

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 16, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER: President Rinaldi called the meeting of the Clarks Green Council to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Secretary/Treasurer Brown conducted roll call. The following were present: Mrs. Earley, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Palmer, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Rinaldi, Mr. Williams, and Mayor Thorburn.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Mr. Barrassé and Solicitor Weinschenk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Ms. Palmer to accept the minutes of the March 19, 2014 Council meeting. Mrs. Earley, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Palmer, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Rinaldi and Mr. Williams voted in favor.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mr. Hughes asked South Abington Township officer Scott Siegler about the speed of traffic on Fairview Road. Ms. Palmer discussed the use of speed traps. Mayor Thorburn reported the Centennial is coming together rather well even though a couple of venues have yet to commit to the event. He reported that donations in the amount of \$1945.00 and gift cards totaling \$470.00 have been received. The current Centennial checking account balance is \$4189.66. Mrs. Earley announced she received notification that the Borough will receive the \$500.00 Arts and Culture Grant. Mayor Thorburn reported the clock has been installed and close to 70 pavers have been ordered. Don Jones from the VFW has selected the military logos which will be displayed on pavers as well. The 1914 and 2014 coin sets have been received. Ms. Palmer asked about the plants which had been removed from the park. Stephanie Maluskie, a landscape architect met with Mr. Rinaldi and Mayor Thorburn at the park to offer guidance for the landscaping of the park. Sod will be used. The next Centennial meeting is scheduled for April 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough building. Mr. Hughes asked that DGK insurance be notified to add the clock for insurance coverage.

VISITORS: James Kane, AAJRB; Meredith Colohan, Abington Journal reporter; Officer Scott Siegler, South Abington Police Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jim Kane, AAJRB, reported on the status of the FieldTurf project. After Council discussion Ms. Palmer motioned, seconded by Mr. Hughes to release a sufficient amount of contingency funds to pay the amount due in Application #5, which is \$90,910.08, contingent upon the receipt of the Warranty for the subsurface pursuant to our request to extend it for one (1) year. Mr. Hughes, Mr. Williams, Mr. Rinaldi, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Palmer, and Mrs. Earley voted in favor.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: There was no report due to the absence of Solicitor Weinschenk.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was presented by Mr. Hughes and was filed for audit. Current fund balances are as follows:

Capital Fund Money Market	\$	23,515.73
Centennial Checking		3,582.91
General Fund Checking		193,889.23
General Fund Money Market		35,242.22
Sewer Fund Checking		226,342.96
Sewer Fund Money Market		84,920.41
State Funds Checking		<u>38,235.43</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$	605,728.89

Mr. Hughes reviewed checking account figures compared to last year's and last month's amounts. The Oliver, Price & Rhodes invoice was discussed which reflected a \$1,500.00 bill for litigation fees. Mr. Rinaldi will write a letter to DGK regarding the unnecessary fees as no litigation was needed. With no further questions from Council, Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Mr. Phillips to accept the Treasurer's Report and ratify the payment of the bills. Ms. Palmer, Mrs. Earley, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Rinaldi, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Williams voted in favor. Mr. Hughes then compared amounts on the Budget vs. Actual report. He discussed current balances on accounts as compared to previous year balances. Mr. Hughes then reported on sewer payment liens and on those residents who have made payments toward their sewer bills after having received letters from the Borough. Additionally, Mr. Hughes reported on the audit of the Local Share Account for the year 2009. Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Mr. Phillips to accept the proposal from Murphy, Dougherty and Company to provide a project audit of the 2009 Local Share Account Grant for a fee of \$1,900.00. Payment of the \$1,900.00 audit fee was discussed. Mr. Hughes stated the Borough would pay the \$1,900.00 and bill AAJRB to reimburse the Borough for that amount. Mrs. Earley, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Rinaldi, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Williams and Ms. Palmer voted in favor. Mr. Hughes reported that DGK Insurance has requested the Borough update the signers on the bonds, which is currently underway. Mr. Rinaldi discussed a fee from DGK Insurance in the amount of \$20.00 to list the Commonwealth of PA as an additional insured. He contacted DGK Insurance to discuss this charge and was told they would check the policy and get back to Mr. Rinaldi. To this date, he has not heard back from them.

