

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, May 11, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Eisaman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. City Administrator, Susan Trout, took roll call with the following members present: Councilman DePasquale, Councilman Peterinelli, Councilman Tridico, Councilman Finfrock and Mayor Eisaman. City Solicitor, Timothy McCormick and City Treasurer/Fiscal Director, Mary Perez were also present.

*****PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE*****Councilman DePasquale

*****COMMENTS/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR*****

Dean Papapetrou, 31 East Otterman Street, Apartment #7, Greensburg, PA. Mr. Papapetrou, "I was here last month. You guys are doing a great job, but there are still some problems up there. I know the police force is limited. They're doing a super job up there. Here's an example; on April 19th the kids were writing on the sign and also on the block wall and they got caught. The results were excellent. The next morning I talked to one of the young ladies when I called and your office was just starting to open and she told me what was going on. I'm like cool, great, get 'em. But they're still up there. Is there anything besides calling the Police Department? By the time I call even with direct dial on my phone, by the time they get there, they're gone."

Mayor Eisaman, "We're potentially looking at sometime this summer possibly getting some cameras that would give us a visual of that area."

Mr. Papapetrou, "My understanding after reading the law books is even if they're in a public place and you take a picture of them that will not stand up in a court of law."

Solicitor McCormick, "I advised a client today that a video surveillance, which is what the Mayor is talking about, if you can identify them, it can stand up. That's the difficulty."

Mr. Papapetrou, "Yes. The second issue is also with the park. Some of the big trees and with the winds we've been having, I know you can't control Mother Nature, but some of the branches are falling. They're coming down and sticking and if somebody's walking along, even me walking my pet, I just stay on that asphalt trail. There are people walking in the grass. That's where they're going to get it. The trees need some attention up there."

Solicitor McCormick, "I'll say this if everyone can take it as a joke; if you could arrange to have the kids up there when the limbs come down, it may solve the problem."

Mr. Papapetrou, "That would be nice, because most of the time that's when the storm comes through. They're up there at night. Like the old saying goes 'the rats come out at night'. All you folks are doing a great job, from the Chief all the way down to the road crew. Super job, but I'm only going to be here for another 90 days and I'm saying good-bye. It's a shame I'm leaving this town because I lived here because of the historic aspect of it, but with my medical conditions I can't stay here no more."

Mayor Eisaman, "We're sorry to hear that."

Mr. Papapetrou, "You guys are doing a great job. Keep it up. One other issue; do you have a Code Enforcement Officer that checks sites?"

Mayor Eisaman, "Yes."

Mr. Papapetrou, "I was just talking to this Councilman here and they're doing a great job with the brickwork right up the street here. They have a high-low rig hanging and I used to do that for a living with the Union. They don't have their sky hooks tied back and I don't want to see no one hurt. If they get caught by OSHA, and I have my OSHA certification in my wallet right over there, and I know what I'm talking about. They're doing a great job with the brickwork, but they're trying to cut some corners. Someone's going to get hurt."

Mayor Eisaman, "Which building are you talking about?"

Mr. Papapetrou, "It's the new one they're restoring. They're doing the brickwork and they're doing a great job. They have a rig that's in a real tight alleyway, what I mean by rig is scaffolding, which is a self-climber. Its two blocks up because I walk from Bortz."

Mayor Eisaman, "The Lilly Shop on Second Street?"

Mr. Papapetrou, "Yes, it has an 'L' on it. It's by the Troutman building. That's the way I came up because it's easiest for me to walk across; with the meds I'm on now I don't drive. Everybody's doing a super job and I'm going to have to leave you folks."

Mayor Eisaman, "Then we'll check that out."

*****APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S COUNCIL MINUTES*****Councilman DePasquale **MOVED** to approve the minutes of last month's Council meeting, and Councilman Tridico **SECONDED**. No discussion. **Unanimously all voted in favor.**

*****APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILL LIST*****Councilman Finfrock **MOVED** to approve the bill list and pay the bills as the money becomes available. Councilman DePasquale **SECONDED**. No discussion. **Unanimously all voted in favor.**

*****REPORTS OF COUNCIL*****

Councilman DePasquale, "The Recreation Department is taking registrations for all the summer programs. We've also started selling pool passes to Veterans' Memorial Pool today and will continue until June 26, 2009. There are specific times set to purchase these passes. Pictures will be taken when passes are purchased. We also offer swimming lessons, birthday parties and after-hours pool rentals. You can call the Recreation Office at 724-834-4880 for details or check the City's website at www.city.greensburg.pa.us for additional information. Also, later on the agenda tonight we'll be approving a May golf special at Mt. Odin. It's \$88 per foursome which includes a cart. Please call in advance to reserve a tee time. That will be coming up later in the agenda."
Councilman Peterinelli, "Just to let you know there are a lot of people up there on that \$88 deal; quite a few."

