

**BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL
MEETING November 19, 2025
7:00 PM**

The November 2025 Borough Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, November 26, 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 (7:20PM), Mr. Joshua Mitchell, Ms. Roni Lopez, Solicitor Andrew Krowiak, Mayor Harry Kelly, Borough Manager Ms. Jenn Basalyga, Jr. Councilperson James Mitchell and Jr. Councilperson Lauren Bartell. Mr. Steve Guza and Mr. Robert Sheils were absent.

Proclamation for AHHS Boys Soccer Team

1. WORKSESSION: President Carey

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: President Carey

3. DISCUSSION: President Carey

- John Pullo – ARWA spoke to council and provided a packet of information detailing the 11% increase for 2026.
- Jenn Basalyga’s Contract: Josh Mitchell asked what has changed from the 2025 contracts. Roni Lopez stated the contracts are now for 2 years, last year’s contract was for one year. The increase for 2026 will be 3% and the increase for 2027 will also be 3%. Roni Lopez stated that concerning vacation, Jenn doesn’t have the flexibility to take vacation time, as no one is able to fulfill her duties. Language has been written saying any holiday/vacation time not utilized can be paid out in full in December. The DPW does not have that in their contract, they do have the manpower cover one another when they do take vacation time. The DPW can also roll over sick days, Jenn cannot. Insurance and vision will be the same as the DPW (\$600 for vision allowance). Gerrie Carey stated she does not think it’s necessary for council to advertise for the Borough Manager position, she asked Josh Mitchell’s opinion he agreed they did not need to advertise.
- Nicole Kelly’s Contract: The only difference with Nicole’s contract is that it directly mirrors the DPW raise of 4% in 2026 and 2027. Josh Mitchell asked the rational aligning her contract with the DPW’s at 4%? Jenn Basalyga stated she was the only employee with a 3% raise.
- Woodridge Circle streetlight request: Jenn Basalyga stated the next morning she has an appointment with PPL at the corner of West Grove Street and Woodridge Circle to discuss options for a street light and the cost associated with it. Josh Mitchell commented that he drives West Grove Street often and this is not the only street without a street light.

Probably half the streets have one. If council approves a light on this street, they can anticipate putting a light on every street, so this is not a one X cost, this is a multiple X cost. The HOA requested the light. Josh Mitchell stated this part of Grove Street does not have sidewalks.

When Mr. Spatz came to council recently, he mentioned South Abington Township has applied for a multimodal to pave and add sidewalks near the library. If there is any grant opportunity to install sidewalks on that stretch of the road, that would be helpful.

- December 31 Worksession: Council will decide at the December worksession.
- OLP Contract: Solicitor Krowiak suggested postponing the vote on this until after the beginning of the year. Once there is more clarity on the contract and expectations. Roni Lopez asked about hiring the new part time officer, is this only for the SRO position. Solicitor Krowiak stated the officer would also work part time for the Clarks Summit Borough Police in addition to the SRO position. The candidate already has SRO training.
- Fire Department Contract: Solicitor Krowiak stated that he added the language in section 3A concerning the new millage which gives us the ability to negotiate.
- Police Officer at meetings: Chief Yarns did offer to stay through the council meeting. Council does not have to officially vote. Solicitor Krowiak said as long as there is a police officer available, not on a call.
- Part Time Police Officer-Collins: Gerrie Carey, Gene Hallinan and Roni Lopez were a part of the interviewing process. Ms. Lopez stated she has all of her certifications, and she could be easily transitioned as she has experience of being a SRO. Josh Mitchell clarified, if the new officer picks up a shift it will not be dedicated to OLP, if she would normally patrol there if that happens to be one of her assignments during her shift at the borough. Until council adopts that agreement, the borough will not be collecting any additional money. Ms. Lopez stated Chief Yarns was asking to hire the new part-time officer asap.

4. REVIEW DECEMBER 3, 2025 AGENDA

Josh Mitchell mentioned the Budgets needed to be added to the agenda for a vote.

5. ADJOURN:

President Carey