

May 2, 2017, Council Meeting  
Minutes

The regular meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on May 2, 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. Before roll call, in the absence of the Mayor, President Lapinto announced she will be acting as Mayor and will only be able to vote in the case of a tie. Councilmembers present were Ms. Roberts, Dr. Sanders Dédé, Mr. Aaron, Mr. Noto, and President Lapinto. Mr. MacBeth arrived at 7:14 p.m. Mr. Zerfoss was absent. Mr. Colosimo, Chief Peck IV, Mr. Preston, Solicitor Marshall, and Ms. LaVan were also present. Mayor Parker and Mr. Sharrar were absent.

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Dr. Sanders Dédé, approving the April 4, 2017, Council Meeting, minutes, was carried with a vote of four yeas.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Items Only

Mr. Dan Clark, 246 Toby Street, thanked Council, stated everyone had a great year at the pool last year, and realizes there's continuing maintenance on the pool but hopes this year will be a great year at the pool as well. As a citizen of the Borough and this being a Blueprint Community, the idea is to revitalize the area and make it attractive for families living here and moving into the Borough. Mr. Clark feels recreation is a very important aspect. This is the only public pool in the Borough. Mr. Clark appreciates his family being able to use it.

Ms. Kristin Clark, 246 Toby Street, reiterated that her family really appreciates the pool and asked her son to pass out various pictures taken over the summer during random days. Everyone will notice how many kids are using that pool. It is very important for the Clark family as it is located right in their neighborhood. Ms. Clark reported they love going there and being there. In the past, when the Borough faced a crisis, a lot of community groups and citizens stepped up to the plate to donate money, time, and services to keep the pool open. In discussion with United Way, Ms. Clark commented they are willing to create an endowment for the citizens to help raise funds for the pool. There is a lot of support to keep it open. Ms. Clark hopes Council will continue to make the commitment to keep the pool open and has encouraged a lot of her friends that live in surrounding townships to lobby his/her supervisors to provide support for this community-wide facility.

Ms. Mallory McFarland, 1292 Eastwood Drive, informed everyone the pool has been invaluable to changing her life. Two years ago, through swimming, she lost 236 pounds at the Borough and Brookville pool. Ms. McFarland doesn't know how to exercise in any other way than walking and swimming. It's really been a lifesaver. Her son made many friends and got acclimated to the area. Ms. McFarland thanked the Borough and stressed the pool is definitely needed.

President Lapinto commented they moved to the Borough in 1975 and she was a stay-at-home mom with four children. Not intending to go to the pool to make friends, President Lapinto stated that's exactly what happened. The friendships formed there have lasted until today, and

her children also formed friendships. When they started school in the fall, they knew other children. President Lapinto agrees the pool is much more than a place to swim.

Mr. Chris Crosby, 313 Liberty Street, voiced support for the pool as well and admitted he's not too familiar with what it requires other than what other people, including Ms. Roberts, have informed him. It is a valuable resource in the community.

President Lapinto commented the approval of expenditures is on the agenda for later.

#### ADMINISTRATION

On a motion by Dr. Sanders Dédé with a second by Mr. Aaron to approve the appropriations for the month of May. The motion carried with a vote of four yea.

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

President Lapinto announced the second Council meeting will be held on May 16, 2017, at 7 p.m. at the Clarion Free Library in the secondary room where Executive Sessions are held.

President Lapinto commented Council needs to approve a Protective Services Interagency Agreement with Clarion Area Agency on Aging. This happens every year. President Lapinto verified with Chief Peck that it gives the Police Department an opportunity to step in.

Chief Peck agreed. It allows both entities the ability to share valuable information and protects both sides.

On a motion by Dr. Sanders Dédé with a second by Mr. Aaron, approving the Protective Services Interagency Agreement with Clarion Area Agency on Aging Inc., was carried with a vote of four yea.

#### BLUEPRINT COMMITTEE

Dr. Sanders Dédé had nothing to report.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Noto, in the absence of Mr. Zerfoss, reminded everyone Clean-Up Day will be held May 20, 2017, from 6:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. If you are a Borough resident, he/she can bring all their items to the Public Works Building. As a reminder, proof of residency must be shown.

Mr. Noto stated Spring Leaf Collection will be one-day only on May 12, 2017, from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. This is for leaves only. Branches and sticks will not be taken and will damage the machine.

Mr. Preston commented the Department is patching potholes, weather-permitting.

Mr. Noto commented the Borough requested proposals for financing in the amount of \$59,102.

President Lapinto asked Mr. Colosimo to discuss.

Mr. Colosimo reminded everyone a new Public Works Truck with a stainless steel body was purchased for the price of \$59,102. Requests were sent to area banks for financing. Mr. Colosimo stated a total of six proposals were received and recommended that First United National Bank be awarded this loan with an interest rate of 2.10% for 36 months, or a monthly payment of \$1,695.46.

