

BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

May 27, 2026

7:00 PM

The May Borough Special Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 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, Mr. Steve Guza, Mr. Josh Mitchell, Mr. Robert Sheils, Ms. Susan Grady, Solicitor Andrew Krowiak, Mayor Harry Kelly, Borough Manager Ms. Jenn Basalyga, and Jr. Councilperson Lauren Bartell. Jr. Councilperson James Mitchell and Ms. Kathleen Simrell were absent.

1. WORKSESSION:

President Carey

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Carey

- **Mark Spatz - CDBG Update:** Mark Spatz provided pictures of the Senior Center paving project as it has been completed. Last year the borough approved a pavilion concrete project at Hillside Park. The borough voted to allocate \$75,000 to that project from CDBG funds. That was approved by the state, Mr. Spatz is a pro-bono Engineer with the AAJRB. The low bid on that project came in at \$58,000, and he thinks it may come out to cost about \$50,000. The county will be drafting documents for council to sign on June 3rd. It is a contract that the borough executes with the county to facilitate that project. He asked council to consider allocating an additional \$100,000 to the Senior Center Improvement Project. The estimate last year that council agreed to was \$120,000, the assessment one year later has changed. There are Ad/Alt items in the bidding documents that bring the cost up to \$220,000. Council would need to approve the additional \$100,000 cost. Mr. Spatz for consideration to allocate the additional \$100,000 of CDBG funds to the Senior Center repair project. Josh Mitchell stated council does need to vote to approve the agreement with the county on the pavilion project. Mr. Mitchell stated to use these funds before they expire, council needs to move these projects forward at the next meeting. Mr. Mitchell stated the way the contract is written with the county, the language can be confusing. One question that may come up is what if the project goes over; the CDBG fund does have extra money so it wouldn't affect the borough's general fund. There is also money to

be spent on a yet to be named project, as we still have flexibility if an eligible project comes along.

- **Allyson Wind-Abington Community Library:** The Executive Director with the library updated council on what is new and happening there.

DISCUSSION:

President Carey

- **Clock Tower Agreement-Ron Parasole Update:** Solicitor Krowiak stated he anticipates the agreement to be signed soon. It should take about 2 days to perform the removal. We will try to align that with the electrical panel removal. The agreement will show the transfer of the tower to Mr. Parasole pursuant to council's vote. Mr. Parasole would need to take liability for the clock tower as discussed. Gerrie Carey stated the DeFazio family is comfortable with having the memorial in the borough until it is transferred to the Pocket Park. The agreement that council voted on, that Mr. Parasole proposed included the removal of the concrete and all of the work to the property, except for the electrical. He will remove the concrete and plant the sod to restore the property to its original condition, prior to the 1986 agreement.
- **Electrical Box-Walsh Electric Quote:** Jenn Basalyga stated she received a quote of \$6,700 to remove the electrical box from the Decker property and install the electricity in the borough building for the Christmas lights.
- **OLP SRO MOU:** This can be voted on next week.
- **West Grove Street Sidewalks MOU:** There has not been any further communication from the school district. Solicitor Krowiak would send a follow up email.
- **Civil Service-Full Time Officer:** Jenn Basalyga stated 7 officers took the Civil Service exam; we are waiting for results.
- **Police Regionalization:** Waiting on an update.
- **America 250 Sculpture costs: Mark Shiffer:** Mr. Shiffer provided receipts for reimbursement. These are out of pocket expenses.
- **Kevin Yetkowskas Police Chief Contract:** Solicitor Krowiak drafted a contract, the Finance Committee met with Officer Yetkowskas. Gene Hallinan stated they did go over the contract with him. The contract is still under discussion as he brings the contract to his labor attorney. Solicitor Krowiak stated council can go into an executive session at the end of the meeting.
- **Center Street Creek Easement Update:** Jenn Basalyga stated the borough did receive the documents needed from the residents which lets us move forward with the grant. One person has not gotten back to

me, a resident who lives along the creek. Mike Fenick will file this application by the end of the week.

- **Section 504 Documents:** Solicitor Krowiak stated the documents are templates that will be available for anyone who wants to proceed with it.
- **ABPA Summer Solstice Special Event:** Jenn Basalyga received the application and does approve of the event. Chief Yarns did approve it. It is on June 20th.
- **BUILD America 250 Act-**Bob Sheils replied to an email that was sent out to council concerning legislation and railroad safety.
- **Handicapped Door-CDBG:** Colwell Naegele provided a quote of \$3,000 for the engineering costs for a new H/C door at the borough building. It would be an automatic door. The scope of the project will come to over \$8,000 not including the engineering costs. CDBG would be covering the \$8,000 cost. Council would need to sign the agreement with Colwell Naegele at the next meeting.

Gerrie Carey stated on Saturday there will be a dedication ceremony at Veteran's Park for the America 250 Sculpture, the liberty bell.

Bob Sheils also stated we will start marketing for Clarks Summit Day with the Railriders on August 23rd. Gerrie Carey will be throwing out the first pitch. Stacie Lang with WNEP will also be in attendance. Tickets will be discounted and put on the website.

3. REVIEW JUNE 3, 2026 AGENDA

4. Adjourn

Gene Hallinan made the motion to adjourn.

Council went into an executive session.