

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 7, 2018  
RESCHEDULED TO MARCH 12, 2018**

The March 2018 Borough Council Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, March 12, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. The Meeting was held in Borough Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, Mayor Herman Johnson, Mr. Dominic Scott, Mr. Vincent Cruciani, Mr. Patrick Williams, Solicitor Kevin Hayes, and Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe. Mr. David Jenkins, Mr. Bob Bennett, Police Chief Yarns and Junior Council Members Will Casey and Nacole Leonhart were absent from the meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING: MS4**

Ms. Kehoe stated that we adopted the MS4 protocols last year. The state wanted the Borough to open the subject up at a public meeting. This was advertised for tonight's meeting, but no one is here from the public to comment. Mr. Patrick Williams stated that Ms. Kehoe presented the information and she did very well. Mr. Williams stated that many people do not take the subject of storm water very seriously. He thanked the Borough Manager.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**President Carey**

**MEDITATION:**

**Mayor Johnson**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**Mayor Johnson**

**POLICE CHAPLIN:** Mayor Herman Johnson introduced the new Police Chaplin, Glenn. Amos to Council.

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Vince Cruciani made the first motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Dominic Scott, vote was unanimous 5-0.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**President Carey**

- **January 31, 2018 Worksession**
- **February 8, 2018 Council Meeting:** Frank Besten made the first motion to approve both sets of minutes, seconded by Vince Cruciani, vote was 5-0.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT & INPUT:**

**President Carey**

Virginia Kehoe stated that the earliest anything could be implemented on Clark Avenue is in May. Frank Besten suggested having the parking restricted to "No Parking" between the hours of 6PM-6AM. Gerrie Carey discussed permit parking. Mayor Johnson suggested no parking on 1 side from the business up the hill. Vince Cruciani discussed putting in two bollards in its right-of-way, on each side of the walkway. Ms. Kehoe stated that if it is in the right-of way then people could park in

front of the bollards, and if the bollards are out in the street that would affect plowing. Vince Cruciani stated that they can call the 911 Comm Center to let them know about the rear entrance into their home if there is ever an emergency. Mayor Johnson stated that they could always try the 6pm to 6am, see how it works out, it can always be tweaked. We are looking into the lot which is being used as a parking area on Clark Avenue with the Zoning Solicitor to confirm the use for that property. Pat Williams made the first motion to have “No Parking” on both sides of Clark Avenue from 6pm-6am, seconded by Frank Besten, vote was 5-0. Solicitor Kevin Hayes will draft the ordinance. They discussed the lighting issues there. Ms. Kehoe stated that we are working on citing the business, we did give them an opportunity to correct the lighting but they did not comply.

**4. POLICE REPORT: Mayor Johnson**

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

- N/A

**6. BOROUGH TREASURER’S REPORT President Carey**

Vince Cruciani made the first motion to approve the Borough’s Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Dominic Scott, vote was 5-0.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

• **Building & Plant** Pat Williams, Chair

Pat Williams stated that Council Chambers was painted by the treatment court people, we are waiting on new tables, and the chairs were a big improvement. Mr. Williams stated that he is hoping to get more work done in the Borough. The treatment court people save the Borough a great deal of money. Gerrie Carey stated that she did talk to Gerry Zubert about his property; he is in the process of getting the building appraised. Paul Murphy said after we get the appraisal they can sit down and go over the numbers. We then have to get the Borough appraised and look into selling the Sheridan Avenue baseball field. Vince Cruciani stated that the Borough is encumbered with the Gathering Place lease. Mr. Cruciani stated that the only thing he would caution against is developing Sheridan Avenue. He thinks that we don’t want to sell it at a very low price, it would be better as a green space. Sheridan Avenue does not need to be a part of the issue with the two buildings. Vince Cruciani does not see any way of not taking out a loan that is going to eat into the millage. There is no way of buying the other building without some debt service. Mr. Cruciani stated that the three things we need are, the market evaluation to sell or rent the Borough building, could the top floor be rented, or the first floor. Secondly, what is the market evaluation on the other building we would be buying? Under the existing regulations what are the developmental abilities of Sheridan Avenue. Mr. Cruciani stated that personally he would rather see two very large houses go up on Sheridan Avenue. Ms. Kehoe stated that all around the park there are rentals. Ms. Kehoe will look into the options.

