

April 3, 2018, Council Meeting  
Minutes

The regular meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on April 3, 2018, in the Clarion Free Library. President Lapinto called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers present were Mr. Zerfoss, Ms. Roberts, Dr. Sanders Dédé, Mr. Aaron, Ms. Logue, and President Lapinto. Mr. Noto was absent. Chief Peck, Mayor Parker, Solicitor Marshall, Mr. Colosimo, Mr. Sharrar, Mr. Preston, and Ms. LaVan were also present.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Ms. Roberts to approve the March 6, 2018, Council Meeting minutes. The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Ms. Logue, amending the agenda to include a sidewalk request under Housing and Zoning, was carried with a vote of six yea.

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Ms. Roberts that the agenda be amended to include a Stormwater Resolution regarding the PennVEST application. The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

Before moving on, President Lapinto called on Chief Peck.

Chief Peck introduced Christopher Fox, whom Council approved to hire as a new officer at the last Council Meeting.

Dr. Sanders Dédé commended Chief Peck and the Public Safety Committee for their excellent choices made in the last two hires. They are well-trained, well-qualified young men.

President Lapinto welcomed Officer Fox and added he is welcome to stay if he wishes.

Officer Fox thanked Council and stated he will leave now since he is on duty.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Items Only

Mr. Theron Miles, Miles Brothers, reported they are the developers of the Glassworks Business Park. At the last meeting, individuals expressed concerns about the heavy truck traffic on Sheridan Road. In 2011, Terra Works worked with Clarion Borough recognizing the issue of pulling out onto 322 and donated their time and labor to widen that turn to make it so pedestrians, car traffic, and truck traffic was safe and enabled people to see when making the turn heading east on Main Street from Sheridan Road. As work continues to develop their business park, Mr. Miles stated it was realized that Sheridan Road, Grand Avenue and Heidrick Street are all failing streets. Very little money has been put into them, and the infrastructure has collapsed. It is not safe for pedestrians in these areas. Not only are there obvious property damages, which no one wants to deal with, but there are a lot of safety issues with that turn coming off of 322 onto Sheridan Road. One of the biggest problems is that there is poor radius on both corners, which means trucks have to swing wide. With oncoming traffic, this creates a

chance for a head-on collision. Also, the amount of pedestrian traffic using those streets to go to Sheetz is a concern. Mr. Miles commented there are major issues on Heidrick Street as well coming off of Route 66. When their Park is developed, truck traffic will use Heidrick but also may overflow onto Sheridan Road, or get bad directions to Sheridan Road. The Miles' realized this would be an issue, because of their own truck traffic accessing these roads every single day. Because of this, the Miles' decided the first thing to do when developing the Park was to look for grant opportunities that kind of fit this selection to help them redo the roads for the Borough for the following reasons: 1) the college students could be safe walking down Grand Avenue, Sheridan Road, and Heidrick Street, 2) the roads could support the weight of the traffic coming in and out of the roads, and 3) take the pressure away from the Borough so they weren't responsible for trying to take care of issues. Mr. Miles commented they applied for a grant that is especially designed for freight traffic and also for public safety, which is designed to help transportation needs into industrial parks of this size. A special portion is for walkways and pedestrian safety. This application was not only to redo Heidrick Street but all of Grand Avenue up to Veterans Drive and redo all of Sheridan Drive. Mr. Miles reported the improvements were to redo the storm sewer completely from top to bottom and replace the road with sub-bases that are adequate to Interstate 80 so that it's designed for heavy truck traffic to last up to half a century. The application was submitted in July, but was not awarded. However, this application received very high remarks and brought a lot of attention to Clarion. Mr. Miles commented it is very hard for a private citizen/company to apply for these types of grants and pointed out they are meant more for municipalities. Rather than looking for ways to stop truck traffic using Sheridan Road or placing a weight limit on it, it may be more beneficial to look for ways to improve that road as well as the others ones mentioned tonight. Mr. Miles suggested the Borough, along with Glassworks Business Park, could create a partnership and apply for this grant together to hopefully be successful. Mr. Miles stressed Mr. Colosimo is one of the best grant writers that they've worked with. Terra Works' jobs run the smoothest in Clarion Borough out of all the areas they work because of all the work Mr. Colosimo does to prepare the paperwork. With that being stated, Mr. Miles asked for permission for their company to work directly with Mr. Colosimo to use the paperwork and engineering already paid for to reapply for this grant together to try to get a successful result. This will create new signage through the town directing truck traffic onto Grand Avenue rather than using Route 322. It will create new sidewalks and new street lighting that will make it better for pedestrians to walk in this area. Mr. Miles commented it will also include storm sewer work to reconstruct a failing system to handle all the water. In his opinion, this will create a much better situation than posting signs to limit the type of traffic and the weight.

