

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 1, 2019**

The May 2019 Borough Council Meeting was conducted on May 1, 2019 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. Vincent Cruciani, Mr. Patrick Williams, Mr. David Jenkins, Mr. Bob Bennett, Mayor Johnson, Police Chief Chris Yarns, Frank Besten, Solicitor Kevin Hayes, and Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe. Mr. Dominic Scott was absent.

**CALL TO ORDER:** **President Carey**

**MEDITATION:** **Mayor Johnson**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** **Mayor Johnson**

**PRESENTATION TO POLICE RE: VETERAN'S PROMISE** **Mayor Johnson**  
Mayor Johnson introduced Commander Jones from VFW 769. Commander Jones presented Officer Gordon Demming and Pat Gibbons with a certificate of appreciation and recognition. Pictures were taken.

**PRESENTATION FROM TIRE RECYCLING:** **President Carey**  
Dominic Scott wanted to have the \$150 raised at the borough's tire recycling event to go to Veteran's Park.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**  
Frank Besten made the first motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Pat Williams, vote was 6-0.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** **President Carey**
  - **March 27, 2019 Work Session:** Bob Bennett made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Frank Besten, vote was 6-0.
  - **April 3, 2019 Regular Council Meeting:** Pat Williams made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Vince Cruciani, vote was 5-0-1 with Frank Besten abstaining.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT & INPUT:** **President Carey**  
Gerard Hetman from Lackawanna County Public Relations Department provided information to Council concerning upcoming events.
4. **POLICE REPORT:** **Mayor Johnson**  
David Jenkins discussed the trucks going over the double line and into the left lane coming up the hill in Clarks Summit.
5. **BIDS & QUOTATIONS:** **President Carey**

- **Emergency Sewer Repair –Resolution 2019-10 Ratify \$7,200 repair for Center Street Sewerage Clean-up:** David Jenkins made the first motion to approve Resolution 2019-10, seconded by Pat Williams, vote was 6-0.

**6. BOROUGH TREASURER’S REPORT**

**President Carey**

Bob Bennett made the first motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Frank Besten, vote was 6-0.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- **Building & Plant**

Pat Williams, Chair

Pat Williams stated that we are waiting on a bid from Mike’s Welding for the repair of the Knapp Road Bridge. Mr. Williams stated that we still need to get the window area fixed in Council Chambers. Dominic Scott would help with the donation of mulch. Winola Road will be paved.

- **Finance Committee**

Dominic Scott, Chair

Presentation from Landmark Bank: Gerrie Carey stated that they had a meeting at the Borough with Trip Crowley from Landmark Bank. Ms. Kehoe stated that they are offering a better interest rate on the accounts that we have at Wayne. She and Vince Cruciani then called Jim Burke at Wayne bank and asked if he could do anything to improve our rates. Mr. Burke stated that he couldn’t give an immediate answer but he thought they could do something. Ms. Kehoe stated that the Borough has gotten a number of TAN’s with Landmark Bank. Also, Trip Crowley has always worked well with the Borough. Landmark would be able to send a courier to pick up the meter money from the police. The finance committee should get the numbers and look over the information.

- **Grant Committee**

Dave Jenkins, Chair

Applying for grant for Educational Signage at Hemlock Park - grant request is \$3,573.95 and matching funds (made up of In-kind and Cash) is \$3,708.20. Ms. Kehoe stated that this is for an educational kiosk at Hemlock Park that we can use as credits for MS4. Ms. Kehoe was given the ok to move forward with the grant application.

- **Recycling Committee**

Bob Bennett, Chair

Mr. Bennett stated that the Shred Truck did not show up. J.P. Mascaro admitted fault. They are discussing the future date for the shredding event.

- **Insurance Committee**

Vince Cruciani, Chair

working on prep for 2019-2020 quote – recd \$35,859.39 rebate from MRM worker’s comp ins. – recd \$44,344.09 rebate from Benecon an additional ~ \$15,000 to come at end of October. Mr. Cruciani asked if both of the checks are in the General Fund. The answer was yes. Ms. Kehoe stated that Jim Henkelman is coming to the May Worksession to make a presentation.

- **Personnel Committee**

Frank Besten, Chair

No seasonal worker – use Marc Altier 4 days/week. Mark would work 32 hours per week. Instead of a seasonal worker, they would just increase Mark Altier’s hours but he will still be part time. Council agreed that is a good idea.

- **Public Safety/Safety**

Pat Williams, Chair

Pat Williams stated that the Penndot truck wash is still not open.