• **Finance Committee** Dominic Scott, Chair

- **Grant Committee** Dave Jenkins, Chair CLPP  
 Grant application submitted: Mayor Herman Johnson stated that there is a grant that the Police Department will be going for and that is for 2 more police cars. Solicitor Kevin Hayes stated that he would be able to help the Mayor. Pat Williams would like to look into a long term plan for new police vehicles if the grants to come in. Mr. Cruciani stated that the Borough could take out a loan for a police vehicle. Ms. Kehoe stated that we do have over \$300,000. Pat Williams stated that the Borough could use another \$100,000-\$150,000 to pave the roads. Mr. Cruciani stated that he does think that there is a public demand for it. Mr. Cruciani stated that he thinks we should put out to the public a schedule with priority streets, a dollar amount that has a generous cost estimate, and have some form of financing and put it up to a vote for the general public. This is above and beyond the Liquid Fuel money that is set for the paving. In 2011 the Borough Engineer did look into the paving and made a 10 year list. Mayor Johnson stated that he likes the idea but we would have to stick with the plan and the streets on the list. Frank Besten and Pat Williams have made a list of the streets that need work and they are working on them being paved. Also looking into the crack sealing. They have put a lot of time into this; they have been out many times checking the streets. They Mayor stated that we need a different plan to pay for this, besides the Liquid Fuel money. Mr. Cruciani stated that once we pay off Grandview, he does not think the public will have an appetite to pay for a new building and extra paving. We do have a crack sealer also. The roads need to be paved earlier in the year.
- **Recycling Committee** Bob Bennett, Chair La. Cty  
 Recycling report submitted: Shred Fest, Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at Clarks Summit Elementary. JP Mascaro found the shredder for us and they paid for it. Bob Bennett will put out some signs for the event. Pat Williams asked about the E-Cycling with Lackawanna County, but they are charging the Borough. There is a vendor if we want to contract with them. The people who want their materials e-cycled can be charged. They would need a committee to handle this. Mr. Williams thinks the Borough should move forward on this. Pat Williams is also going to try to set up the Great Northeast Cleanup. Gerrie Carey stated that she would get the email from Virginia Kehoe and she will check it out. Frank Besten agreed that it is a good idea.
- **Insurance Committee** Vince Cruciani, Chair
- Ms. Kehoe stated that Bell and Meagher are working on their proposals. Mr. Cruciani stated that he can check with Henkelman about coming to the April Worksession. Our insurance contract ends June 30, 2018.
- **Personnel Committee** Gerrie Carey, Chair
- **Public Safety/Safety** Pat Williams, Chair  
 Pat Williams thanked the DPW for doing an excellent job. He asked about the anti-skid if that would be getting into the storm drains. Ms. Kehoe stated that David Thorne has done an excellent job managing the rock salt. We will have the street sweeper as the weather allows. Frank Besten and Pat Williams want to get together with Virginia Kehoe and Bob Naegele. The Great Northeast Cleanup is going to be happening, March 1<sup>st</sup> until May 31<sup>st</sup>. Frank Besten stated that they go around and look at the signs. Some are bent some are in need of being replaced. Also PennDOT wants to use the Borough Building, Loughney Hall for meetings

and in exchange the Borough could use their new vehicle wash building which isn't built yet.

