

December 16, 2025, Council Meeting  
Minutes

The regular meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on December 16, 2025, as advertised, 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 Ms. Whitling, Ms. Logue, Ms. Roberts, Mr. Montana, and President Lapinto. Mr. Aaron and Mr. Garbarino were absent. Mayor Fulmer Vinson, Mr. Colosimo, Solicitor Marshall, and Chief Administrative Officer/Borough Secretary LaVan-Preston were also present. Chief Peck, Mr. Preston, and Mr. Wolf were absent.

President Lapinto stated there were no minutes to approve.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Items Only

There were none.

ADMINISTRATION

President Lapinto asked for a motion to approve the resolution for the fiscal year budget.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Ms. Logue to approve Resolution #2025-515, approving the fiscal year budget. The motion carried with a vote of five yea.

On a motion by Ms. Whitling with a second by Ms. Roberts, approving the 2026 Budget, Tax Ordinance #2025-850, and fee schedules, was carried with a vote of five yea.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Ms. Logue, approving the 2026 Salary Schedule, was carried with a vote of five yea.

On a motion by Ms. Logue with a second by Ms. Roberts to approve the 2026 Clarion Borough Stormwater Authority's Budget. The motion carried with a vote of five yea.

On a motion by Ms. Logue with a second by Ms. Roberts to give permission for the Solicitor to advertise Ordinance #2025-851, an ordinance amending certain provisions of the Clarion Borough Zoning Ordinance #2013-795 (as codified by Ordinance #2013-798, Chapter 210) to add data infrastructure facility and data infrastructure accessory uses as permitted uses in the CI Commercial and Industrial Zoning District. The motion carried unanimously.

President Lapinto asked if a motion is necessary for the ratification on the redemption of the CD?

Chief Administrative Officer/Borough Secretary LaVan-Preston stated yes to approve the ratification for cashing the CD in early.

On a motion by Ms. Whitling with a second by Ms. Roberts, approving ratification of the early redemption of Capital Projects CD #9 in the principal amount of \$250,000 plus any remaining interest to deposit into Capital Projects Account, was carried with a vote of five yeas.

Rather than getting a separate vote on each reappointment, President Lapinto commented she will ask for one motion for all collectively.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Ms. Logue, re-appointing the following: Pete Bauer to a 3-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board to expire at the end of 2028, Jennifer Fulmer Vinson to a 4-year term on the Planning Commission to expire at the end of 2029, Lee Krull to a 4-year term on the Planning Commission to expire at the end of 2029, Barry Sweet to a 3-year term on the Police Pension Committee to expire at the end of 2028, Barry Sweet to a 3-year term on the General Employees' Pension Committee to expire at the end of 2028, Simon Aristeguieta-Trillos to a 3-year term on the Library Board to expire at the end of 2028, was carried with a vote of five yeas.

President Lapinto announced anyone willing to serve on the Clarion Borough Stormwater Authority Board to contact the Borough Offices. It will be a 5-year term, which will begin January 5, 2026, until January 2031.

Ms. Whitling inquired if the term has to be for 5 years?

Mr. Colosimo stated this particular one will be 5 years. If someone leaves in the middle of their 5-year term, then the person appointed will complete the rest of their term.

President Lapinto asked if Ms. Whitling knew of someone?

Ms. Whitling may but is not sure yet.

On a motion by Ms. Logue with a second by Ms. Whitling to approve to hire Madison Kerr as the Administrative/Stormwater Authority Assistant at the rate of \$16 per hour, contingent upon successful results of pre-employment checks, to begin January 5, 2026.

President Lapinto asked for any other Committee reports?

#### LIBRARY REPORT

Mayor Fulmer Vinson quickly provided an update that Rebecca Aharrah, the Library Director, is waiting on official word as to whether or not there will be changes to being a passport facility or not. In the meantime, the library is still able to process passport applications. Unofficially word has gotten back that there is a temporary waiver until this is resolved, which will be until the end of January 2026. Mayor Fulmer Vinson stated it sounds like they are trying to work on it. The library will keep their fingers crossed.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fulmer Vinson wished everyone a happy holidays; Christmas, Hanukkah, New Year's, and all the other fun stuff.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

Since this is her last meeting on Borough Council, Ms. Roberts commented the past 12 years have been an adventure for sure. When you are sitting out in the public chair, everything looks so easy. You question why it takes so long for things to happen in your town. Then you sit on this side of it, and it all makes sense because there is so much red tape, so many opinions. It is a wonder anything gets done. Ms. Roberts stated it has been wonderful being on Council for all these years with Carol, who is a mentor for everyone on Council, and noted she will miss her greatly. Ms. Roberts informed Linda, she will miss her the most and added she is the rock of this Council. It doesn't matter who sits in these seats, it is truly Linda who matters. Ms. Roberts asked her to keep doing the amazing job that she does every day.

Chief Administrative Officer/Borough Secretary LaVan-Preston thanked her.

To the incoming Councilmembers, Ms. Roberts encouraged them never take 'it has always been done this way' as an answer, speak up and be heard, and change is what makes things better.

President Lapinto thanked her also and can remember Ms. Roberts sitting out in the audience knitting, expecting you (referring to her one son), and both of them fighting for the swimming pool, which went nowhere, and added she will miss her.

On a motion by Ms. Roberts with a second by Ms. Logue, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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Linda LaVan-Preston, Chief Administrative Officer/Borough Secretary