

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2015**

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, Mr. Rinaldi, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Williams, Mr. Barrasse, Solicitor Weinschenk and Mayor Thorburn.

EXCUSED: Ms. Palmer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Mr. Barrasse to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2015 Council meeting and the minutes of the February 4, 2015 Special meeting. Mr. Barrasse, Mrs. Earley, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Williams and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION: President Rinaldi presented Gail Rees and Charles Sandercock with Certificates of Appreciation, on behalf of Council and members of Clarks Green Borough, for their dedicated fundraising work for the Centennial Clock.

VISITORS: Gail Rees, NBT Bank; Charles Sandercock, Summit Frameworks; Meredith Colohan, Abington Journal; Grace Hillebrand, political candidate; Paul Keeler, political candidate; Patrolman Siegler, South Abington Police Dept.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Patrolman Siegler presented the Police Report for the month of January. Mayor Thorburn reported he will attend a EMC meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at the 911 Center.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment at this meeting.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Gerard Hetman discussed various activities taking place throughout Lackawanna County including applications which are currently being accepted for the 2015 Arts and Culture Grant.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Weinschenk presented Clarks Green Borough Ordinance 2-2015 increasing the quarterly sewer use fee to \$142.00 and amending Chapter 18 of the

Borough of Clarks Green Codes of Ordinances pertaining to sewers and sewage disposal. Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Mrs. Earley to adopt Ordinance 2-2015. Mr. Barrasse, Mrs. Earley, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Williams, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

ORDINANCE 2-2015

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS GREEN
LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING A NEW RATE SCHEDULE
INCREASING THE ANNUAL SEWER USER FEE PER EQUIVALENT
DWELLING UNIT SERVED BY THE BOROUGH SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM
TO \$568.00 AND AMENDING CHAPTER 18 OF BOROUGH OF CLARKS
GREEN CODES OR ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO SEWERS AND
SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**

WHEREAS, Chapter 18 of the Borough of Clarks Green Code of Ordinances (the “Code”) includes an Appendix A – Rate Schedule which sets forth sewer fees for the Borough’s sanitary sewer system; and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to amend the sewer user fees as provided for in such Rate Schedule as provided for herein.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Borough Council of the Borough of Clarks Green, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania as follows:

1. Appendix A – Rate Schedule attached to Chapter 18 of the Code is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

APPENDIX A.

RATE SCHEDULE

Commencing January 1, 2015 the annual sewer user fee is increased to \$568.00 to be billed at the rate of \$142.00 per quarter per Equivalent Dwelling Unit. The sewer user fee shall be billed on a periodic basis as determined by the Borough.

THIS ORDINANCE is effective upon enactment and all other Ordinances or Resolutions or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

ENACTED AS AN ORDINANCE of the Borough of Clarks Green this _____ day of February 2015.

ATTEST:
/s/ Janice F. Brown
Secretary/Treasurer

BOROUGH OF CLARKS GREEN
BY: /s/ David J. Rinaldi
President, Borough Council

APPROVED BY:
/s/ William Thorburn
Mayor, Clarks Green Borough

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL APPROVAL: Mr. Hughes presented the Treasurer's report which was filed for audit. Current fund balances are as follows:

Capital Fund Money Market	\$	29,359.47
General Fund Checking		170,724.52
General Fund Money Market		35,248.14
Sewer Fund Checking		256,128.42
Sewer Fund Money Market		84,934.65
State Funds Checking		<u>4,293.37</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$	580,688.57

Mr. Hughes compared checking account balances of last month and last year. With no questions from Council, Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Mr. Barrasse to accept the Treasurer's Report and ratify the payment of the bills. Mrs. Earley, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Barrasse, Mr. Williams, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Hughes then discussed changing the discount period on the Real Estate Tax bills from April 30 to March 31. Solicitor Weinschenk will look into this change. Mr. Hughes mentioned that the auditors will finish up the 2014 audit next week. He then discussed the Budget vs. Actual report as well as the sewer delinquencies. In addition, he discussed the insurance coverage and premium for the Borough gazebo and reported he will review insurance deductibles with the DGK Insurance representative in the summer.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Williams discussed the ethics policy and distributed a draft copy of a policy from East Bradford Township to Council. Solicitor Weinschenk will review the draft and report back to Council. President Rinaldi reported he attended a seminar on the Ethics Act and the Right-To-Know Law. He will have information on these seminars at next month's meeting.