President Lapinto inquired if Council needs to approve anything?

Solicitor Marshall stated eventually but not right now.

Mr. Miles asked for Council's blessing to be able to start working with Mr. Colosimo and the Borough on this application.

President Lapinto reported that is fine and thanked Mr. Miles for coming and discussing this with the Borough. This is a wonderful idea.

Mayor Parker presented a proclamation to a Ms. Ashley Callihan, a representative of Drug and Alcohol Task Force, proclaiming the month of April as Problem Gambling Awareness Month and encouraged all residents to learn more about the signs of problem gambling and to help spread the message about the availability of treatment.

#### ADMINISTRATION

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Aaron, approving the appropriations for the month of April, was carried with a vote of six yea.

President Lapinto stated the Treasurer's Report of Fund Totals and Budget Analysis are in the packet for Council's review.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Ms. Roberts to approve the First Baptist Church's special event request to close Seventh Avenue from 649 Main Street to Madison Road from July 16-20, 2018.

Secretary LaVan noted the closure will be 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. each night. Barricades are dropped off for their use during the event.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

President Lapinto reported a new request was received from Clarion County Broadcasting – C93 WWCH 1300's special event request for Clarion River Days to be held June 16-17, 2018, at Toby Boat Launch. As a note, this is a public access area and must remain open during the event at all times and any solicitation permits must be obtained prior to event.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Dr. Sanders Dédé, approving Clarion County Broadcasting – C93 WWCH 1300's special event request for Clarion River Days to be held July 16-17, 2018, at Toby Boat Launch, was carried with a vote of six yea.

President Lapinto reported next is Resolution #2018-416, approving the transfer of an importing distributor license into Clarion Borough from Clarion Township, which was reviewed by Solicitor Marshall.

Solicitor Marshall reviewed the law, and the Resolution is fine and in order.

Dr. Sanders Dédé inquired where this license will go?

Mr. Sharrar commented underneath Clarion Fruit where the old bar used to be on East Main Street.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Dr. Sanders Dédé, approving Resolution No. 2018-416, a Resolution approving the transfer of Importing Distributor License ID-251 into Clarion Borough from Clarion Township, was carried with a vote of six yea.

#### BLUEPRINT COMMITTEE

Dr. Sanders Dédé stated grants are still available for the Committee and feels the Committee would be happy to support the partnership discussed above between the Borough and the Miles' development. Maybe not a lot of funding, but some, could be obtained to compliment getting the job done.

President Lapinto asked Mayor Parker to discuss the other grant.

Last summer, Mayor Parker reported the Committee had received a Cool and Connected Grant from the EPA and the Allegheny Regional Commission to do a study of the town and its broadband capabilities. One of the action items from that was the idea to improve wayfinding signage around the Borough so people can get from Point A to Point B and see the sites along the way. This grant would include welcoming signage as you come into the Borough and also along the interstate to encourage motorist to visit Main Street. Mayor Parker commented Cindy Nellis from the Small Business Development Center was part of the Cool and Connected team and has been working on a USDA Grant to help with this signage project. Mayor Parker, along with Mr. Colosimo, Ms. LaVan, and President Lapinto, will meet later this week Ms. Nellis to discuss and finalize the application.

