

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
August 5, 2026**

The August Borough Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, August 5, 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. Bob Sheils, Ms. Kathleen Simrell (7:25pm), Mr. Josh Mitchell, Ms. Susan Grady, Chief Kevin Yetkowskas, Solicitor Andrew Krowiak, Mayor Harry Kelly, and Borough Manager Ms. Jenn Basalyga. Steve Guza was absent.

MEDITATION:

President Carey

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Carey

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

President Carey

Gene Hallinan made the first motion to approve the motion, seconded by Sue Grady, vote was 5-0.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

President Carey

July 1, 2026 Borough Council Meeting

July 29, 2026 Council Worksession

Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 5-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT & INPUT:

President Carey

- **205 Electric Street Tree:** Maura Lance stated the tree located at 205 Electric Street has not been removed and she asked for the latest update. Solicitor Krowiak stated the property owner sent confirmation the tree will be removed on August 11th, the deposit was confirmation. The invoice and scope of the work indicated the tree would be removed. Ms. Lance asked for a back up plan. Solicitor Krowiak stated there is a signed contract and down payment for the tree removal provided by the homeowner at 205 Electric. Jenn Basalyga could call tree companies to get estimates for the tree removal.

4. POLICE REPORT:

Mayor Kelly

- Chief Kevin Yetkowskas stated he is applying for grants for street barriers. The number of E-Bikes has reduced significantly. The borough does not have Flock cameras. They are training the new full-time officer. One of the borough's high volume part timers is leaving and a few other part-timers will be leaving for full time jobs. Josh Mitchell stated that staffing is an issue in

the police department and he was looking into calculations as to the cost of another full-time police officer in 2027 and the rough estimate is around a \$70,000 cost to the borough. Bob Sheils asked about overtime and police regionalization. We also need this detail for the Clarks Green Police Contract.

5. BIDS & QUOTATIONS: President Carey

6. BOROUGH TREASURER'S REPORT: President Carey

- **JUNE 2026**
- **JULY 20256**

Josh Michell made the first motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 5-0.

7. VENDOR PAYMENTS TO BE RATIFIED:

- **JUNE 2026**
- **JULY 2026**

Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 5-0.

8. OLD BUSINESS: President Carey

- Resolution 2026-12: Multi Modal Grant: Bob Sheils made the first motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Josh Mitchell, vote was 5-0.
- Resolution 2026-13: Depot Street Parking Meters Suspension: Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 5-0.
- Resolution 2026-14: Clarks Summit Goes Pink Request-Spring Street Open Container & Suspension of Open Container Law: Bob Sheils made the first motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Josh Mitchell, vote was 5-0.
- Clarks Summit Goes Pink-Depot Street Closing: Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the closing of Depot Street, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 5-0. Josh Mitchell made the motion to close Depot Street from 9am-11:30am, seconded by Sue Grady
- Open Container Ordinance Advertisement: Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve advertising the ordinance, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 4-1 with Bob Sheils voting no saying this ordinance is not necessary because we have not had an issue with this. Mr. Sheils noted the cost for the advertising. Josh stated there was a cost for our solicitor to work on this situation and it is an ordinance that is over 40 years old that should be updated.

- **Clarks Green Police Contract:** Josh Mitchell stated that he has been working on some numbers for the 2027 budget and we need numbers to propose to Clarks Green. Per head in the Borough of Clarks Summit for the 2026 budget, it costs us \$234.53 per head. Based on what Clarks Green is paying us now for police coverage, they are paying \$62.52 per head. That is not sustainable. That contract has been increasing by 3% through the years, the police increase is 4% alone. The contract is 10 years. Two 5 year contracts.
- **Chief Yetkowskas Police Personnel:** Already discussed.
- **Vote to Purchase Case Loader with \$130,000 Grant Money-\$168,000:** Bob Sheils made the first motion to approve the purchase of the Case Loader, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 6-0.
- **Vote to Advertise on Municibid:** Bob Sheils made the first motion to put the older loader on Municibid, seconded by Kathleen Simrell, vote was 6-0.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

President Carey

- **Letter from Mr. Adonizio-Street Signs:** Solicitor Krowiak will contact PennDOT concerning the street sign proposal concerning trucks on Ridge Street.
- **Paving:** Josh Mitchell stated the paving budget was slashed in 2026 and he thinks the borough will rack up a lot of deferred maintenance if we continue with this. Mr. Mitchell asked for us to reach out to the engineer to get a 5 year road paving plan. If we have a 7 year plan, we could budget 1/7 the to cover those costs. Jenn Basalyga will talk to our engineers about that.

10. SOLICITORS REPORT

Drew Krowiak stated Ron Parasole has been in discussions with Mr. Decker concerning the removal of the clocktower. Jenn Basalyga stated the demolition permits were in. Bob Sheils asked about the 911 Memorial. Ms. Basalyga stated the 911 Memorial will be held at the borough building until it is placed in the Pocket Park. Walsh Electric has also been contacted to take care of the electrical box. Jenn Basalyga was in touch with three landscapers asking them for a mockup of a memorial for the park. We are waiting for that information. This meeting will be recessed so council can vote on the construction of the 911 Memorial to be constructed before 9/11/2026. Josh Mitchell asked about the 90 day window for the clocktower. Solicitor Krowiak stated that the 90 days has passed however the clocktower is no longer the borough's property. Mr. Parasole is the owner at this point. Mr. Mitchell stated then the borough would not be liable if that went sideways.

Council discussed having a 911 Memorial ceremony on Saturday, 9/12/2026 but nothing was decided.

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

President Carey

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

ADJOURN:

President Carey

Josh Mitchell made the first motion to recess, seconded by Steve Guza, motion was 6-0.