Councilman Peterinelli, "The Street Department has completed two constructions of alleys and has resurfaced another. On Wednesday an alley between Main and Maple at East Pittsburgh Street will be milled by the crew and ready for resurfacing. Also, the paperwork has been finalized so they can name the streets selected to be done this summer. The boom mower is out doing its job cutting right-of-ways and all that stuff. That's it."

Councilman Tridico, "Tomorrow evening, May 12, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. the last public meeting will be held on the Transit Revitalization Improvement District Planning Study. The meeting will take place at the Westmoreland County Transit board room. All are invited to attend. This concludes my report."

Councilman Finfrock, "We all knew going into this year it would be a very challenging budget year. Right now revenues are at 35% of our budget. This is exactly where we were percentage-wise last year in April 2008. So hopefully that will continue to come in as scheduled. Expenses are at 28% of budget. This is actually 3% lower than we were last year. So I want to congratulate Mary and Sue and all the supervisors for holding the line and keeping those costs in check. We're really going to need your support throughout the rest of the year. Thank you for all that."

*****MAYOR'S REPORT*****

- a. **Code, Fire and Police Reports.** Mayor Eisaman reviewed the Code, Fire and Police Reports. Copies of these reports may be obtained at the respective offices or the City Administration Office.
- b. **The 15th Annual Greensburg Community Days Celebration.** Mayor Eisaman, "Once again this year we hope everyone will be able to come out and enjoy Community Days over the Memorial Day holiday. The celebration begins on Thursday evening, May 21st and continues until Sunday at 5 p.m. Along with the spectacular free live music entertainment and Swank's carnival, you can expect a dynamic fireworks event at 9:30 p.m. Saturday. Look for details on the City's website, in the Tribune Review inserts and in the City Guide."
- c. **Greensburg City Guide.** Mayor Eisaman, "The City Guide featuring the SummerSounds schedule, upcoming activities in the City throughout 2009 and other helpful information will be delivered to all residents in the mail during the week of May 18, 2009."

*****INTRODUCTION OF BILLS*****

Bill No. 4 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GREENSBURG AMENDING CHAPTER 232, ENTITLED, ‘STREETS AND SIDEWALKS’ OF ORDINANCE NO. 1646, THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GREENSBURG. Ms. Trout, “The purpose of Bill No. 4 is to include City Parking Garages and Lots, as well as, City right-of-ways in the list of locations in the City of Greensburg where the use of unlicensed recreation devices or apparatus shall be prohibited.”

Bill No. 5 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GREENSBURG AMENDING CHAPTER 151, ENTITLED, ‘FEES’ OF ORDINANCE NO. 1646, THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GREENSBURG. Ms. Trout, “Recommended for Council’s consideration by the Recreation Advisory Board, the purpose of Bill No. 5 is to implement a \$3 increase for greens fees and a \$2 increase for cart fees under Section 151-5, entitled, ‘Golf Course Facility’. The increase will not apply to current membership passes, but will apply to all other greens fees and cart fees effective July 1, 2009 if you should approve it next month, including weekday rates, weekend rates, the Senior rate and golf outing rates.”

*****ENACTMENT OF RESOLUTION*****

Resolution No. 1137 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY PLANNING DIRECTOR AND THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT FUNDING. Ms. Trout, “Council enactment of the Resolution authorizes an application for funding from Federal stimulus dollars be submitted and considered for utilization toward replacing the City’s fleet of vehicles and associated equipment, condensers for the ice rink, an irrigation system for the golf course, LED traffic signal lighting and other energy saving initiatives that would qualify under the Energy Independence and Security Act. We’re going to try to throw everything we can at them and see what sticks.” Councilman Peterinelli **MOVED** to enact Resolution No. 1137, and Councilman Tridico **SECONDED**. No discussion. Roll call vote was taken. **All voted unanimously to enact.**

