

BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

April 24, 2019

7:00 PM

The April 2019 Borough Council Special Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 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 Mr. Vincent Cruciani, Mr. Frank Besten, Mr. Dominic Scott, Mr. Bob Bennett, Mr. Patrick Williams and Mr. Jenkins, Mayor Herman Johnson, Solicitor Kevin Hayes, and Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe. Gerrie Carey was absent.

1. **WORKSESSION:** **President Carey**

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lee Jamison addressed Council about a drive through fundraiser on Memorial Day. Half of the proceeds would go to Veteran's Park. Mayor Johnson stated that are trying to get approval from the bank for liability so that if anything happens we would take care of it. The Mayor thinks this is worthwhile and he hopes Council would think about it and give their honest opinion. Mayor Johnson gives kudo's to Mr. Jamison. Solicitor Hayes asked if Mr. Jamison is a non-profit, he is not. Mr. Jamison stated that the jars would cost \$10; \$5 would go to the Borough for Veteran's Park and \$5 would go to his business. Solicitor Hayes is concerned because they are not a registered non-profit. Solicitor Hayes would look into this. Vince Cruciani stated that if Mr. Jamison went to the people who own the property and they didn't object and he put up signs for his jar sale and if he didn't have dedicated police he wouldn't need Council's approval.

- **Ratification of emergency repairs – Winola & Center:** Ms. Kehoe stated that there was a sewage spill in the empty lot behind Center and Winola. The bids went out and the low bid came back at \$8,800 and they did the work for \$7,200. Solicitor Hayes will draft a resolution for Council to pass at the next meeting.
- **Accounting of borough debt:** Ms. Kehoe stated that the borough has 2 loans, the TAN and a loan that will be paid off this year. There are 2 loans that will be paid off next year and one loan that will be paid off in 2022.
- **Police pension board – notification:** Ms. Kehoe was asked to send notification to the police pension board and the police union that the borough was looking at considering options for the police pension services. The police pension board had a meeting without Don Williamson. Mr. Frank Besten stated that when they met they were thinking about going with a different investment company. Mr. Bennett stated that they are trying to be very cautious. Don Williamson has done very well with the borough's retirement plan, he's always made money. Mr. Besten stated that it there was difficulty getting information from him through email. They are going to have Don Williamson come in on May 15th with the police pension board. They are going to tell him that we would like to quarterly report before the meeting. If

they send him an email he should reply. If he doesn't then they will interview with other investment firms. Vince Cruciani stated that Don Williamson came in and two years ago our pension contribution went up 550% and the actuarial rates were supposed to go down considerably after the hiring of a second young police officer. That was originally for last year, now they are saying this year. Frank Besten stated that Mr. Williamson stated that we are in the middle of that. Mr. Besten stated that is one of the questions we will ask him when he comes to the meeting. Mr. Cruciani stated that he would like to see the numbers.

- **Lines on Lackawanna Trail – Pat Williams:** Pat Williams stated that the biggest cost is for the flaggers. It was suggested by Bob Naegele that the road be closed. That is what he would like to do. Bob Bennett asked about the businesses on that street. Mr. Williams said they could re-route drivers. There are other businesses without any other access than Lackawanna Trail. Mayor Johnson suggested doing ½ the road at a time. They need to get a solid price. Pat Williams will get in back in contact with them. Mr. Williams would like lines on Center Street on the curving areas. He will get the pricing on that also.
- **Commercial lot coverage – Pat Williams:** Mr. Williams would like to force businesses to use pervious pave in their parking lots. After Winola Road is paved will there be a water issue at the bottom of Winola Road. Would they use pervious pave on the shoulder to absorb that extra water? Mr. Williams will look into this more.
- **Financing – New Loader:** Ms. Kehoe stated that the new loader that the borough ordered in January was \$133,000. We had figured in our budget of financing. Ms. Kehoe did talk to Wayne Bank and they said the interest rate would be in the 3.6-4% range. At this point our other rates are much lower. We are going to get rates from other banks, but Council needs to think about how much we want to finance, and how long to finance it.
- **Carnation Park Fencing:** Ms. Kehoe stated that she has a ballpark price. Got differing opinions from no fence to an 8 foot fence. Mr. Cruciani stated that the most the borough could put up is a 4 foot fence without getting a variance. Mr. Cruciani stated that if we have a fence it will create a private cove. An area where people will congregate privately, then Mr. Cruciani asked why we were thinking of putting up a fence. Ms. Kehoe stated that this was discussed last fall in response to a neighbor's request due to the basketball court there. Mr. Besten stated that his only concern is that if they play basketball, they lose the ball. Whenever they go to retrieve the ball, they will step on plants etc. they could kill them. Ms. Kehoe stated that as the vegetation grows it would help stop the ball before it got down to a ditch. David Jenkins asked what the borough's liability is if we didn't put up a fence. Solicitor Hayes stated that we have to see what happens this season, see if there is an issue. Mr. Cruciani stated that we have to plant more aggressively this year. Plant the perimeter so it grows strong and thick. Mr. Cruciani suggested planting willow bushes. Ms. Kehoe wanted to sit down and talk about the plantings. She did get some information from Josh Arp. Mr. Cruciani suggested that after the planting put posts around the entire thing with mesh netting. The biggest problem is with the animals. Ms. Kehoe

stated that the DPW would be available after the Memorial Day weekend to do the plantings. Council discussed ornamental picket fencing as a possibility. Solicitor Hayes suggested signage saying keep out.

3. REVIEW OF MAY 1, 2019 AGENDA

4. ADJOURN:

President Carey

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