- **Recreation**

Dominic Scott, Chair

- **Sewer Billing** Dominic Scott, Chair  
 Jenn Basalyga stated that the Riley property does keep turning the water back on. Ms. Kehoe called Scott Reiner with PAWC and they will cap the box with a lock. We will keep Council up to date with the status. Scranton Downtown account is technically located in South Abington Twp. and the water is connected to another account so it can't be shut off. The Snyder's on Claremont have paid off liens, the bank owns the property. Council discussed the power and brightness of the billboard electronic signs. Solicitor Hayes will look into the guidelines. There are a few properties that have the liens paid off and work is being done on the houses.
- **ACOG Representative** Frank Besten/Gerrie Carey/Dom Scott
- **Building plans committee** Gerrie Carey/Frank Besten/Pat Williams  
 Gerrie Carey stated that we are waiting for the numbers from Highland Associates. After the numbers are in they can discuss options.
- **LCAB** Patrick Williams
- **SAPA** Dave Jenkins
- **Sr. Center Committee** Gerrie Carey, Kevin Hayes  
 Solicitor Hayes stated that they had a meeting with the AAJRB, they thought it was important to come up with a mutual strategy and then they would go to each municipality. For the second meeting they brought in Warren Watkins and explained to him what the motives are. They also had Mr. Kavulich with the Area Agency on Aging. He believes that the Senior Center is under-utilized from a senior programming perspective. Solicitor Hayes stated that the plan is to come up with a presentation to give the perspective to the municipalities. David Jenkins asked if the Borough needs to contact the insurance company to find out whether its damages are serious enough that constitutes a liability. Is it safe, if someone gets injured there we have an issue? Mr. Jenkins stated that it is the same issue with the roof leaking, we can't waist time, we have been forewarned. Solicitor Hayes agreed. Solicitor Hayes stated that during the meeting with Warren Watkins, they discussed that the borough has changed the terms of the lease. We put the cost of the upkeep and maintenance projects on them. Solicitor Hayes will talk to our insurance companies about this.
- **Additional comments from Council**  
 Frank Besten asked about the corner of Carnation and Tulip, the water running across and 2 storm drains were going to be installed. Yes after Memorial Day. Bob Bennett asked for an update on Don Williamson, for the Police Pension and the MMO. He is going to be at the next Police Pension meeting. Council has to decide who will come because Gerrie and Frank will already be there. 3 Council members are allowed but that is all. One other Councilmember can come to that meeting.

8. **VENDOR PAYMENTS TO BE RATIFIED:** **President Carey**  
 Vince Cruciani made the first motion, seconded by Bob Bennett, vote was 6-0.

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

- **DEP Inspection of Carnation Park Rain Garden Friday, 5/3 at 10am:** Josh Arp feels that better than 75% of the plants are coming back this year. We did lose some, in the bed of the ponds because we held more water longer because of the rain. He suggested some trees and other vegetation to add. The Lions Club may be able to help fund and do some work at the Rain Garden. They are looking to help with community service. Ms. Kehoe will talk to Trevor from Corky's to see if what plantings did not come back up, what is their guarantee. Vince Cruciani asked Ms. Kehoe to forward him the names of the individuals from DEP who will be there

Pat Williams suggested that the Rotary Club be thanked for painting and cleaning up the garbage in the Clarks Summit area. They also painted the trash cans and planters in the Summit. Send a letter of thanks.

**10. NEW BUSINESS: President Carey**

- **Resolution – 2019-09 Police Memorial Day:** David Jenkins made the first motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Bob Bennett, vote was 6-0.
- **Appoint Traci Harte to Shade Tree Commission:** Gerrie Carey stated that Mollie Philbin had recommended Traci Harte for the Shade Tree Commission. Vince Cruciani asked for Ms. Harte to come to the worksession in May to introduce herself, bring a brief resume and vote in June. Vince Cruciani does not doubt the quality of Ms. Philbin's recommendation. Pat Williams stated that he thinks they can vote then have her come and meet Council. Mr. Cruciani stated that he thinks we should see her resume or a letter of interest for anyone they should do that. Council decided to vote in June after meeting the candidate. Pat Williams thinks that it is an insult and he thinks Council is making a mistake. Mr. Cruciani stated that even a letter of interest with a phone number would be sufficient. Solicitor Hayes thinks Council should do their due diligence and wait for the letter of interest.

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

Solicitor Hayes stated that he is working on a zoning issue, the frontage of lots was increased. He is also working on the drug and alcohol policies.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- **Matthew Dees:** Solicitor Hayes will look into this. This is about the Right to Know requests.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: President Carey**

- **Prior- April 3, 2019 Litigation**
- **During- None**
- **Subsequent- None**

**14. ADJOURN: President Carey**

Pat Williams made the first motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob Bennett, vote was 6-0.