*****COUNCIL APPROVAL*****

- a. **Hiring of Seasonal Employees for the Recreation Department.** Ms. Trout, “Retroactive to April 18, 2009, Daniel Roble is recommended to be hired as a seasonal employee at Mt. Odin at a rate of \$8.25 per hour. Matt Earle and Luke Perry are recommended to be hired as seasonal golf course maintenance employees, Stephen Good at the Pro Shop, and Don Hoyle and Francis Sedlacko as Mt. Odin Rangers, all at the rate of \$7.15 per hour until July 23, 2009 when their rate will increase to \$7.25 per hour in conjunction with the minimum wage increase. In addition, Richard Robbins, Rachel Moyer, Brandon Johnston and Emily Osborne are recommended by the Pool Manager to be added to the slate of lifeguards at the pool at the rate of \$7.25 per hour until July 23, 2009 when their rate will increase to \$7.50 per hour. Also at the pool, Jeff Breakey is recommended to be hired as pool maintenance at the rate of \$7.15 until July 23, 2009 when his rate will increase to \$7.25 per hour. That is your current slate.” Councilman Finrock **MOVED** to approve the hiring of seasonal employees, and Councilman DePasquale **SECONDED**. No discussion. **Councilman Peterinelli abstained, and all others voted unanimously to approve.**
- b. **Resignation of Certified Telecommunicator from Full-time Status.** Ms. Trout, “Council approval accepts the resignation of Ed Fink from full-time employee status and rehires him in the position of part-time Certified Telecommunicator at the rate of \$12.57 per hour retroactive to April 21, 2009.” Councilman Finrock **MOVED** to approve the resignation/change in status, and Councilman Peterinelli **SECONDED**. No discussion. **All voted unanimously to approve the resignation from full-time status.**

- c. **Hiring of Full-time Certified Telecommunicator.** Ms. Trout, “Council approval is for the hiring of Rachelle Pape as a full-time certified telecommunicator from part-time status at the rate of \$14.34 per hour retroactive to April 21, 2009 to fill the full-time position left vacant by Ed Fink’s resignation. The residency requirement for this hiring is deferred because her spouse is already bound by a residency requirement in Jeannette. Should the status and residency requirement affecting Rachelle be changed at any time during her employment, she would have one (1) year to move into the City.”
Councilman Finrock **MOVED** to approve the hiring, and Councilman Peterinelli **SECONDED**. No discussion. **All voted unanimously to approve the hiring.**
- d. **Golf Course Special.** Ms. Trout, “Retroactive to May 1st and continuing throughout the month of May, Mt. Odin will offer a special Monday through Friday rate for foursomes that includes four (4) greens fees and two (2) cart fees for the special price of \$88. Come one, come all.”
Councilman DePasquale, “This was discussed by the Recreation Board. And Councilman Peterinelli told us it’s already going over very well.”
Councilman DePasquale **MOVED** to approve the golf course special, and Councilman Tridico **SECONDED**. No further discussion. **All voted unanimously to approve the golf course special.**
- e. **Amendment No. 2 to the New Communities Agreement (#C00020680) between the City of Greensburg and the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).** Ms. Trout, “Council approval is an increase in the amount of \$40,000 to pay for the administration of Year 4 of the Main Street Program increasing the total amount of the contract to \$230,000.”
Councilman Peterinelli **MOVED** to approve the amendment, and Councilman DePasquale **SECONDED**.
Mayor Eisaman, “I would just like to make some brief comments. Recently the Pennsylvania State Senate Bill No. 850 would eliminate funding under the DCED’s New Communities, Main Street and Elm Street Programs which we have benefited from. The City of Greensburg needs the support of Senator Ward in restoring these programs back to the level proposed in the Governor’s 2009-2010 Budget. Without the ongoing support of the New Communities Programs our work and the hard work of Steve Gifford and the Greensburg Community Development Corporation (GCDC) will be greatly hampered. The City of Greensburg and other similar communities across Pennsylvania need the State’s support in our revitalization efforts. Revitalization programs such as Main Street and Elm Street have provided positive impact not only for our community but other communities across the State. The economic figures reflect that in 2008 Main Street Programs across the Commonwealth helped to create 787 net new businesses, 1,170 net new full-time equivalent jobs, 366 building improvement and construction projects, 135 public space improvements and filled 274 vacant storefronts. Additionally, from the roughly \$6 million invested by the Commonwealth through the New Communities Program roughly \$59 million were invested by the private sector. In total Main Street Programs across the Commonwealth are responsible for helping to create \$73.6 million in new investments as provided by data from the Pennsylvania Downtown Center. The work of the Main Street Program is a critical component to restoring prosperity to Pennsylvania communities. The City of Greensburg currently is a designated Main Street Program. Just looking at the private investment resulting from our own City of Greensburg Façade Improvement Grant Program for years 2007 and 2008, the private sector put in \$112,450 with the DCED New Communities Program putting in \$60,000 or 1.86 private dollars for every \$1 of public money. In the 2008 program year the GCDC was able to secure a local community match of \$95,255 for the \$45,000 DCED Main Street operational funds or \$2.11 for every \$1 from Harrisburg. The following are other tangible results in 2008 of the New Communities Program: Main Street Initiative within the City of Greensburg; GCDC assisted 12 businesses or individuals find a commercial property purchase; three individuals or 25% have purchased the targeted properties. We updated a list of commercial buildings for sale or for lease which total 44; completed a storefront vacancy rate study; purchased 116 College Avenue; assembled adjacent property for the West

