

**BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2022
7:00 PM**

The January 2022 Borough's regular meeting was conducted on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 7:00pm. The meeting was held in Council Chambers, 304 South State Street, Clarks Summit, in the County of Lackawanna and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The meeting was conducted virtually through Zoom. Council Members in attendance were: Ms. Gerrie Carey, Ms. Roni Lopez, Mr. Josh Mitchell, Mrs. Kathleen Simrell, Mr. Robert Sheils, Mr. Harry Kelly, Mr. David Jenkins, Police Chief Chris Yarns, Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe, Attorney Hayes, and Mr. Ron Thomas (Junior Council)

1. WORKSESSION: President Carey

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Ice Festival Special Event Application: Ms. Kehoe stated that this is the first special event presented. David Jenkins wanted to move forward with this at the council meeting.
- COVID pay and part time employees: There is nothing legally that requires the borough to pay a part time police officer time off due to testing positive to COVID. It is up to council to make this decision to pay employees for their time off due to COVID. There are other boroughs and townships that pay for COVID sick days. Roni Lopez does think that this needs to be addressed as other places pay for time off due to COVID. David Jenkins stated that he is concerned about councils in the future, if this is implemented now it could come back in years to come. Let the Personnel Committee look into this. Josh Mitchell stated that they want to discourage people from working with COVID. He worries, if someone doesn't have sick time and full time workers who do have sick time. What if you are exposed or test positive, what would be the rule. We should encourage people who are sick with COVID to stay home. Mayor Johnson suggested council and a labor lawyer decide. Kathleen Simrell stated that sometimes people who contract COVID are sick for many weeks. Ms. Kehoe stated that the long term implications need to be looked at. This would need to be discussed with the two unions. We need more time to look into this.
- Virtual vs. Live meeting: For the next meeting, council will be meeting online.
- Shade Tree Commission update: The Shade Tree Commission gave their yearly report to Virginia Kehoe. They hope to get back to live meetings in the future.
- Liquor License – Summit City Mart: Solicitor Hayes stated that there were delays in closing. They would like to put the liquor license into a new identity but going to the same place, is that ok with council. There would be no changes in the license. Just the LLC is different. David Jenkins would like to move this forward to the council meeting. Bob Sheils asked why they changed the name of the LLC. The change is to use the names of the owners only. There are no names involved.

- MS4 Quick Study: Ms. Kehoe was asked to put something together for council so everyone is up to date on the MS4. The water that is picked up from the streets and yards and it runs through our swales and storm drains. The water is discharged untreated into water ways. It is not sewage. This water goes into creeks. The federal government has always regulated that. The borough has a permit for this and it will be renewing next year. They will have stiffer requirements next year. The Shade Tree Commission is a big help as they planted 69 trees. We have a grant for the creek restoration project. We have a grant for the storm water replacement line on Grove Street project. We have to inspect all of the commercial collection spots, check storm water detention sites to make sure that it is performing property. We have to have the engineers involved with land development plans that come through. The borough also updated the lot coverage ordinance. Bob Sheils asked about the regional storm water management, we are a smaller community and we don't have as much storm water or sewer issues that Scranton would have. Why are we involved? Ms. Kehoe stated that we have costly projects, when we regionalized, we have to report something every year. The minimum has to be done throughout the region. This way it is easier to get grant money, if it is a regional grant it goes a long way. This will be a virtual meeting.
- Request from 502 Waverly: The new owners are asking to go from a 4 EDU unit to a 1 unit house. Council will be voting on this next week.
- Police vehicles - unmarked car and Tahoe: We received the 2 new police vehicles. Are we selling the 2 used police cars, The Tahoe and the unmarked car.

3. REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 2, 2022 AGENDA

4. ADJOURN: President Carey