

June 6, 2017, Council Meeting
Minutes

The regular meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on June 6, 2017, in the Assembly Room of 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, Mr. MacBeth, and President Lapinto. Mr. Noto was absent. Mr. Colosimo, Chief Peck IV, Mr. Preston, Mayor Parker, Solicitor Marshall, Mr. Sharrar, and Ms. LaVan were also present.

President Lapinto turned the meeting over to Mr. Aaron.

At the second meeting in May, Mr. Aaron reported Officer Evan Maxwell was sworn in. Since some members of Council were absent, Mr. Aaron invited him back to introduce him to everyone.

Having the privilege of working with his father for a short time, Chief Peck presented a brand new badge to Officer Maxwell. Prior to hiring him full-time, Chief Peck had the opportunity to ride double with Officer Maxwell a couple times and learned that he had a real good desire and passion for police work, which he believes Officer Maxwell was influenced by his father. While looking for a badge, Chief Peck found something that he thought was very special and asked Officer Maxwell's family to join them at this time. On behalf of the Clarion Borough Police Department and Borough Council, Chief Peck and President Lapinto presented Officer Maxwell and his Mother with a plaque displaying his Dad's badge.

President Lapinto noted she also had the privilege of working with Officer Maxwell's Dad.

At this time, Mr. Zerfoss asked to amend the Council Meeting, under Public Works, to include a motion with regards to paving projects.

President Lapinto commented that was noted.

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Ms. Roberts, approving the May 2, 2017, Council Meeting, minutes, was carried with a vote of five yea with Mr. Zerfoss abstaining as he was absent.

On a motion by Dr. Sanders Dédé with a second by Mr. Aaron to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2017, Council Meeting. The motion carried with a vote of five yea with Mr. Zerfoss abstaining as he was absent.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Items Only

With the approval of Councilmembers, President Lapinto asked for Non-Agenda Items to be allowed now so the individuals present do not have to wait until the end.

Mr. Bernard Ganoë, 29 West Wood Street, reported they live in the township but have a concern about the water run off coming from West Wood Street, which is a street without catch basins. When heavy downpours occur, water shoots off Wood Street and is washing the hill to their property. Mr. Ganoë realizes water also comes from the cemetery but feels it's mainly from Wood Street. The residents are asking if the Borough could put a catch basin out there at the end of Wood Street to alleviate water coming down the hill.

President Lapinto asked Mr. Zerfoss or Mr. Preston for comments?

Mr. Preston informed the residents prior to the meeting the Department can look to see if anything could be done.

President Lapinto commented the Borough will get back to the residents.

ADMINISTRATION

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. MacBeth to approve the appropriations for the month of June.

Mr. Colosimo asked Council to include two more bills that were received after the packets were mailed. One was from M and B Services for \$1,800 for pool repairs and Cohen Law Group in the amount of \$810.

Mr. Zerfoss and Mr. MacBeth both agreed to amend the motion to include those two bills. The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

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

President Lapinto reminded everyone the July Council Meeting is Wednesday, July 5, 2017, at 7 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. MacBeth with a second by Mr. Aaron, approving Clarion County Coalition for Suicide Prevention's special event request for walk on September 14, 2017, was carried with a vote of six yea.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Aaron to approve First Baptist Church's special event request for street to be blocked from Main Street to Madison Road for Vacation Bible School the week of July 10-14, 2017.

Since the Church has the parking lot behind their building, Ms. Roberts questioned if they could do their event there instead?

Dr. Sanders Dédé stated that's the plan, but they want to wait until it is paved. Right now, it's still gravel.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Mr. MacBeth to approve the purchase of a copier from Clarion Office Equipment LLC at the price of \$5,219.

Mr. Aaron reported this was included in the budget.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

President Lapinto reported next permission is necessary to modify the FFY 2015 CDBG Program to change the activity from the Paul A. Weaver Community Park improvements to Main Street scape improvements. This would include new trash cans, new benches, trees, and possibly a new P.A. system. When the Borough submitted the application earlier, the park was listed as it always qualifies. However, since that time, it was determined to do street scaping improvements.

On a motion by Mr. MacBeth with a second by Mr. Aaron to give approval to modify the FFY 2015 CDBG Program to add the 2017 Main Street Improvements Project as an eligible and fundable CDBG activity and delete the Community Park Recreation Improvements Activity. The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

BLUEPRINT COMMITTEE

Dr. Sanders Dédé commented there is no formal report, except the Committee is brainstorming for ideas that fit in with the strategic plan.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Zerfoss commented the Public Works Report is in the packet for everyone's review.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Aaron to give permission for Anderson Electric to repair the loop sensor at Second Avenue and Main Street at a price not to exceed \$2,800.

