

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

The August 2020 Borough's Special Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, August 26, 2020 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. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, Council members Ms. Gerrie Carey, Mr. David Jenkins, Ms. Kathleen Simrell, Mr. Josh Mitchell, Borough Manager Ms. Virginia Kehoe, Harry Kelly, and Solicitor Kevin Hayes logged into Zoom to participate in the meeting Mayor Herman Johnson and Councilperson Mr. Sheils attended by telephone.

1. WORKSESSION: President Carey

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Durdan (Chair of the Planning Commission) gave Council an update on the progress of the SAPA Plan. Status of the Zoning Ordinance that has been produced for the Borough of Clarks Summit.

- **Diana Dakey – Protect Northern Pa.:** In 2021 New Fortress Energy will resume their construction. Shipping large quantities of LNG through our towns. LNG is a highly flammable chemical. Send a message to the Delaware River Basin Commission will be taking a vote on this subject. She suggested sending a message to the Delaware River Basin Commission that they must vote to disapprove Doc 2 and the docket number. That will go to Governor Wolf. The model resolution is lengthy, it can be shortened.
- **Council Seat Replacement:** Josh Mitchell stated that they have good candidates, can't make a wrong decision. Fortunate to have good candidates. There are 3 eligible applicants. Bob Sheils made the first nomination for Sarah Dawgert to fill the seat of Vince Cruciani. Kathleen Simrell nominated Roni Lopez. Vote for Sarah Dawgert: Josh Mitchell voted yes, Kathleen Simrell voted no, Bob Sheils voted yes, David Jenkins voted yes, Harry Kelly voted no, Gerrie Carey voted no, Herman Johnson voted no. The vote was 3-4, the nomination failed. Vote for Roni Lopez: Josh Mitchell voted yes, Kathleen Simrell voted yes, Bob Sheils voted yay, David Jenkins voted no, Harry Kelly voted yes, Gerrie Carey voted yes. The nomination was approved 5-1.
- **Treasurer Replacement:** The Personnel Committee will meet with 2 individuals for interviews. Josh Mitchell made the first motion accept the Personnel Committee's decision to hire a new treasurer, seconded by Bob Sheils, vote was 6-0.
- **Update on Police Body Cams:** David Jenkins stated that he thinks this needs to not be put on the back burner. He would like to purchase 2 cameras with back up batteries. Worry about the other 2 cameras next year. David Jenkins made the first motion to buy the 2 body cameras and backup batteries,

seconded by Kathleen Simrell. Josh Mitchell stated that at the last meeting this was voted on, to buy 4 body cameras and batteries. What has changed? Has the Finance Committee made a decision on the 4 cameras and batteries? The answer was no, they have not come up with the numbers. Mayor Johnson stated that the 4 cameras and batteries was under \$8,400. The vote for 2 body cameras and extra batteries was 6-0, vote was approved. This will be the effective vote as opposed to the vote last meeting for 4 body cameras and equipment. Bob Sheils stated that they were doing research on this; see if there is grant money. Chief Yarns can budget for the 2 cameras for 2021.

- **CDBG Resolution:** Next week they will be asked to vote on 3 resolutions. The first one Authorizes Gerrie Carey as President of Council to sign an agreement with Lackawanna County for a CDBG Covid Relief grant. The second one just notifies us that there are so many dollars available for us to spend in 2020 of CDBG money. We will put the money into housing rehab as kind of a place holder. The third one is authorizing Gerrie Carey as President of Council to go into an agreement with Lackawanna County to handle the Borough's CDBG grants.
- **Grove St (unopened):** Ms. Kehoe stated that this is an undedicated paper alley off the end of Carteret and connects up to Columbia. It is not on Grove Street. A property owner on Columbia the side yard reflects this paper alley, they would like to take ownership. The concern is that there are some properties that are not developed right now. If they wanted to be developed in the future they couldn't be because they would be landlocked. Solicitor Hayes would research this. There is a specific process for this.
- **Jr. Council:** One letter of interest from Ron Thomas. Starting in September he will be joining Borough Council.
- **Open bids for manhole projects 1 & 2:** Ms. Kehoe opened the manhole project bids. One is for Borough roads and State Roads. The engineers will verify them and Council can vote next week. The lowest bids came from Battaglia and Pioneer.

3. REVIEW OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 AGENDA

4. ADJOURN:

President Carey

Josh Mitchell made the first motion to adjourn, seconded by Kathleen Simrell, vote was unanimous.