

January 6, 2015, Council Meeting
Minutes

The regularly scheduled meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on January 6, 2015, in the Assembly Room of the Clarion Free Library. President Lapinto called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers present were Mr. Zerfoss, Ms. Roberts, Mr. Aaron, Mr. Bartley, and President Lapinto. Dr. Sanders Dédé and Mr. Noto were absent. Messrs. Preston, Colosimo, and Sharrar, Chief/Secretary/Treasurer Hall, Solicitor Marshall, Mayor Walters, and Ms. LaVan were also present. Messrs. Preston and Sharrar left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Bartley to approve the December 16, 2014, Council Meeting, minutes. The motion carried with a vote of five yeas.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Items

There were none.

ADMINISTRATION

On a motion by Mr. Aaron with a second by Mr. Bartley, the appropriations for the month of January were approved with a vote of five yeas.

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

President Lapinto asked Secretary Hall to explain Resolution #2015-379, sharing local emergency management coordinator with townships.

Secretary Hall informed Council in December Charlie Deitz passed away, who was the Emergency Management Coordinator in Paint and Clarion Townships. The townships contacted him to see if he would be willing to take over those duties for their townships. This position does not require very much time at all; only when there is a tornado or catastrophe of some sort. At that point, Secretary Hall commented he would have to prepare the paperwork for the townships to receive money from PEMA and FEMA. One of the requirements of PEMA is that all parties involved know this will occur. This Resolution, which Council is being asked to adopt, states just that. Secretary Hall stated there is no pay involved.

President Lapinto relayed she was the Borough's emergency manager/director for many years and never did anything and asked Secretary Hall if he needs appointed by the Governor?

Secretary Hall verified that's correct. This is also a step in the direction of sharing services and intergovernmental cooperation, which Council has been informed of earlier.

On a motion by Mr. Bartley with a second by Mr. Aaron, adopting Resolution #2015-379, sharing local emergency management coordinator with Paint and Clarion Townships, was carried with a vote of five yea.

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

President Lapinto asked Mr. Colosimo for an update on the Blueprint Community.

Mr. Colosimo stated the Committee met in Harrisburg in December and will be meeting January 12th. Things are starting to come together as far as planning and will need wrapped up by March 4th, which is the new date for graduation.

President Lapinto stated Mr. Colosimo has a new title, Projects Coordinator.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Zerfoss reported the Department's staff of four full-time employees is in the winter mode of two working days and two working nights. The part-time employees will be contacted, if necessary. The employees working night shift will do so regardless of snow and will prepare items for spring. Mr. Zerfoss reminded everyone the Snow Ordinance is in effect; again, regardless of weather.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Bartley had nothing to report.

Before moving on, Chief Hall announced the Borough started applying for AAA Community Traffic Safety Awards when he first came to Clarion and originally received a couple bronze and then graduated to silver. Chief Hall proudly stated the Borough received the gold award for 2014 for promoting traffic safety with certain programs the Borough participates in. Chief Hall submitted a written narrative to the western area of Pennsylvania's AAA, which are judged in the Pittsburgh headquarters. Out of 330 police departments, the Borough received gold.

LIBRARY REPORT

There was none.

HOUSING AND ZONING

Mr. Zerfoss, in the absence of Dr. Sanders Dédé, had nothing to report.

RECREATION

Ms. Roberts had nothing to report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Hall stated the Highway Aid Audit was held for 4 days towards the end of December, and, on December 23, 2014, the auditor reported everything was fine. This is not the final report, which usually takes 6 months to receive.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Walters wished everyone a Happy New Year and encouraged 2015 be a great year and a change in Clarion.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Non-Agenda Items

Ms. Elisabeth Fulmer, 132 South Seventh Avenue, stated this may be considered petty, but in reference to recycling and the need to reduce it, questioned if Council can take care of hydration without using plastic bottles.

Ms. LaVan stated carafes used to be used and cups, but it was discontinued.

Ms. Fulmer pointed out recycling statistics indicate plastic bottles are a major source of pollution and would be willing to serve on a citizen committee to try to figure out the best way to handle it.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Bartley, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Mark E. Hall, Borough Secretary