Otterman Street development site; negotiated purchase price for 233 West Otterman Street and also provided business relocation and recruitment assisting 24 businesses find space to lease in downtown Greensburg, and five businesses or 21% of the people inquiring signed a lease. We simply ask the General Assembly to fund the ongoing efforts in the City of Greensburg and other cities similar to us across the Commonwealth. As Mayor I am proud of the work accomplished by the GCDC. In order to ensure our ongoing success we need support in restoring the funding for the New Communities Program. At this time I am asking everyone to contact our State Representatives in the Senate and House requesting their support for the New Communities Program funding. Because without the funding that we've enjoyed for the past few years we probably wouldn't have seen some of the revitalization that we've had downtown. I'd also like to thank Barb Ciampini for putting together some of the factual information for me."

No further discussion. **All voted unanimously to approve Amendment No. 2.**

- f. **Agreement between the City of Greensburg and SimplexGrinnell.** Ms. Trout, "Council approval is for the maintenance agreement and annual inspection of the fire alarm system at the Robert A. Bell Parking Garage at the rate of \$3,070 for the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010."

Councilman Tridico **MOVED** to approve the agreement, and Councilman DePasquale **SECONDED**. No discussion. **All voted unanimously to approve.**

- g. **Change Order No. 2 for the Franca and Joe Peluso Parking Lot (Lot-C).** Ms. Trout, "Council approval authorizes payment of \$2,410 to Nathan Contracting for an additional one (1) square-foot of partial-depth beam soffit repairs and eight (8) square feet of partial-depth vertical column repairs that were necessary during the course of the project. This change order was necessary for \$2,410; it's considered a kind of a balancing change order to finalize the project. This doesn't discount the fact that we're going to replace the membrane come warm weather this summer. This just finalizes the paperwork associated with payment."

Councilman Peterinelli **MOVED** to approve Change Order No. 2, and Councilman DePasquale **SECONDED**. No discussion. **All voted unanimously to approve.**

- h. **Time Extension for the Alley No. 1 Bridge and Laird Street Bridge Project for Part I, the Preliminary Engineering Portion of the Projects.** Ms. Trout, "Requested by Gibson-Thomas Engineering Company, Inc., Council approval authorizes a 1-year time extension until June 20, 2010 for completion of the Preliminary Engineering Assessments for the two bridges. I think everybody knows that bridges are a hot topic in the State of Pennsylvania and I believe the engineering involved is taking time."

Councilman Peterinelli, "Do big trucks still go over that bridge?"

Ms. Trout, "Are you referring to the Brewery Street Bridge? Yes, it's still occurring. It's going on here at Laird, too."

Councilman DePasquale **MOVED** to approve the time extension, and Councilman Finfrock **SECONDED**. No further discussion. **All voted unanimously to approve the time extension.**

*****ADJOURNMENT*****Councilman DePasquale **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. **SECONDED:** Councilman Peterinelli. Unanimously all voted in favor to **adjourn.**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Susan M. Trout, City Administrator

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