

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
May 7, 2025**

The May 2025 Borough Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 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. Council members in attendance were Ms. Gerrie Carey, Mr. Gene Hallinan, Ms. Kathleen Simrell, Mr. Robert Sheils, Solicitor Andrew Krowiak, Police Chief Chris Yarns, Mayor Harry Kelly and Ms. Jenn Basalyga, Borough Manager, Ms. Roni Lopez at 7:05 and Mr. Joshua Mitchell at 7:07, Junior Councilperson Mr. McVety and Junior Councilperson Ms. Siddiqui. Mr. Steve Guza was absent.

**MEDITATION:**

**President Carey**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**President Carey**

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**President Carey**

Ms. Simrell made the first motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Hallinan. Vote was 5-0.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**President Carey**

**March 26, 2025 Work Session Meeting**

**April 2, 2025 Borough Council Meeting**

Ms. Lopez made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Simrell. Vote was 5-0.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT & INPUT:**

**President Carey**

**4. POLICE REPORT:**

**Mayor Kelly**

Chief Yarns said the police department received funding for the Seatbelt Enforcement Grant. He and the Mayor were hoping to receive funding for LED crosswalks that are solar powered, especially at the intersections of Colburn and State, by the clock tower and up higher. Chief Yarns will look into possibilities of funding.

- **Waverly/Columbia Ave Stop Sign/Speed Bump**

Chief Yarns said there cannot be a speed bump at that intersection and suggested a stop sign instead. Mr. Sheils asked if there were any accidents at that intersection and Chief replied there were not. Mr. Krowiak asked if the Aggressive Driving funds can be used in that area. Chief Yarns said yes but those funds are exhausted. It is also difficult to enforce the yield sign because it is not unlawful to go through it and the car speed would still be low. Mr. Mitchell asked Chief for his recommendation on having a stop sign at Columbia. Chief Yarns would recommend one. Mayor Kelly asked if PennDOT needs to approve it and he does not know. Ms. Basalyga will look into what needs to be done for a stop sign at that

intersection. Another concern in the area, kids are driving motorized scooters on the roads.

**5. BIDS & QUOTATIONS: President Carey**

**6. BOROUGH TREASURER'S REPORT: President Carey**

- **APRIL 2025**

Mr. Mitchell made the first motion to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by Ms. Lopez. Vote was 6-0.

**7. VENDOR PAYMENTS TO BE RATIFIED:**

- **APRIL 2025**

Ms. Lopez made the first motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mr. Hallinan. Vote was 6-0.

**8. OLD BUSINESS: President Carey**

- **Clock Tower estimates: Fix, tear down, or replace.**

Ms. Basalyga reached out to six different companies and was still waiting for quotes. Also asking for demolition quotes as well. The companies need more information from Ms. Basalyga and she is providing it for them. She is collecting quotes for fixing, tearing down and replacing the clock.

- **Decker Property long term lease:**

Mr. Sheils has not spoken to Mr. Decker yet but trying to work something out so the Borough can step onto the property for the clock.

- **Code/Zoning Officer - Job Description**

Ms. Basalyga is meeting with George Parker from Clarks Green Borough who may be interested in the position. Ms. Lopez thanked Ms. Basalyga for stepping up and handling the responsibilities of the zoning/code officer.

- **South Abington Paving Proposal**

Ms. Basalyga received a response from South Abington regarding the proposed numbers. Mr. Mitchell does not agree with their initial request nor this current request. He believes a prorated portion not covered by the grant would be fair. Not everyone had a chance to read the response yet so therefore council is not taking action on it today. Next meeting they will talk about it again. Ms. Lopez asked Mr. Krowiak if the council has any legal obligation to give money and his answer was no.

- **DPW Spreader \$6880 – Use savings \$5,000 from leaf boxes**

Ms. Basalyga explained the DPW purchased 2 leaf boxes and they were \$5000.00 less than expected and the DPW would like to purchase a new spreader and the remaining money due would be \$1880.00. Also the old spreader can be put on Municibid for purchase. Mr. Mitchell asked if the borough budgeted for a new spreader and Ms. Basalyga replied no, this

would be a new request. Mr. Mitchell would like to see the budgeted amount and actual amount for the leaf boxes before any decision is made. He also suggested listing the spreader on Municibid and see what offers are given. He would like to vote now to put the old spreader on Municibid and see what offers are given by the next meeting.

- **Authorization to put old spreader on Municibid**

Mr. Mitchell made the first motion to list the spreader on Municibid, seconded by Ms. Lopez. Vote was 6-0.

- **Reminder CDBG Meeting at 7pm – worksession**

CDGB will be here for the next worksession.

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

**President Carey**

- **Resolution for Stream Restoration Grant 15% Match**

Ms. Basalyga has a breakdown on the stream restoration project. This project is mandatory for the MS4 agreement. Mike Fennick, borough engineer, says to be prepared for \$51,000 as the 15% match. Mr. Mitchell stated we have those funds available in our sewer fund account. Ms. Lopez made the first motion for Ms. Carey to sign the resolution for the Stream Restoration Grant with a 15% match, Resolution 2025-03, seconded by Mr. Hallinan. Vote was 6-0.

- **Special Event Application – VFW Memorial Day Parade**

Ms. Basalyga supplied the application for the VFW to hold the VFW Memorial Day Parade. Mr. Sheils made the first motion to approve the VFW's special event application for the VFW Parade, seconded by Mr. Mitchell. Vote was 6-0.

**10. SOLICITORS REPORT**

Mr. Krowiak will have the findings of fact conclusion of law for the 423 Center St conditional use ready for the zoning hearing.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Ms. Basalyga stated at Lewis Lane Park there is an influx of carpenter bees. Ms. Basalyga is asking to have them exterminated and then have the DPW fix or replace the boards. Council agrees to move forward with the extermination and have the DPW fix the boards.

Ms. Simrell mentioned the Recycling Event went well and was a success thanks to Ms. Kehoe and Ms. Carey. Ms. Carey said the borough received a \$1000.00 grant from the county for the recycling event. The Civic League also donated \$1000.00 to a charity of our choice. The charity chosen was the Clarks Summit Fire Department.

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:**

**President Carey**

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

- Subsequent- N/A

**ADJOURN:**

**President Carey**

Ms. Lopez made the first motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Simrell.