On a motion by Mr. Noto with a second by Mr. Aaron, accepting the proposal received from First United National Bank with an interest rate of 2.10% for 36 months, or a monthly payment of \$1,695.46, was carried with a vote of four yea.

Mr. Noto asked when the Borough will receive the new truck?

Mr. Colosimo stated it's been ordered and will be a little while.

On a motion by Mr. Noto with a second by Mr. Aaron, giving permission for Solicitor Marshall to advertise Ordinance #2017-822, Local Government Unit Debt Act Ordinance in re the Public Works Truck, was carried with a vote of four yea.

Mr. MacBeth arrived at this time during the meeting.

Mr. Noto commented Pennsylvania American Water offered to pave South Street from Third Avenue to Jefferson Place and Church Road from Fourth Avenue to Keatley Place as restoration work on a project from 2016 and asked Mr. Preston to explain.

Mr. Preston reported a skim coat will be put down and then the whole street will be overlaid completely.

On a motion by Mr. Noto with a second by Mr. Aaron to accept the offer from PAWC to pave South Street from Third Avenue to Jefferson Place and Church Road from Fourth Avenue to Keatley Place as restoration work on project from 2016.

President Lapinto noted a meeting was held with the water company and it went well.

Mr. Noto agreed and added it was very productive.

The motion carried with a vote of five yea.

#### STORM WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Noto stated work continues on determining the permeable surface area for properties. Once that is determined, the Authority will move forward.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Mr. MacBeth to give permission to promote Neil E. Kemmer to the position of detective at an additional \$1 per hour, effective May 3, 2017.

Ms. Roberts asked what the difference would be for him being a detective as to what he is doing now?

Chief Peck announced Officer Kemmer would be assigned all the criminal investigations and basically be in charge of all crime in the Borough.

Dr. Sanders Dédé verified this is what Chief Peck held formerly?

Chief Peck agreed and was detective for 12 years.

The motion was carried with a vote of five yea.

Last Tuesday, Mr. Aaron reported the Public Safety Committee met with all three candidates for the full-time police officer position. All of them were outstanding. The choice was pretty clear by the time the interviews were finished.

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Mr. MacBeth to give permission to hire Evan Maxwell as a probationary police officer at the starting base wage of \$18.09 per hour (70% of base rate), contingent upon passing the psychological exam and physical exam.

Dr. Sanders Dédé asked how long the probationary period is?

Chief Peck reported one year.

Mr. Noto stated he was number 1 on the list as well.

The motion carried with a vote of five yea.

## LIBRARY REPORT

With the bad storm yesterday, Mr. Noto reported water came into the library. In a way, this is not surprising as it was a tremendous amount of water. However, Mr. Noto believes that even this type of rain flow was supposed to be taken care of in the catch basin and pipe. That piece of pipe that goes down into the cistern is not adequate enough to be able to handle that amount of water that funnels down through at that entrance. The Borough fixed the pump, but water is still infiltrating into the building. Mr. Noto requested a meeting with the EADS Group be set up to discuss what needs done, whether it's enlarging the catch basin or putting a bigger piece of pipe into it, to prevent this problem. It was noted the doors need replaced because of the previous water damage. However, that needs fixed to avoid damaging the doors.

Mr. Noto asked Ms. Roberts for any comments.

Ms. Roberts announced quite a few fundraisers will be held over the summer for the Friends of the Library; such as, a birdhouse fundraiser the Saturday before Father's Day for Dads and their kids; a guest bartender from CRB; and an improv night in late August. Everyone should keep his/her eyes open and support the Library.

Mr. Noto pointed out the Library is a wonderful community resource, too.

#### HOUSING AND ZONING

Dr. Sanders Dédé stated the Committee met this month and is waiting for Limestone Township to respond to the Memorandum of Understanding for sharing Local Emergency Management Coordinator. The monthly report is in the packet for everyone's review.

#### PARKS AND RECREATION

Ms. Roberts reported the Recreation Committee met with Mr. Preston, Ms. LaVan, and Mr. Colosimo at the pool. Mr. Preston pointed out all the things that need to be maintained or fixed. After brainstorming and prioritizing what needs done now and in the future, the Committee came up with a couple items that need to be done before the season can open, which are reflected in the following motions.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Mr. Aaron to give permission to accept the quote from DASCO/FL Burns to complete plumbing and piping repairs for the filter/pump house at the cost of \$3,364.

Mr. Noto asked where the Borough is coming up with the money to pay for these services?

President Lapinto credited Ms. LaVan, Mr. Aaron, and Mr. Colosimo for coming up with the financing the Borough has available, as follows: approximately \$8,980 left over from the Weaver/Garbarino funds and free parking approved by Council years ago and the remaining balance of \$5,500 from the \$10,000 CD that will be broken to pay Clarion Little League \$4,500 approved by Council earlier this year. The Committee feels all the necessary repairs for this year can be paid with that money and not use any tax money.

