

**PBOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
September 2, 2026**

The September Borough Meeting was conducted on Wednesday, September 2, 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, Mr. Steve Guza, Mr. Josh Mitchell, Ms. Susan Grady, Chief Kevin Yetkowskas, Solicitor Andrew Krowiak, Mayor Harry Kelly, and Borough Manager Ms. Jenn Basalyga. Ms. Kathleen Simrell was absent.

MEDITATION: **President Carey**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: **President Carey**

Open Container Ordinance Public Meeting: There were no comments from the public.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **President Carey**

Josh Michell made the first motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Ordinance 1-2026, seconded by Gene Hallinan, the vote was 6-0.

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

August 5, 2026 Borough Council Meeting

August 26, 2026 Worksession

Gene Hallinan made the first motion to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Steve Guza, vote was 6-0.

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

4. POLICE REPORT: **Mayor Kelly**

Chief Kevin Yetkowskas stated the “Clarks Summit Goes Pink” went well. There were a few issues concerning verifying drinking ages and proper vessels for alcohol. All of the behind the scenes efforts were excellent. They had their PSP Audit, Alex Keiser does a great job with that, they passed. Shoutout with the DPW who helped with a delicate situation last week in front of the borough building. Staffing is the biggest hurdle. Overtime was down in August as Justin Wilkie was hired. The problem with part-timers is their availability. Bob Sheils asked Chief Yetkowskas for his opinion on the Clarks Green Police contract. He stated that they have had the contract for 10 years, it has provided no extra hassle for the coverage there. He stated Clarks Green has been great to work with, and he hopes we continue to do so.

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

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

- **AUGUST 2026 N/A**

7. VENDOR PAYMENTS TO BE RATIFIED:

- **AUGUST 2026 N/A**

8. OLD BUSINESS:

President Carey

- **Clarks Green Police Contract:** Josh Mitchell stated the proposal was sent to Clarks Green, after the discussion during the worksession. He will discuss more during the executive session.
- **MMO Police and Non-Uniform:** Act 205 Funding Obligation for 2027: Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the 2027 MMO, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 6-0.
- **Pet Fees:** Council decided not to move forward with amending the ordinance to allow the borough to bill the residents, who are responsible for any pets surrendered to Griffin Pond. Jenn Basalyga stated the borough will be responsible for paying \$120 per animal. The Clarks Summit Borough responds to stray animal calls. The average number is 5 surrenders, but 2026 had over double that.
- **911 Memorial Event:** Gerrie Carey stated we would have the ceremony at 9am on 9/11. We are going to have a priest for the benediction, have choral students from the bank, possibly firemen and our police department. We will have a wreath made for the memorial. Jenn Basalyga stated that DeFazio brothers did show interest in donating to the cost. Ms. Basalyga will contact the newspaper, add this on the billboard and our Facebook page also.
- **West Grove Street Bridge Sidewalks: Snowblower:** Solicitor Krowiak stated the school district was not in agreement with our proposal for the maintenance of the sidewalks. Josh Mitchell stated the maintenance that the school district now employs is a contracted service. They are not district employees. Jenn Basalyga stated the DPW would need to purchase equipment to clear the sidewalks on both sides. They will request this in the 2027 budget.
- **Ordinance 2026-1 Open Container Ordinance:** Josh Mitchell made the first motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was 4-2 with Bob Sheils and Steve Guza voting no. Josh Mitchell asked if the borough can charge a nominal fee for those who submit a Special Event Permit application with the request an exception to the open container ordinance.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

President Carey

10. SOLICITORS REPORT

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

President Carey

- **Prior-** 8/26/26 Personnel Disc. & Contract Neg.
- **During-** N/A
- **Subsequent-** 9/2/2026 Personnel matters & Contract Neg.

ADJOURN:

President Carey

Josh Mitchell made the first motion to adjourn, seconded by Gene Hallinan, vote was unanimous.

Council went into Executive Session.