

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2017**

The November 2017 Borough Council Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. The Meeting was held in Borough Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 304 South State Street, Borough of Clarks Summit, County of Lackawanna and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Council members in attendance were Ms. Gerrie Carey, Mr. Frank Besten, Mr. Dominic Scott, Mr. Vincent Cruciani, Mr. David Jenkins, Mr. Bob Bennett, Mayor Herman Johnson, Mr. Patrick Williams, Solicitor Kevin Hayes, Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe and Junior Council Member Will Carey. Police Chief Yarns was absent from the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE 2017-04 HANDICAPPED PARKING ON SCHOOL ST: Vince Cruciani asked if we have the exact space specked out so there is no ambiguity. If this is approved he would like a subsequent approval on the exact location.

CALL TO ORDER: **President Carey**

MEDITATION: **Mayor Johnson**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: **Mayor Johnson**

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **President Carey**
Bob Bennett made the first motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Vince Cruciani, vote was 7-0.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **President Carey**

September 27, 2016 Work Session – meeting cancelled
October 5, 2016 Regular Council Meeting: David Jenkins made the first motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Dominic Scott, vote was 6-0 with Bob Bennett abstaining.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT & INPUT: **President Carey**
Gerard Hetman discussed events happening in Lackawanna County.
Cindy Snyder discussed her sewer bill with Council. Vince Cruciani made the first motion to accept a payment plan of \$82 a month beginning November 20, 2017, seconded by David Jenkins, vote was 7-0.

4. POLICE REPORT: **Mayor Johnson**
David Jenkins made the first motion to approve the police report, seconded by Frank Besten, vote was 7-0.

5. BIDS & QUOTATIONS: **President Carey**

6. **BOROUGH TREASURER'S REPORT:** **President Carey**
David Jenkins made the first motion to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Bob Bennett, vote was 7-0

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **Building & Plant** **Pat Williams, Chair**
Pat Williams stated that the season is over; all the projects are put in limbo. They have accomplished many projects, saving this Borough tens of thousands of dollars. Vince Cruciani thanked Pat Williams for all the work that was done. The DPW is looking good; they did a great job on that. Mr. Williams asked Virginia Kehoe about the roofs, ask Frank Leonard for a report and recommendations next month. Check the roof on the Borough Building and the DPW Building. Thanked Bob Bass for fixing the bulletin board. Pat Williams thanked Mayor Johnson and Ms. Kehoe and the DPW for their hard work.
- **Finance Committee** **Dominic Scott, Chair** budget presentation: Dominic Scott stated that they had 3 meetings on the budget. Almost there, they are anticipating there will not be an increase in property taxes and sewer billing. Mr. Cruciani stated that there has not been an increase in the sewer billing since the budget was finalized in 2014. Thank the ARWA as they are doing an outstanding job. Gerrie Carey will sign a letter from Council thanking ARWA.
- **Grant Committee** **Dave Jenkins, Chair**
David Jenkins asked if any grants are applied for he would like to be informed. We did get the approval for the improvements that the fire company is going to make on the Squad.
- **Recycling Committee** **Bob Bennett, Chair**
- **Insurance Committee** **Vince Cruciani, Chair**
- **Personnel Committee** **Gerrie Carey, Chair**
discussion re: treasurer - vote to hire Bonnie Flaherty: David Jenkins made the first motion to approve the hiring of Bonnie Flaherty at the rate of \$15 per hour, seconded by Dominic Scott, vote was 7-0. Janice Reich will be on standby if we want to subcontract with her if needed. Ms. Kehoe will invite Ms. Flaherty to the work session.
- **Public Safety/Safety** **Pat Williams, Chair**
Pat Williams stated that all the roads are paved; they were finishing up the punch list today. Janine Port stated that since the paving there is a huge deep swale right by her house and she was asking if the DPW could put some fill in that area.
- **Recreation** **Dominic Scott, Chair**
- **Sewer Billing** **Dominic Scott, Chair** sewer report: Jenn Basalyga stated that 109 delinquent letters were sent out, that is down by about 25. Ms. Basalyga stated that 3 certified letters went out, one resident did not pay the full amount and a water shutoff was initiated, the second person came in earlier in the meeting, and the third person has paid. ACH is very helpful for the resident and the Borough. We expect to have the payments coming in. Dominic Scott stated that when the Borough started this we were

delinquent by over \$100,000. Bob Bennett asked for an updated list of the houses that have been shut off.

