

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 2, 2021**

The December 2021 Borough's regular meeting was conducted on Wednesday, December 2, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held in Council Chambers, 304 South State Street, Clarks Summit, in the County of Lackawanna and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Council members in attendance were Ms. Gerrie Carey, Mrs. Kathleen Simrell, Mr. David Jenkins, Mr. Joshua Mitchell, Mr. Harry Kelly, Roni Lopez, Mayor Herman Johnson, Solicitor Kevin Hayes, Police Chief Chris Yarns and Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe. Robert Sheils was absent.

The Cub Scouts were present at the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING – Ordinances 2021-05-08 2022 Taxes & TAN President Carey

MEDITATION: Mayor Johnson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pack 160 Cubscouts

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

David Jenkins made the first motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

President Carey

- **October 27, 2021 Work Session:** Harry Kelly made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by David Jenkins, vote was 6-0.
- **November 3, 2021 Council Regular Meeting:** Kathleen Simrell made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 5-0-1 with David Jenkins abstaining.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT & INPUT:

President Carey

Mr. Genova, 212 Ridge Street returned to Council concerning Ridge Street. Mr. Genova asked if there was any update. Solicitor Hayes stated that he reached out to the state; it doesn't qualify for Liquid Fuels. Mr. Hayes stated that he doesn't know how our equipment would be able to fit in there to remove the snow. Mr. Genova stated that the plows have been able to get in that area before. He did threaten a lawsuit.

4. POLICE REPORT:

Mayor Johnson

David Jenkins made the first motion for the purchase of Officer Shedlock's Sig Sauer P227 service pistol as a retirement gift, seconded by Josh Mitchell, vote was 6-0.

5. BIDS & QUOTATIONS: President Carey

- **Award TAN to Wayne Bank for the amount of 0.79%:** David Jenkins made the first motion to approve the TAN, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

6. BOROUGH TREASURER'S REPORT:

November: Roni Lopez made the first motion to approve **President Carey** the Treasurer's, seconded by Kathleen Simrell, the vote was 6-0.

7. VENDOR PAYMENTS TO BE RATIFIED:

November: Kathleen Simrell made the first motion to **President Carey** approve the vendor payments, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

8. OLD BUSINESS: President Carey

Sewer Report: David Jenkins made the first motion to approve the Sewer Report, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

Police Regionalization LOI: Joshua Mitchell stated that they approved a resolution for him to represent the borough. He did present to Waverly Twp., they designated a chair to represent them. He did not present at South Abington but spoke to every supervisor; they did designate their chair to represent them. The three make up the Regional Study Committee. David Jenkins stated that the letter of intent should have Virginia Kehoe's name also. David Jenkins made the first motion to move ahead with the letter of intent, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

Adopt budgets – General Fund, Sewer Fund, Fire Fund and Liquid Fuels Fund: David Jenkins made the first motion to adopt the budgets, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

Ordinance 2021-05 TAN: David Jenkins made the first motion to approve Ordinance 2021-15, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

Ordinance 2021-06 Millage: Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve Ordinance 2021-06, seconded by Kathleen Simrell, vote was 6-0.

Ordinance 2021-07 Sewer: David Jenkins made the first motion to approve Ordinance 2021-07, seconded by Josh Mitchell, vote was 6-0.

Ordinance 2021-08 Fire Fund: David Jenkins made the first motion to approve 2021-08, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

9. NEW BUSINESS: President Carey

Resolution 2021-16 Police Pension Withholding: David Jenkins made the first motion to approve Resolution 2021-16, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

10. SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Solicitor Hayes

Solicitor Hayes discussed the Gateway Sign. The company would upfront all of the costs for the construction and would pay an annual lease. Recover costs by selling advertising. They ran into delays with state approval from PENNDOT. They will move forward with the construction. They plan to start construction April 2022. Solicitor Hayes suggested a drafting a letter from Council to our state legislators asking them to co-sponsor our letter so hopefully the borough can avoid the huge costs. The state is asking to require the commonwealth to be responsible for any storm water/sewage issues on state highways. David Jenkins made the first motion, seconded by Josh Mitchell, vote was 6-0.

Solicitor Hayes is also working on the Civil Service Commission rules.

Possible False Alarm ordinance: Solicitor Hayes is working on this.

Braven Tax Assessment Appeal: Requested that we share the cost of the appraiser with Braven Tax Assessment. Solicitor Hayes does not think this is appropriate. David Jenkins made the first motion to respectfully decline the appeal, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 6-0.

Josh Mitchell asked about the Genova situation with Ridge Street; we can’t find a deed that says the road is in the borough. Mr. Hayes looked for any information and couldn’t find it.

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

- **Request from Clarks Summit Police Association:**

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

President Carey

- **Prior-** N/A
- **During-** N/A
- **Subsequent-** N/A

Reminder – December work session cancelled

Harry Kelly discussed the COVID situation, should they consider Zoom meetings. Council discussed this. Solicitor Hayes suggested that in the advertisement for the meetings in 2022 the borough address concerns of Covid. Council will offer hybrid or full virtual. Harry Kelly made the first motion for this, seconded by David Jenkins, vote was 6-0.

ADJOURN:

President Carey