

October 7, 2025, Council Meeting
Minutes

The regular meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on October 7, 2025, 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 Ms. Whitling, Mr. Garbarino, Ms. Roberts, Mr. Montana, and President Lapinto. Mr. Aaron and Ms. Logue were absent. Mr. Preston, Mr. Colosimo, Mayor Fulmer Vinson, Chief Peck, Mr. Wolf, Solicitor Marshall, and Chief Administrative Officer/Borough Secretary LaVan-Preston were also present.

On a motion by Mr. Garbarino with a second by Ms. Roberts, approving the September 2, 2025, Council Meeting, minutes, was carried with a vote of five yea.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Items Only

There were none.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Fulmer Vinson presented a proclamation to Tracy Becker, Executive Director of the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry, proclaiming October 2025 as FoodStock Month. The goal has been set for a collection of 7,200 items to commemorate and celebrate 72 years of Autumn Leaf Festival™. Mayor Fulmer Vinson encouraged everybody in the Clarion Area to join in collecting food items to support the families of the Clarion County who are in need.

ADMINISTRATION

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Ms. Whitling, approving the appropriations for the month of October, was carried with a vote of five yea.

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

President Lapinto announced the second meeting will be held on October 21, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Clarion Free Library, if necessary. At this time, there is no need.

President Lapinto reminded everyone the November Council Meeting will be held Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Clarion Free Library. This is due to Elections Day.

On a motion by Mr. Garbarino with a second by Ms. Roberts, approving Samuel J. Lynch, Jr., to prepare 2026 Budget at a rate of \$100/hour not to exceed \$10,000 (preparation, training, and out-of-pocket expenses), was carried unanimously.

On a motion by Ms. Whitling with a second by Ms. Roberts to approve the closure of South Sixth Avenue from South Street to Elss Street on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. for the Private Sponsor Reception.

President Lapinto verified Chief Peck has or will be notifying the neighbors in that area?

Chief Peck plans to notify them soon.

Ms. Becker commented the area behind the building is all gravel and will be hard for people to walk, set up tents, and that's the reason for the request.

The motion carried with a vote of five yea.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY COMMITTEE

Mr. Montana had nothing to report.

BLUEPRINT COMMITTEE

President Lapinto stated Ms. Logue and she attended the last meeting but had nothing to report.

DESTINATION CLARION DOWNTOWN

Mayor Fulmer Vinson stated that Mr. Crooks started counting the wreaths and snowflakes to see how many need to be ordered. This will need done soon as time is running out.

PUBLIC WORKS/STORM WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Montana announced fall leaf pick up will be every Monday and Tuesday, beginning October 13, 2025, through November 25, 2025, and reminded everyone this is for leaves only. No grass, limbs and/or branches can be taken. Also, leaves are to be placed at curbside and not on the roadway, around road signs/telephone poles, and/or parking stalls.

On a motion by Mr. Montana with a second by Mr. Garbarino, approving a connection to the Clarion Borough Stormwater System at 18 Fairview Avenue, contingent upon review and approval by the Clarion Borough Stormwater Authority. The motion was carried with a vote of five yea.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ms. Roberts introduced Cole Wrhen as a probationary regular full-time police officer for Clarion Borough.

Chief Peck reported Mr. Wrhen has been on for 2 weeks and his municipal state number has been received, meaning he can go on the road. All the policy hoops and boring stuff was reviewed while waiting for the number. Mr. Wrhen has been out on the road a little bit, is working out well, and catching on real quick. Chief Peck welcomed him aboard.

President Lapinto welcomed Mr. Wrhen as well.

LIBRARY REPORT

Mayor Fulmer Vinson invited everyone to the Autumn Leaf Reception to be held on October 17, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Clarion Free Library. The theme is America250. Clarion River Brewing

Company is working on a historical-inspired beer along the lines of what they were drinking in pubs and taverns 250 years ago. Mayor Fulmer Vinson is very excited about that and stated they are the big sponsor this year providing food and proceeds as well. This is very much appreciated. Once the beer goes on tap down the street, CRBC will be donating some proceeds back to the library. If anyone would like a ticket, Mayor Fulmer Vinson commented they can be purchased upstairs.

HOUSING AND ZONING

Ms. Whitling had nothing to report.

RECREATION

Ms. Roberts had nothing to report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Chief Administrative Officer/Borough Secretary LaVan-Preston stated she will begin to gather the information for the 2026 Budget and working with everyone on what to include.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fulmer Vinson is looking forward to the upcoming Autumn Leaf Festival and then Halloween to follow soon after.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Non-Agenda Items

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

On a motion by Mr. Garbarino with a second by Ms. Roberts, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Linda LaVan-Preston, Chief Administrative Officer/Borough Secretary