- **ACOG Representative** Gerrie Carey/Dom
Scott/Frank Besten: Dominic Scott will go to the meeting tomorrow.
- **Liquid Fuels Research** Bob Bennett
Bob Bennett stated that we got the two streets already, Woodridge is in question. Solicitor Hayes stated that he completed the motion for quiet title of Woodridge. Pat Rogan said that he was getting back to Solicitor Hayes on the description. Need the description to finish filing.
- **Veteran's Banners Committee** Gerrie Carey/Herman
Johnson: Mayor Johnson stated that it is going to run around \$160 per banner. They have to set up another meeting with Cindy Coleman. He thinks this is worthwhile. Discussed if this is only for deceased veterans? They need to talk about this more.
- **Additional comments from Council:** Mayor Johnson stated that they had a drug takeback program generated 17.5 lbs. of medications. We have the highest count for the last three takebacks.

8. VENDOR PAYMENTS TO BE RATIFIED: **President Carey**
David Jenkins made the first motion to ratify the payments, seconded by Vince Cruciani, vote was 7-0

9. OLD BUSINESS: **President Carey**

- **Ordinance 2017-04 Handicapped parking on School Street – vote:** David Jenkins made the first motion to accept Ordinance 2017-04 with the caveat that the parking space is measured and marked out first, seconded by Vince Cruciani, vote was 7-0.
- **White – property maintenance:** Ms. Kehoe stated that last month Rebekah White was at the meeting and Council gave her an extra 4 weeks to clean up the property. Ms. Kehoe and Ms. Basalyga went to the house this morning and there was still an issue, Ms. Basalyga took pictures to show Council the property. Ms. Kehoe stated that she told Ms. White that it was up to Council but she suggests that Ms. Basalyga move forward and file with the Magistrate. David Jenkins agrees as he looked at the pictures and he suggested the Code Enforcement Officer take the action that is deemed appropriate. Ms. Kehoe stated that she is going to ask our building inspector to look at her garage, one window is broken and construction maintenance issues should be addresses. Pat Williams and David Jenkins stated that there is a garage on the corner of Marion Street and Center Street. Ms. Basalyga would drive by and check it out. We are still pursuing Art Wells's property on Powell Avenue.

10. NEW BUSINESS: **President Carey**

- a) **Ordinance 2017-05 Quality of Life – put on December agenda:** David Jenkins made the first motion to move this forward to advertise and vote on this in the December meeting, seconded by Pat Williams, vote was 7-0.

- b) **Ordinance 2017-11 Non-uniformed pension amendment:** David Jenkins made the first motion to move forward and advertise this, seconded by Bob Bennett, vote was 7-0.
- c) **Fire Company Request:** Mayor Johnson stated that the fire company has to tell us how many active members they have. David Jenkins stated that regardless of what the numbers are going to come as, it is still going to be a very good bargain for the Borough. Mr. Jenkins suggested looking the paperwork from Jessup and try to structure something so it is in place. It won't affect tax bills until 2019. Vince Cruciani stated that we can also cut them a break on their sewer bill.

11. SOLICITOR'S REPORT: **Solicitor Hayes**
 Solicitor Hayes stated that the Gathering Place cannot sublet the space to someone else. Solicitor Hayes is working on a punch list of about 15 items and he is half way through. Trying to get a dedication of Marion Street and Carol Drive, working on getting the permit changed with the mast arm.

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

- **Cindy Snyder – sewer billing**
- **Kathleen Thomas – sewer billing:** Vince Cruciani first suggested splitting the bill in half. Mr. Cruciani made the first motion to charge the Miles account the base charge that ARWA bills the borough for September and October 2017, seconded by Frank Besten, vote was 6-1 with Pat Williams voting no.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: **President Carey**

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| • Prior- | October 4, 2017 | Litigation |
| | October 25, 2017 | Personnel/Litigation |
| • During- | None | |
| • Subsequent- | None | |

14. ADJOURN: **President Carey**
 David Jenkins made the first motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob Bennett, vote was unanimous.