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Mr. Phillips reported the annual State inspection of the boiler in the Borough building was performed a couple of weeks ago. The inspection revealed a pressure relief valve which needed to be replaced. This work was done by Thermo Serve which resulted in a bill of \$246.55. Ms. Palmer mentioned a program Denny McGraw reported on where PP&L is offering \$7,150.00 worth of free LED fixtures. The deadline for applying for these fixtures is May 9, 2014. Mr. Phillips will talk to the DPW foreman.

HEALTH & SAFETY: President Rinaldi presented the Health & Safety report in Mr. Barrassé's absence. A complaint was received from a Borough resident who observed another automobile passing the school bus which had the flashers on. Mr. Rinaldi forwarded the complaint to Officer Siegler. One other request was received from a resident on Gordon Drive to repair holes where the road meets the driveway. Mr. Earley will contact the DPW Foreman.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mrs. Earley reported that during the week of April 21, Popple Construction will begin paving Abington Road starting at the Route 6 intersection by the Sunoco gas station. They anticipate it will take three weeks to complete the road past the Waverly Comm. All work in the Borough should be completed by the time of the Centennial weekend. In addition, Jack Scheuer and Al Weinschenk reviewed the bids for sanitary sewer TV line inspections. Pipe Services Corporation submitted the low bid in the amount of \$56,400.00. Borough Engineer Jack Scheuer recommends the Borough accept this bid. Mrs. Earley motioned, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to accept the \$56,400.00 bid submitted by Pipe Services Corporation. Ms. Palmer asked where they were from. Mrs. Earley replied that they have done work in the Borough in the past and will get back to Ms. Palmer regarding where they are from. Mr. Williams, Mr. Rinaldi, Ms. Palmer, Mrs. Earley, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Hughes voted in favor. Mrs. Earley then reported the DPW Foreman and DPW employee Dave Kohinsky are requesting to attend a free seminar about work zone traffic control on April 23 from 8 a.m. until noon at the PennDot office in Dunmore. Mrs. Earley motioned, seconded by Ms. Palmer to allow the DPW Foreman and Dave Kohinsky to attend the PennDot seminar on April 23. Mr. Phillips, Ms. Palmer, Mrs. Earley, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mrs. Earley then reported on a Flagger Training course in Jessup at the Lackawanna County Center for Public Safety. This is a PennDot regulated course for which the newest DPW employee Mike Pehonich needs to attend. The cost for the course is \$75.00. Mrs. Earley motioned, seconded by Ms. Palmer to allow Mr. Pehonich to attend the Flagger Training course on May 20 in Jessup for a cost of \$75.00. Mr. Phillips, Ms. Palmer, Mrs. Earley, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. On March 1, 2014 Mrs. Earley asked Borough Engineer Jack Scheuer what would be necessary to solve the water problem on North Abington Road near Our Lady of Peace School. After the ice in the area melted, he surveyed the area and proposed a resolution that would address the problem in Clarks Green as well as in Waverly Township. Members of Council have reviewed his estimate and description of work needed. Last year PennDot committed to address this problem, however now that the solution is more than running a pipe across Abington Road, Mrs. Earley asked if she had Council's permission to press our State Representative and Senator to advocate on our behalf for this future project. President Rinaldi replied that Mrs. Earley should contact the State Representative and Senator. Mayor Thorburn then asked Mrs. Earley about the drainage issue behind Our Lady of Peace School. Mrs. Earley replied that she had talked to Mr. Scheuer about this and he responded there is not enough of a grade for a pipe that long and the gutter which goes into the stream does not have a deep enough angle. He thought it would present another flooding problem.