Mr. Preston reported the sensor was broken when a contractor repaired the storm sewers in that area a couple years ago. Because of that, the lights going through town are screwed up. No one will be sitting at Second and Main yet the light will change and motorists have to sit. Anderson Electric discovered this when they were checking another traffic light.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Aaron to give approval for The EADS Group to look at the Center Place storm water issue.

Mr. Colosimo reported there is an issue with a developing sink hole related to the underlying storm drains near Boundary Street.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

Mr. Zerfoss reported the Committee has been discussing a 2017 paving project the last couple months and is comfortable to move forward with the project. A lot of streets need paved; however, the Borough is limited on funding. This year's project will include the following: South Street from Jefferson Place to Fifth Avenue; Fourth Avenue from Wood Street to South Street; Merle Road from Seventh Avenue to Sixth Avenue; Merle Road from Sixth Avenue to Fifth Avenue; and Gemmell from Bond Drive to Leatherwood Drive. If the bids come in too high, some may be eliminated.

President Lapinto voiced she is pleased to see the Borough getting back to paving streets.

Mr. Zerfoss commented the Borough started to use the Liquid Fuel money to purchase equipment. Speaking of equipment, the street sweeper is in bad condition. The Department continues to replace parts but maybe something can be worked out in next year's budget. Mr. Zerfoss asked the price of a sweeper?

Mr. Preston stated about \$250,000.

Mr. Zerfoss reported it's not a simple amount of money. The street sweeper is definitely needed to clean the streets. The Borough cannot go back to purchasing four shovels and brooms; there are just too many streets.

President Lapinto asked if there is a motion for the paving project.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. MacBeth, approving to advertise the 2017 Paving Project, was carried with a vote of six yea.

Mr. Zerfoss reminded residents that he/she can take his/her grass, leaves, and branches to the Public Works drop-off location every day. This is for Clarion Borough residents only. Mr. Zerfoss encouraged residents not to blow his/her grass onto the streets or sidewalks. Grass blown on the streets clog up the storm sewers.

STORM WATER AUTHORITY

There was no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Mr. MacBeth to give permission for Solicitor Marshall to advertise Ordinance #2017-823, amending Chapter 205 of Clarion Borough's Code of Ordinances titled "Vehicles and Traffic" amending Article III, Section 205.22, Parking Prohibited at All Times, Scheduled XV (§205.77) in reference to West Wood Street.

Ms. Roberts asked why this is being done?

Mr. Aaron commented the distance was longer than necessary, and it's putting a burden on the residents in that area. Parking will still be prohibited but not as long of an area.

The motion carried with a vote of six yea.

LIBRARY REPORT

Mayor Parker, in the absence of Mr. Noto, informed everyone some more water come in the entry way doors during the big storm Memorial Day Weekend. Luckily, the cleaners were in the building and were able to mop it up quickly, which worked out. Mayor Parker stated he was grateful for that.

Mayor Parker announced the summer reading program, for children ages 7 to 18, begins this Thursday night and runs for 8 weeks. This program encourages them to read throughout the summer to keep their reading skills up.

One more time, Mayor Parker shouted out to the public the Library's Guest Bartender Fundraiser event will be held at the Clarion River Brewing Company on Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m. There will be local celebrities, many of which everyone knows who they are. Mayor Parker encouraged everyone to come out, put them to work to tend bar, and earn tips for you to support the library.

HOUSING AND ZONING

Dr. Sanders Dédé stated the monthly report is in the packet for everyone's review. Some highlights CVS is open and a solicitation permit was issued for the ice cream truck for people, both young and old, to buy.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Ms. Roberts reported the pool should be open by June 10, 2017, as long as the chemicals get balanced and the lab report is good. Hopefully, this season will have good weather.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary LaVan had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Parker had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

President Lapinto announced both contracts, the Police and Public Works, expire at the end of the year. In addition to herself, President Lapinto appointed Mr. Zerfoss and Mr. Noto to negotiate for the Public Works Department and Mr. Aaron, Mr. MacBeth, and Mayor Parker to negotiate for the Police Department.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Non-Agenda Items

Dr. Sanders Dédé invited everyone to attend the 15th Juneteenth Celebration, “Love and Courage” on Thursday, June 15, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. at Hart Chapel, Clarion University. The keynote speaker will be Fred Hodges, Jr., of Robert Morris University. There will be a free lunch in Eagle Commons following.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Mr. MacBeth, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Linda M. LaVan, Borough Secretary