Dr. Sanders Dédé noted this would fit into Mr. Miles' application as well.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Zerfoss announced Clean-Up Day is May 19, 2018, and asked the news media to publish the information provided in their packets so everyone has the details. All items must be taken to the Borough Public Works Department that day between the hours of 6:30 and 11:30 a.m. and show proof of residency. If someone needs help to get his/her items out, he/she should contact the Public Works Department or Borough Office to make arrangements.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Ms. Logue to give permission to purchase a 1997 Ford Super Bucket Truck from Ferring Painting in Knox, Pennsylvania in the amount of \$12,000.

President Lapinto added this is a very much needed truck. While putting up the banners, the employees currently go up and down a ladder. This truck will be a lot safer to handle the banners.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

Mr. Zerfoss stated everyone received a paper listing six quotes that were received for a new lawn mower, which was included in the 2018 Budget. The bid from C. H. Waltz Sons, W & W

Equipment, from DuBois, Pennsylvania for a Kubota for the amount of \$9,966.03, less \$150 because the Public Works employees can pick it up and eliminate the delivery fee, is the one being recommended.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Aaron to approve to purchase a Kubota lawnmower from C. H. Waltz Sons at the cost of \$9,966.03, excluding the delivery fee of \$150.

Ms. Logue understands it may be a little cheaper but inquired why the Borough wouldn't buy it from Kahle's, which is in Clarion County, or go to Tom's Sales and Service.

Mr. Preston commented one of the biggest concerns is with mechanics. The DuBois dealer has 3 or 4 mechanics that are certified through Kubota. Also, the Department added a bagger to the mower. Every dealer automatically priced it with wheel weights, with the exception of Tom's Sales and Service, which was concerning.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

Mr. Zerfoss informed everyone the Department is patching potholes right now. Individuals can contact the Department to let them know of potholes.

Mr. Preston stated coldpatch is still being used, which does not last as long as the hot mix. However, the plants aren't open yet.

Mr. Preston commented the dock was put in yesterday in case anyone wants to go fishing.

#### STORM WATER AUTHORITY

In the absence of Mr. Noto, Mr. Aaron announced at the last Stormwater Authority Meeting, the Board regretfully accepted the resignation of Keaton MacBeth. If anyone wishes to be considered to be appointed by Council to that Board, he/she should contact the Borough Office.

Mr. Aaron asked Mr. Colosimo to discuss the resolution?

As everyone is aware, Mr. Colosimo stated the Borough is applying through PennVEST for funding through a loan/grant package to assist with the Center Place Storm Water Project. This resolution, which Council received this evening, would actually authorize the appropriate Borough officials to execute any documents pertaining to the submission of this PennVEST application on or before May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Ms. Logue, approving Resolution #2018-417, approving the submission of a financial assistance application to the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PennVEST), was carried with a vote of six yea.

Mr. Aaron asked for any other updates?

Mr. Colosimo reported the flyover is completed. The Borough has been given a copy of the data on CD; however, the software to open it is not available. HRG will use this data to start working on the impervious surface area calculations that will help form the basis for the rates.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Aaron pointed out the offer to help with the problems that the Borough has been having on Sheridan Road from the Miles Brothers really shows an example of what a community member is supposed to be.

#### LIBRARY REPORT

Mayor Parker had nothing to report.

#### HOUSING AND ZONING

Ms. Roberts stated everyone received a copy of a letter from the University asking permission to block the sidewalk along Greenville Avenue for approximately the next 18 months. Anything over 14 days requires approval by Council.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Ms. Logue to give permission for the University to block the sidewalk along Greenville Avenue from March 28, 2018, until September 2019.

Chief Peck asked why the sidewalk has to be closed?

