Children's Event Committee, and also Carol's sister, Cindy.

I want to remind everyone to patronize our businesses for shopping during this holiday season.

Council President Catena thanked Mayor Jack Kobistek for doing an excellent job with Light Up Night.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Maggie Forbes, Carnegie Public Library. It was a joy to be part of the Carnegie Celebrates the Season. I felt like I was back at the Children's Museum, we were just surrounded by kids, it was some of the kids we new very well, some we had not seen before. It was really lovely.

The New Lincoln Gallery opens on President's Day. The 100 portraits of Lincoln will be narrated by Congressman Tim Murphy. This will make us a Civil War destination.

Many other upcoming events were addressed by Maggie Forbes. Please see website for complete listing of Carnegie Public Library events.

Ron Ziegler, Xternet, and I was just coming to report back from last month with regard to the small scale network or Dedicated Antenna System (DAS). I have been working with the solicitor's office to continue to work through the details to make sure we get everything right and do a good job the Borough.

COUNCIL GOOD AND WELFARE

Councilman Luvara: Nothing this evening. Thank you.

Councilman D'Loss: Toys for Tots collection downstairs in the lobby continues until the middle of the month. Do wait until the last minute to donate.

Councilman Boyd: I do not realize that they are allowing you to buy bricks for Pitcher Park. They are personalized; you can put a message on them to help pave the way of the park. The applications are in the Borough Lobby. Happy Holidays to everybody.

Councilman Sarsfield: You look around our beautiful little town here. Small town America starts right here in the Borough of Carnegie. You look at the beautiful lights and the atmosphere. Yes, we have been through some rough times, but we have always made it through. I have always been proud of my hometown, but I look around at the growth of this community, and I am as proud as I have ever been, including working with each and every one of these ladies and gentlemen up here. The pays is not great, the hours are long, but knowing that we all support one and other. We don't always agree, sometimes we look at different issues through different lenses, but we get through it, and we live the decisions that are made. We have a great Borough Manager, young and vibrant. Very dedicated, wonderful Chief of Police that throughout his career as an officer could have certainly went in so many different directions, but he chose to stay right here in small town Carnegie. I am glad he did. Just very proud of our town, and I look forward to a new beginning in the New Year. This will be the last time we will be in this setting, so I want to wish everybody a very, very Merry Christmas, and in Carnegie I don't have to tell you to be kind to your neighbors, because people are. You know, when you are in need, when you need help, your neighbors are there. You don't find that everywhere. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilwoman Demko: I just wanted to piggyback on what Mike and the Mayor said, on Saturday I actually got 40% of Christmas shopping done in Carnegie. Just stopping at every one of the stores, and you just have to go and check everyone of them out, it is unbelievable. I just wanted wish everyone a happy, healthy, blessed holiday.

Council President Catena: I just have a little anecdote for everyone. I was late this evening, because I was in New York City for the holidays. I took my Mother to New York City for the holiday. But the interesting thing was, on Saturday night we were at Rockefeller Center looking at the Christmas tree and I was wearing a grey sweatshirt with blue writing, and of course it is my CPD sweatshirt, my hoodie. Anyway, so I am standing in Rockefeller Center and four groups came up to me, one family was from Beaver County, said you from Carnegie, and I said yes, and they said we love One Thirty One, I said you really like One Thirty One, I am the Council President, and they said yes, we were there for the Crawl one night, we read it in the Post Gazette how the town was booming with the restaurant scene and everything and we came down. I walk about ten more feet and I run into a family from Mt. Lebanon, are you from Carnegie, Carnegie, Pennsylvania. We love Riley's Poor House. I walk another 15 / 20 feet – Carnegie, Carnegie, the guys is screaming at me like it's the Steelers or something. I'm like I am from Carnegie alright, he's like Slice, I love Slice, I can't get enough Slice. Then I start to look at my phone, because it is Light Up Night here in Carnegie, obviously, so I am on Facebook and I can see all the pictures on Facebook of the tree and stuff and all my friends in Carnegie and what have you, and I am looking at my phone in the middle of Time Square, in the middle of Rockefeller Center and someone standing next to me looking at my phone as I am looking at it –

you are shoulder to shoulder if you have ever been to Rockefeller Center – it's packed – you are there with probably maybe 25,000 to 30,000 people at any one time traipsing all around shoulder to shoulder trying to bus-hustle in and out. To make a long story short, I am looking at my phone looking at the Carnegie Christmas tree, and the guy next to me says that tree looks familiar, is that in Carnegie, and then I turn and he sees my sweatshirt, and it's a really small world when you are in New York City and you have all of these people come up to you and recognize our tree, say how great our restaurants are, it just goes to show you that things are just looking brighter and brighter for Carnegie, and this Light Up Night in town from everything that I heard and all the pictures that I have seen was beautiful, so Happy Holidays to everyone. Have a safe, and happy and blessed New Year, and hopefully I wish each and every one of us and all of you a healthy New Year.

Our next Council Meeting will be held on Monday, January 12, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

MEETING ADJOURNED.