

**BOROUGH COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
RECONVENE OF FEBRUARY 5, 2020  
FEBRUARY 26, 2020  
7:00 PM**

The February 2020 regular meeting reconvened on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 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. Pat Williams, Mr. Vincent Cruciani, Mr. Robert Sheils, Ms. Kathleen Simrell, Mayor Herman Johnson, Solicitor Kevin Hayes, and Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe. Mr. David Jenkins and Harry Kelly were both absent.

1. **Sheridan Ave Sale:** Bob Sheils made the first motion to authorize the Council President to amend the escrow agreement to extend the closing until April 29, 2020, seconded by Vince Cruciani, vote was 5-0.
2. **Adjourn:** Bob Sheils made the first motion to adjourn, seconded by Vince Cruciani, vote was 5-0.

**BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 26, 2020  
7:00 PM**

The February 2020 Borough's Special Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 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. Pat Williams, Mr. Vincent Cruciani, Mr. Robert Sheils, Ms. Kathleen Simrell, Mayor Herman Johnson, Solicitor Kevin Hayes, and Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe. Mr. David Jenkins and Harry Kelly were both absent.

1. **WORKSESSION:** **President Carey**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
  - **Parking on Haven Ln:** Ms. Kehoe stated that she sent letters to 48 properties that live along Haven Lane. 12 responses were received. 5 wanted to keep the parking ban. 7 wanted to remove the parking ban. Pat Williams stated that he feels that the people who voted to remove the signs haven't lived there as long as he has and they don't know the situation. The juniors and seniors have parking passes. The freshman and sophomores do not have parking available at the school. This area is not a traffic controlled area. What we have there now should be sufficient; if they deteriorate then they need to be replaced. He encouraged council to vote no on removing the signs.

- **Lackawanna County Conservation District MOU:** Solicitor Hayes reviewed the documentation. He recommends that council moves forward with this vote next week.
- **EMA policy development:** Ms. Kehoe stated that this was tabled from the meeting in January. Mayor Johnson stated that if something happens, FEMA is not going to help unless you send in reports and a have plan. They also need to discuss a stipend. Mr. Cruciani asked if the fire chief can be the EMA Director. Solicitor Hayes will circulate that information to council. Solicitor Hayes stated that Clarks Green also does not have an EMA Director. See if Glenburn Township would collaborate with this also. Mayor Johnson stated that every Municipality should have an EMA Coordinator, if there are documents and reports it could help with the financing after a problem occurs. Follow up with Jake Hoinowski. Vince Cruciani suggested that Mayor Johnson speak with Chief Chris Yarns about the position.
- **Update on bids for Boro Bldg engineering:** The borough will send out an RFQ from architectural engineers and this way the borough can compare bids proposals. The borough would have the right to reject all bids. The only cost to the borough is with the advertising. We need to look into options for the police station. If we don't get the grants, we need to look at incremental improvements to the current borough building. The money from the Sheridan Avenue sale will be used for building improvements. Pat Williams argued that the money was only for a new building. That was not the case.
- **Replacement of Kelli Altier as alternate on ZHB with Carol Rubel, Sarah Dawgert:** There are 2 alternate seats available. Carol Rubel and Sarah Dawgert are interested in volunteering on the ZHB. They can be appointed at the next meeting. Carol Rubel does volunteer on the Civil Service Committee. She would need to choose which committee she would like to volunteer for.
- **Addition of David Gaspar on Shade Tree Commission:** Council can vote on this at the next meeting.
- **Young Lungs at Play ordinance:** Ms. Kehoe stated that this group "Young Lungs at Play," would give more signs if smoking and in addition vaping would need to be banned in borough parks. Vince Cruciani stated that his understanding is that these laws are unenforceable because Pennsylvania law supersedes it, and you can't ban it in a public area. Mr. Cruciani stated that he tolerates the no smoking law, because in theory there will be littering. Solicitor Hayes stated that he would review this and see if this is enforceable. Pat Williams asked Vince Cruciani what his issue was with this, enforcement or is he in favor of vaping and smoking, which is it. Mr. Cruciani didn't know why we would want to pass an additional ordinance if it can't be enforced. Pat Williams cut Mr. Cruciani off while he was speaking. Pat William stated that there are tons of ordinances that we don't enforce. Mr. Cruciani stated that Mr. Williams is like a miniature Joe Biden, that runs his mouth constantly because you don't listen to what other people are saying. Mr. Williams stated that Mr. Cruciani puts too many spins on things. Solicitor Hayes said the issue is why spend the time and the cost of advertising the ordinance if we can't enforce it. Mr. Cruciani stated that Mr. William's opinions are the exact reason the scariest words in the English language are, I'm the government and

I am here to help. Stating that Mr. Williams is the stereotypical example of that. Mr. Williams apologized for interrupting Mr. Cruciani. Mr. Cruciani apologized to Mr. Williams for interrupting him. Mr. Cruciani apologized to Mr. Williams stating that he didn't mean to insult him by referring to him as the former Vice President and he apologized to the Mayor for cutting him off. Mr. Cruciani stated that he just doesn't want to pass things that they can't enforce.

- **Police Vehicle:** Mayor Johnson stated that the Chief and he got the proposals for a new police car with a grant. They have been maintaining the police cars. The car he is discussing is with the co-star prices. He asked the finance committee and council make a decision about this. Vince Cruciani thanked the Mayor and the Chief for their hard work for putting together the proposal for the police car. Mr. Cruciani stated that this should go through financing and that may involve bids. Ms. Kehoe stated that they could bundle the vehicles that are needed with financing.
- **CDBG Monies at Pitt:** A letter was sent to Mr. Mahon. In response, Mr. Mahon suggested having ramps installed. The entrance from the parking lot the area is already handicapped accessible. The Linden Street entrance is a possibility. The question was can you use CDBG money on school property. It may be too complicated also. Vince Cruciani suggested contacting Beth Laco and Eugene Gerould. Ms. Kehoe will put in public service announcements.

3. **REVIEW OF MARCH 4, 2020 AGENDA**

4. **ADJOURN:** **President Carey**