Mr. Frank Connelly, Director of Facilities in Clarion, stated he was hired to do the renovations at the gym and has only been at Clarion about 5 weeks. This is a \$40 million project with a whole new gym renovation, new pool, locker rooms, and weight room. The contractor from Mascaro is also present this evening with him. Once that project started, the University doesn't own the building anymore; it belongs to the State and is run by the Department of General Services. The Department of General Services governs how the project is handled and actually where the fencing goes along the project. Mr. Connelly was contacted by Mr. Sharrar yesterday that permits were required to block the sidewalk at which time the University is working on resolving the issue. However, no definite answers are available at this time. This project is set to go through September 2019.

Ms. Roberts pointed out that is a main walk way for the students to get to and from classes.

Chief Peck voiced concern about the pedestrian traffic. Once they get to that fence, they are going to cross the street, which is a big safety concern.

Mr. Connelly reported the University has been discussing the possibility of putting in a temporary crosswalk in this area. The Department of General Services is very definite that those sidewalks are to be blocked. This is a problem due to the closeness of Marwick Boyd and upcoming graduation ceremonies. With the student count being about 5,000, and increasing to 7,000-8,000 during graduation services, this is very concerning. During this project, those

sidewalks are to be blocked. Mr. Connelly feels they will be so damaged by the end of the project that they will need replaced.

After discussing a temporary crosswalk with Chief Peck today, Ms. LaVan relayed via email to Mr. Connelly that the University should contact PennDOT, since that is a state highway, to find out how to address that.

Mr. Mark Belmar, contractor for Mascaro, commented the company is going to have to restrict more of that area than it is currently because of the weight room addition and the temporary construction office. That area will see heavy demolition during the process as the wall will be removed and replaced with glass for the pool area. Mr. Belmar voiced concerns as well for the pedestrians getting from the west side of Greenville and back over. Mascaro is working with the Department of General Services and the University to make it as safe as possible for everyone involved.

Mr. Connelly announced there is a big meeting tomorrow with the Department of General Services, Mascaro, and the University and all these issues will be brought up for discussion.

President Lapinto suggested that PennDOT be included as well as Chief Peck to address the safety concerns.

Mr. Connelly feels this project will be a good move for the Borough as well as the University and will keep every informed.

Last Thursday night, Ms. Roberts attended a program at the University. Afterwards, due to it being so dark and misting outside, it was a very dangerous situation. The University has to worry about graduation but also many other events are approved to be held there during this construction project.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

#### RECREATION

Ms. Roberts had nothing to report.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary LaVan commented the auditors will be in later this month to begin testing for the books.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Parker had nothing to report.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Zerfoss echoed Mr. Aaron's comments that Clarion Borough is very fortunate to have Miles Brothers in the Borough of Clarion and also thanked them for helping fix Sheridan Road many

years ago. The Miles' help the Borough in any way they can. Mr. Zerfoss thanked Mr. Miles for being in the Borough of Clarion.

#### NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS: Non-Agenda Items

Dr. Sanders Dédé passed out fliers earlier tonight on a ceremony commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., which will be held tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m. on campus at the bell tower. The public is invited to attend. Hopefully, participants will not block the streets. Dr. Sanders Dédé stated the trivia question is 'where were you on April 4, 1968?'. The program will start at 6:30 p.m. because at 7:01 p.m. eastern time the chimes will ring 39 times. This is a national movement and will be in concert with people all over the United States. Dr. Sanders Dédé stated she was a sophomore in college in New Orleans, Louisiana. The students all got sent home, because they went out and blocked the streets, which the president of the university commented they couldn't do.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. LaVan read a thank you letter from Tracy Becker, Executive Director of the Clarion Chamber of Business & Industry, for the donation of a pool pass for their annual dinner held in March. The continued support is appreciated, and the Chamber looks forward to working together on future endeavors that aim to build a healthy economy and to improve the quality of life in the community.

Ms. LaVan read another thank you letter from John Stroup, representing Rotary, for the donation of a Clarion Borough pool pass for their annual Rotary auction. The pool is enjoyed by many, including him, and it is great to be able to build memories and help Rotary in their mission of helping people across the world.

On a motion by Dr. Sanders Dédé with a second by Mr. Aaron, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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Linda LaVan, Borough Secretary