Mr. Noto inquired if this will be able to be done for the pool to open on time?

President Lapinto believes so. These are safety issues that need to be done before it can be opened for the season.

If the drain covers are not replaced, Secretary LaVan stressed a child could be killed and no one wants that to happen. As much as everyone wants the pool to open, it cannot be done without the safety issues being completed.

Ms. Roberts commented DASCO will be repairing a valve that is leaking and dripping onto the pool motor. If the motor goes down, the pool will have to be shut down.

Dr. Sanders Dédé verified no tax dollars are being used for now?

President Lapinto agreed.

Dr. Sanders Dédé asked if these repairs will keep the pool working for this year?

President Lapinto stated yes.

Dr. Sanders Dédé feels the Borough will have to start looking for funding elsewhere.

President Lapinto agrees and has an idea about that.

Mr. Noto questioned what the long-term plans were going to be and stated he doesn't mind doing this but the Borough can't keep it open forever.

Mr. Aaron added there will have to be a good public and private partnership.

The motion was carried with a vote of five yea.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Mr. Aaron, giving permission to approve M & B Services to repair pool floor major crack to slow down/stop leaking not to exceed \$7,000.

Dr. Sanders Dédé questioned if the Borough pays the water?

President Lapinto stated yes. Probably 1,000 gallons of water is leaking.

Mr. Aaron added that means chemicals as well.

Dr. Sanders Dédé noted all she can think about is she had a small leak in her bathroom and her water bill was \$500 for one month.

President Lapinto asked Mr. Aaron to explain what M & B will be doing?

Mr. Aaron stated M & B Services will be donating a lot of their time and services, but the Committee agreed to authorize work not to exceed \$7,000. M & B will be removing the cracks down to the base to make sure it's properly sealed.

The motion carried with a vote of five yea.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Mr. Aaron, approving to use remainder of the \$10,000 CD funds, or \$5,500, for pool repairs, was carried with a vote of five yea.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Mr. Aaron to approve to transfer up to \$8,980.25 from Recreation Savings Account to Recreation Fund for pool repairs. The motion carried with a vote of five yea.

Representing the Borough, Mr. Aaron accepted a plaque on Saturday at the Clarion Little League 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on opening day, thanking Borough Council, and the Borough as a whole, for their support over the last 65 years. When Mr. Brian Smail was presenting it, Mr. Aaron felt kind of silly, because really the community owes them a thank you for Clarion Little League supporting the area youth, making him/her better with all the lessons, and providing memories over the last 65 years.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary LaVan commented Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC was in the office a couple weeks ago to complete testing for the 2016 audit. Confirmation notices have been sent out to attorneys and bank institutions. The Borough should hear something in the next couple weeks.

Secretary LaVan reported Attorney Dan Cohen's office has been in touch for information on the novation agreement with Apogee.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Mayor Parker, President Lapinto had nothing to report.

#### OLD BUSINESS

With the discussion about the pool, Dr. Sanders Dédé realizes no tax dollars will be used this year but possibly will be next year and feels everyone, Borough and community, need to look at a plan to see how going forward these projects will be funded. A figure is needed so that a community-borough committee knows what the goal is in order to find funds, get donations, and other funding resources to keep the pool open. Dr. Sanders Dédé stated it was discussed previously about having the School District sell the pool property to the Borough so that the Borough can obtain grant money to do repairs and do the upkeep of the pool.

Mr. Colosimo thinks that's a factor and is very important with DCNR grants, which is why the Borough has a long-term lease on that property right now with the School District. However, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are harder to use at the pool, because the big variable is the service area. The Borough's low-to-moderate income rate supports Borough-wide benefit type projects. DCED has ruled the pool out, because the users-ship of the pool are from surrounding townships, who themselves do not have a sufficient LMI rate. Mr. Colosimo reported the Borough has been studying the users of the pool by his/her addresses for the last two seasons, which hasn't been analyzed yet, but this is an effort to try to make the pool eligible.

Dr. Sanders Dédé stated lobbying needs to be done to the townships and the county for money to be used at the Borough pool, which is utilized by his/her residents as well.

Mr. Aaron recommended a community commission be formed for the pool and recreation.

President Lapinto voiced her idea is to pick a project at the pool so everyone is working on the same item rather than going in different directions.

Mr. Aaron reported this needs done before November budget time.

Ms. Clark stated they will have meetings at the pool.

President Lapinto thinks the Recreation Committee, Ms. LaVan, and Mr. Colosimo deserve credit for putting this together.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Non-Agenda Items

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Dr. Sanders Dédé, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

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Linda M. LaVan, Borough Secretary