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Mr. Phillips reported the Zoning Officer is expecting an application for a special exception for the Zoning Hearing Board from the owner of 108 Cook Street regarding a parking lot. Mr. Phillips discussed the door chime for the front door of the Borough building. Mr. Phillips motioned, seconded by Mrs. Earley to release funds in the amount of \$50.00 to purchase the door chime. Mr. Barrasse, Mr. Williams, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Hughes, Mrs. Earley and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

HEALTH & SAFETY: Mr. Barrasse discussed the traffic control signal problems. The push buttons for pedestrian use have been replaced and are now working. He also discussed the

upcoming repairs to the loop censor. In addition, Mrs. Earley reported on the Advanced Red Light enforcement option. President Rinaldi also discussed an e-mail that he sent to PennDot, Representative Flynn and Representative Michael's office regarding new technology and systems that they would recommend. In addition, Mr. Barrasse spoke about the medical assistance which DPW employees Saxe and Pehonich gave to a Spring Street resident. Mr. Rinaldi thanked Meredith Colohan, a reporter from the Abington Journal, for the news article regarding this assistance.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mrs. Earley reported that she discussed the snow disposal situation at the property of Mr. Evans on Old Orchard Road with the DPW Foreman. He explained to Mrs. Earley that there is an excess of snow this year and that site was chosen because there is a catch basin near that side of the road. The DPW Foreman will call Mr. Evans and explain the situation. Mrs. Earley also reported that, in the event the Borough needs more road salt, the Borough of Clarks Summit as well as Waverly Township has offered to sell Clarks Green Borough road salt at the Costar price. She then reported that Mike Pehonich is back to work with no restrictions after his work related hand injury. The DPW Foreman is aware of the incorrect time on one side of the Centennial clock and work on the clock will begin when the weather warms up. Mrs. Earley announced the DPW Foreman has been in contact with the new Sewer Authority director. Clarks Green has been diligent for years spending about \$44,000 a year on sewer work. The DPW Foreman will contact the Borough Engineer regarding house and smoke inspections, manhole inspections with viewing pipes for infiltration and doing more observational work. The DPW Foreman indicated to Mrs. Earley that he would like to receive a copy of the minutes from the Sewer Board meetings. The DPW Foreman would like to purchase a spill kit as part of the MS-4 requirements and is currently getting prices. President Rinaldi e-mailed Mrs. Earley with information Zen Website Design is doing to support the MS-4 obligations of having a website connection associated with the Borough's main website. They will be reviewing their submission this coming month. In closing, Mrs. Earley reported she and Mr. Barrasse will attach an invoice to the Penn Dot grant application for work that would eliminate the existing traffic loops and replace them with a more technology advanced system called Advanced Red Light Enforcement (RLE). This system is currently in place at the bottom of South Abington Road.

REFUSE & RECYCLING: In Ms. Palmer's absence, Mr. Rinaldi announced that County Waste was one day late collecting the refuse and recycling due to the storm.

AAJRB: There was no report in Ms. Palmer's absence.

ACOG: In Ms. Palmer's absence, President Rinaldi reported that Friends of Lackawanna will have a speaker at the next ACOG meeting.

ABINGTON REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY: President Rinaldi, Clarks Green Borough's temporary ARWA representative, announced that reports from the recent ARWA monthly meeting are available for Council review. He reported the new end date for the construction at the sewer treatment plant is October 1, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS: Members of Council approved the sewer message template for the 1st Quarter 2015 sewer billing. Mr. Rinaldi discussed the Borough Right-To-Know policy after attending a Right-To-Know Act and Open Records meeting yesterday. In addition, he reported the Borough has received the signed agreement from the owners of 150 Tedrick Street which reduces the EDU's for that dwelling from two (2) to one (1). Mr. Rinaldi then discussed the Grand Opening of "Glow", a new business in Clarks Green located at 102 N. Abington Road. Mr. Rinaldi, and Mayor Thorburn attended the ribbon cutting ceremony and the reception. In addition, Mr. Rinaldi reported that he, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Hughes attended the Pie for Breakfast fundraiser at the Assembly of God Church on S. Abington Road. Proceeds help to fund the Abington Christian Academy.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Thorburn discussed the Arts & Culture Grant. Mr. Hetman reminded Council the Grant is to be used for Arts & Culture events. The Mayor suggested an outdoor concert by Tom Rogo who performed at the Clarks Green centennial.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Barrassé motioned, seconded by Mr. Williams to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. All in attendance voted in favor.

Janice F. Brown, Secretary/Treasurer