- **Recreation** Dominic Scott, Chair
- **Sewer Billing** Dominic Scott, Chair Act 94  
Report Submitted: 73 delinquent letters were sent out.
- **ACOG Representative** Frank Besten/Gerrie  
Carey/Dom Scott
- **Liquid Fuels Research** Bob Bennett Increase in  
liquid fuels: Ms. Kehoe stated that before the research was done the Borough had  
24.47 miles, now the additional increased by .57 miles giving us a total of 25.04  
miles. With the addition of the three roads the liquid fuels is up to 2.5% increase  
in what the Borough will be getting each year.
- **Veteran's Banners Committee** Gerrie Carey/Herman  
Johnson: Mayor Johnson stated that there is a letter going out with the sewer  
billing and they are re-wording some things. They discussed the criteria for  
getting a banner. Mr. Cruciani requested that if a person grew up here and they  
died in the military and they are under 25, he thinks they should be eligible.
- **Building plans committee** Gerrie Carey/Frank  
Besten/Pat Williams
- **LCAB** Patrick Williams  
Pat Williams stated that they are contacting all of the Borough's and Townships  
for paying their dues, but they would like more attendance.
- **Additional comments from Council:** Mr. Williams stated that the project at  
Carnation Park is going well. Also, the Shade Tree Meeting was cancelled  
because of the weather. Mr. Williams asked if people could either wear a flag pin  
or put up a flag at their house; show you are proud of your country as elected  
officials. Mayor Johnson stated that the ABPA did an excellent job with the Ice  
Festival. Frank Besten discussed the electronic sign at the bottom of the hill. The  
corners/sides are bent. Ms. Kehoe stated that it would need to be pounded out or  
replaced. Gerrie Carey and Pat Williams suggested asking the school if they  
could get the dents out. Mayor Johnson stated that we will need to replace it  
sooner or later, ask about grants for this project. Dominic Scott asked how useful  
the electronic board is, Mr. Cruciani agreed.

8. **VENDOR PAYMENTS TO BE RATIFIED:** **President Carey**  
Dominic Scott made the first motion to ratify the vendor payments, seconded by  
Frank Besten, vote was 5-0.

9. **OLD BUSINESS:** **President Carey**

- **AAJRB request for meeting:** Ms. Kehoe stated that there was a meeting but no  
one from the Clarks Summit Borough attended. They are going to be meeting  
again, she would forward the information. Mr. Vince Cruciani stated that we  
want ownership of the Senior Center transferred to the AAJRB. All debts and  
equity.
- **Clark Avenue:** Discussed earlier.
- **Resolution 2018-07 – PennDOT Stormwater:** Pat Williams made the first  
motion to accept Resolution 2018-07, seconded by Vince Cruciani, vote was 5-0.

- **Non Uniformed CBA amendment:** Pat Williams made the first motion to accept the Non-Uniform CBA Amendment, seconded by Frank Besten, vote was 5-0.

**10. NEW BUSINESS: President Carey**

- A. Replacement for TCC/SAPA:** Need volunteers
- B. Ordinance 2018-01 –IPMC code violations:** Needs to be advertised for a vote. Pat Williams made the first motion to advertise Ordinance 2018-01, seconded by Frank Besten, vote was 5-0.

**11. SOLICITOR’S REPORT: Solicitor Hayes**

Solicitor Kevin Hayes stated that the majority are about litigation which would be executive session. March 28<sup>th</sup>, they have a pretrial conference before Judge Nealon about the Valvano case. Solicitor Hayes will start the draft ordinance for the “no parking” on Clark Avenue and get some more information about the parking lot area on Clark Avenue.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- **Joseph Sadowski:** Ms. Kehoe stated that she received a letter from Joseph Sadowski about Maple Avenue. He would like Maple Avenue paved but only the aprons are on the list to be paved. He also suggested making Maple Avenue a one way, Council did not consider the one way. Mr. Besten stated that he did not think that the whole road does not need to be paved, only the apron.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: President Carey**

- **Prior-            February 8, 2018    Litigation  
   Personnel**
- **During-        None**

**14. ADJOURN: President Carey**

Vince Cruciani made the first motion to adjourn, seconded by Pat Williams, vote was 5-0.