

BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 31, 2021
7:00 PM

The March 2021 Borough's Special Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting is usually 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, Ms. Kathleen Simrell, Ms. Roni Lopez, Mr. Josh Mitchell, Mr. Harry Kelly, Mr. Bob Sheils, Borough Manager Ms. Virginia Kehoe, Mayor Herman Johnson, Solicitor Kevin Hayes, and Jr. Council Person Ron Thomas. David Jenkins was absent.

1. WORKSESSION:

President Carey

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Chris Chermak – Lackawanna County Commissioner:**
- **Joe Durkin – Reilly Assoc. re: sewer pass-thru from Clarks Summit State Hospital:** This project is to take the existing wastewater treatment plant in Newton Township, dismantle it and put in a pumping station and pump the sewage up along Newton Ransom Road to Winola Road at the intersection of Noble Road. The plant is very old it services the hospital and the middle school and the elementary school. They would require and upgrade to meet the current and pending wastewater treatment. A joint plan needs to be updated for this. They are asking for the borough to pass a motion or a resolution showing support for the project as a sign of general agreement. Act 537 with ARWA, a section of the sewer line in the borough 276 feet that runs from Bedford Street to the railroad track. They would upgrade the pipe and replace it with plastic piping. This will add 172 EDU's. Gerrie Carey asked if ARWA are in favor on this and Joe Durkin said yes. Josh Mitchell asked for the time frame. They are hoping for 2022, maybe September. Council would have to vote during a council meeting.
- **Bid opening – Linden St Stormwater:** Virginia Kehoe opened all the bids. Bob Miller Construction came in as the lowest bidder. This info will go to the Borough Engineer for verification.
- **Ordinance 2021-01- Truck Traffic Amendment:** Solicitor Hayes stated that this is ready for a vote at the council meeting. This ordinance adds to the list of roads where truck traffic is not allowed.
- **Ordinance 2021-02 – Police Pension Amendment:** The police are offering 5.5% to the pension. They are only required to give 5%.
- **Resolution 2021-04 CDBG & Agreement:** Ms. Kehoe stated that this needs to be updated each year. This resolution allows Gerrie Carey to sign the agreement.
- **Discussion regarding American Rescue Plan grant proceeds:** The Borough will be getting around \$480,000 divided this year and next year. The US treasury has to set the conditions for the use of the money. We can use it to reimburse lost revenue. For premium pay for employees, COVID specific

expenses and necessary expenses in water, sewer and broadband expansions. The borough has until 2024 to spend it.

- **Body Cam grant:** Ms. Kehoe stated that we received the grant but the cost has gone up by \$6,000. Council can discuss this at the council meeting.
- **CDBG needs assessment package:** The Borough will receive \$103,905 less \$18,702 which is administration expenses. So that comes to about \$85,000. The money must be used for elderly, low income or seniors. Council needs to come up with a list of ideas for this. The county is in charge of this.

3. REVIEW OF APRIL 7, 2021 AGENDA

4. ADJOURN:

President Carey