REFUSE & RECYCLING: Ms. Palmer reported she spoke with Clarks Summit Borough and has agreed to work with them on the upcoming tire recycling event on May 31. She reported that she was the brainchild on this. She asked that Dean Salmon, who will be on the Borough payroll by then, be allowed to work at the recycling event from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 due to the fact that the new Clarks Summit Council member is an older man and is unable to stack the tires in piles of 5 or 6 tires high. If there are more tires than one Clarks Summit truck can hold to take to the recycling center, Ms. Palmer is asking if the Clarks Green DPW Foreman can engineer a truck from our Borough to take tires to the recycling center, if Clarks Summit asks. Mr. Rinaldi asked who from Clarks Summit will be helping. Ms. Palmer replied the Boy Scouts and one or two Council members may be available. Mrs. Earley stated that she will talk to the DPW Foreman. Ms. Palmer reported that she talked to the DPW Foreman today. He did not know what Dean's schedule was yet. Ms. Palmer then reported the Lackawanna County Earned Income Tax Committee met on March 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the South Abington Township Building. Since this was the first meeting with a quorum, it was also the Reorganization Meeting. Officers remained the same with the exception of Mayfield Mayor Al Chelik, who was elected Secretary. The Committee voted to continue using Berkheimer as the tax collector; bills were approved for payment along with approval to begin the Annual Audit. She distributed minutes from this meeting.

AAJRB: Ms. Palmer reported the lengthy Board Meeting was held on March 27, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the Clarks Summit Borough building. An Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 5. In addition, trout season opened on Saturday and there was a fantastic turnout at the AAJRB lake. In addition, Ms. Palmer reported Marywood's Student Veteran Alliance held a very successful event called Operation Tails for Troops on Sunday, April 13, 2014 at the AAJRB Dog Park. They raised at least \$11,000.00 for Paws and Stripes, an organization that places service dogs with U.S. military veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, which was more than double last year. Ms. Palmer reported that on the weekend of April 12 & 13, approximately 1,500 people enjoyed activities at the park.

ACOG: Ms. Palmer announced the ACOG meeting was held on Thursday, April 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Clarks Green Borough building. A quorum was not present. Denny McGraw shared information about future electric cost savings for municipalities. Regular reports from municipal representatives were given. In addition, Ms. Palmer attended the semi-annual board meeting of the PACOG on Friday, May 4th in Center County. The consultant is still working on some exciting computer programs which will be helpful to PACOG members. Ms. Palmer stated she will report on her attendance at the PSAB Conference at the next work session. She will also bring material and brochures she collected from vendors while at the conference. On Monday, April 14, 2014 Ms. Palmer attended a 2 hour information/question and answer session with a representative from the Cohen Law Firm. She suggested the idea of a joint municipal hearing and the group discussed the pros & cons/cost savings of a joint hearing with neighboring clusters of municipalities. A steering committee was set up with several members in attendance at the meeting. It was noted that COMCAST will not enter into agreements of less than 10 years. Ms. Palmer reported that each municipality will be receiving a timeline and description for

proceedings from the Cohen Law Firm, who is currently in the process of creating a new agreement template. Mr. Rinaldi questioned enhancements to municipalities as well as the availability of internet service. Once the contracts are sent out, the Cohen Law Firm is looking for a 30 day turn around and a 90 day completion.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Williams discussed supplemental insurance information for municipal employees which was received from AFLAC Insurance Company. Denise Onderko, a local insurance agent, will supply Mr. Williams with additional information and he will contact individual staff members with the information. Ms. Palmer discussed past experiences with AFLAC. Mr. Williams reported policies from the Employee Handbook will be discussed at the May Work Session.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Palmer distributed papers regarding Council e-mails. Discussion ensued between Ms. Palmer and Mr. Rinaldi.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Mr. Phillips to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. All in attendance voted in favor.

Janice F. Brown, Secretary/Treasurer