

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2022**

The February Borough's regular meeting was conducted on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, 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, Ms. Roni Lopez, Mr. Robert Sheils, Jr. Councilperson Ron Thomas, Mayor Herman Johnson, Solicitor Hayes, Police Chief Chris Yarns, and Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe.

MEDITATION: **President Carey**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: **President Carey**

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **President Carey**
Roni Lopez made the first motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Josh Mitchell, vote was 7-0.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **President Carey**

December 2, 2021 Regular Council Meeting: Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by David Jenkins.

January 3, 2022 Reorganization and Council Meeting: Bob Sheils made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by David Jenkins, vote was 7-0.

January 26, 2022 Council Work Session: Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by David Jenkins.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT & INPUT: **President Carey**

4. POLICE REPORT: **Mayor Johnson**
New police cars are in service. Body cameras will be ready for March 2nd. Bob Sheils stated that a part time police officer tested positive for COVID, the question is with paid leave for COVID. The part time officers do not get any paid time off. Solicitor Mariclare Hayes stated that there is nothing on the books because COVID is no longer considered a state of emergency. The CDC recommends to 5 days of quarantine of you test positive for COVID. David Jenkins made the first motion for allow the 5 days off if testing positive for COVID through the end of the year. Josh Mitchell asked if this should be extended to all the employees along with proof of a positive test result. The question is asked if that is even allowed. Should it be 5 days, no question asked. Mariclare thinks having the 5 days off, it's a question if you want to rely on someone's word. She doesn't see an issue with verification of a positive test. David Jenkins would also make it retroactive. This is for part time employees. Josh asked about a fill timer and having time off for full timers. Mariclare stated that this could be for full timers also. If full timers want to come before Council in a case-

by-case basis that is fine. Roni Lopez seconded David Jenkins motion. The motion is for this calendar year, and retroactive, it's up to five calendar days, PCR test must be provided, and full timers will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Josh Mitchell asked for a PCR test and a home test to both being suitable. Waive that for the retroactive positive tests. Vote was 7-0.

5. BIDS & QUOTATIONS: President Carey

N/A

6. BOROUGH TREASURER'S REPORT:

January 2022

President Carey

David Jenkins made the first motion to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 7-0.

7. VENDOR PAYMENTS TO BE RATIFIED:

January 2022

President Carey

Kathleen Simrell made the first motion to approve the Vendor Payments, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 7-0.

8. OLD BUSINESS: President Carey

Sewer Report – January: Bob Sheils made the first motion to approve the Sewer Report, seconded by David Jenkins, vote was 7-0.

Police Regionalization – Josh Mitchell: Waverly decided to back out of the study. Mr. Mitchell asked Clarks Green to be involved. They will meet at their Council Meeting and discuss if they want to participate.

9. NEW BUSINESS: President Carey

Resolution 2022-02 - Liquor License – Summit City Mart: David Jenkins made the first motion to approve Resolution 2022-02, seconded by Kathleen Simrell, vote is 7-0.

502 Waverly – EDU's: Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the change from 4 to one EDU as of the date of the sale/closing, seconded by Kathleen Simrell, vote was 7-0.

Police Vehicles: David Jenkins made the first motion to put the police vehicles on Municibid, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote is 7-0.

10. SOLICITORS REPORT

Civil Service Commission procedures: Mariclare Hayes will update the written procedures.

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

AAJRB request: Josh Mitchell stated that Verizon approached the park, the cell service is awful. They identified a location that is unusable to anything else. They want to ensure that there aren't any questions from Clarks Summit Borough. They will provide a final proposal.

Realtor Litwinsky: This is concerning Lewis Lane Park. It is not available for sale. The land is for recreation.

Valarie Clark: The case is not closed. She would like the \$104 waived. There has not been any loss of funds either way. There is no reason why the borough should love the funds. David Jenkins made the first motion to not waive the fees, seconded by Roni Lopez. This was tabled until the situation is resolved, wait until April.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

President Carey

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

Josh Mitchell discussed how Council will meet next. Would it be virtual or live or hybrid? Council decided to be virtual for the worksession.

ADJOURN:

President Carey

Josh Mitchell made the first motion to adjourn, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 7-0.