

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: President Egan called the meeting of the Clarks Green Council to order at 7:03 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Secretary Culbertson conducted roll call. The following were present: Ms. DeFlice, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Pryle, Ms. Moore, Ms. Lucas, Mr. Egan and Solicitor Weinschenk. Mayor Barrasse via phone.

ABSENT: Ms. Trushina.

Mr. Egan welcomed Ms. Moore to Council noting she had been officially sworn in today by Magistrate Paul Keeler.

VISITORS: CSPD Officer Gibbons and John Brennan, 242 E. Grove St.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Egan entertained a motion to accept the September 15, 2025 minutes. Ms. DeFlice motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. All voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Brennan, 242 E. Grove St. told Council that the pedestrian push button located by Grove St. does not stop traffic from Abington Road. A discussion took place concerning the pedestrian pushbuttons. Ms. Lucas stated I don't think the walk signal changes the signal light from red to green. Officer Gibbons stated the push buttons are working noting they work basically, like the ones located in Clarks Summit. Mr. Brennan told Council the next item would be the water issue on Spring St. Ms. Culbertson stated a solution is in progress and informed Council that there was a water leak in the vicinity of the church noting a PA One Call has been reported.

POLICE REPORT: CSPD Officer Gibbons briefly reviewed the police report noting there were no accidents. It was a fairly quiet month. Officer Gibbons gave a brief explanation on how the pedestrian push buttons work with the traffic signal. Ms. DeFlice thanked Clarks Summit Police Dept. along with the fire departments for the recent Abington Safety Day noting the day was great and that the kids appreciated it.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mr. Egan stated let the record show that Mayor Barrasse has dialed in and can now give his report verbally. Mayor Barrasse told Council he recently did a letter on behalf of Clarks Green Borough congratulating Reverend William Carter, First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit for his 35th anniversary. Mayor Barrasse talked about the complaint he had concerning Marzolino's sidewalks noting there are others within the Borough. He told Council, the Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Parker recently sent out the sidewalk repair letters. Mayor Barrasse stated it is our responsibility to ensure the safety of our residents and pedestrians throughout the Borough. He informed Council that he reached out to the Borough Solicitor, Mr. Weinschenk for legal guidance on the current enforcement provisions in our Borough Code. He asked whether the existing code can be amended or strengthened to give it more enforcement power in enforcing the necessary sidewalk repairs. Mayor Barrasse stated he is currently exploring potential grant opportunities for the Our Lady of Snow School to fund a police or resource officer. Mayor Barrasse told Council he understands that this is a private school but the increase frequency of school related violent incidents nationwide compels us to act for the safety of our children.

SOLICITOR REPORT: Solicitor Weinschenk stated he had nothing specific to report tonight.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT: Ms. Culbertson told Council the LSA Grant for the pavement of the Borough's parking lot has been submitted 9/25/24. She reported the Borough has received the Public Realty Tax in the amount of \$584.67. Ms. Culbertson informed Council that we had receive the final reimbursement from the Covid ARPA PA Small Water and Sewer Grant in the amount of \$42,826. She stated all leaf bags have been distributed. Ms. Culbertson reported she has been in contact with the Cohen Law Group regarding the Comcast renewal agreement and was told Comcast had some issues with getting signatures from participants. Ms. Culbertson told Council the website has been updated with information concerning the rehabilitation of the water tower located by Glenburn Road start date October 20, 2025 and completion within six (6) to eight (8) weeks with possible weekend work.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL APPROVAL: Mr. Egan reviewed the distributed Budget vs. Actual comparing balances to last month and last year. The Treasurer's report was presented by Mr. Egan and filed for audit. Current fund balances are as follows:

General Fund Checking	\$	393,593.08
General Fund ICS MM #7101443595		274,415.09
Capital Fund Money Market		130,005.18
Sewer Fund Checking		448,190.50
Sewer Fund ICS MM #7101443706		274,426.25
Sewer – FNCB CD #200845158		54,622.53
Sewer – Peoples CD #10003154		81,899.34
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80049035		83,867.65
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80021603		55,151.05
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80044088		55,108.96
State Funds Checking		<u>314,564.64</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$	2,165,844.27

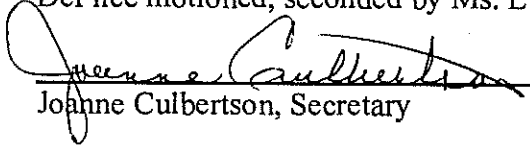
Mr. Egan entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and ratify the payment of the bills. Mr. Nealon motioned, seconded by Ms. Lucas. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to approve the state aid allocation supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association to Clarks Summit Fire Co. in the amount of \$10,823.60. Ms. DeFlice motioned, seconded by Mr. Pryle. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan told Council we recently received the ARWA 2026 budget and it contains an increase of 11% due to a rise in supply costs and repairs to aging equipment minus a \$100,000 surplus. Unfortunately, this increase affects our quarterly rental obligation to ARWA and created a deficit in the 2026 proposed budget. Council members had a discussion of a possible quarterly rate increase for the Borough. Mr. Egan stated based off the quarterly obligation to ARWA and administrative costs of the Borough it was discussed that the increase can be raised to \$160 per quarter. Mr. Egan told Council the last increase was back in 2015 and that there was one in 2013 noting it has been ten (10) years with no increase. Mr. Egan reminded Council of the proposed Shut-Off Water Agreement that was presented at an earlier meeting in trying to collect the Borough's sewer delinquencies noting the current delinquencies amount to approximately \$50,000. Council discussed possibly giving the residents who are delinquent a one-time offer if paid in full the penalties and interest will be removed but the delinquency must be paid in full by a certain date before the Shut-Off Water Agreement is in effect. A discussion took place concerning the signed sewer payment plans. Ms. Culbertson told Council there are a few signed payment plans but most of the times they do not submit payment and once the property is placed on lien we never receive a payment unless it is sold. Currently, we have seven (7) properties on lien for sewer delinquencies. Mr. Egan and Council agreed that they do not want to raise taxes especially since no one knows what is going to take place financially with the new property reassessment. Mr. Egan asked Solicitor Weinschenk to do the necessary paperwork for establishing sewer rate changes along with the Water Shutoff Agreement.

MOTIONS: Mr. Egan informed Council about a request from the Griffin Pond Animal Shelter asking for a donation. A discussion took place regarding the request since there was an issue in the past. Mr. Egan stated we do not have to act on this tonight. Ms. DeFlice stated the shelter does provide help for the animals in our community.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Egan reported to Council that he recently attended a meeting with the Borough engineers, Ms. Culbertson and the DPW dept. to discuss the next stormwater improvement project which also will include paving in the College Park area of the Borough. Mr. Egan informed Council that we had been awarded a multimodal grant in the amount of \$350,000 with a 30% match requirement in the amount of \$105,000. Mr. Egan told Council after reviewing the survey information that was performed with CCTV inspections of the existing storm system, we identified that most of the storm lines in the project area are deformed, broken and/or damaged to a severity that we would recommend replacement. The materials available today are much better and have a longer lifespan than those available at the time of original installation. In addition, some of the inlets need replacement due to

deterioration over time. Finally, some alignment issues have been identified and will be corrected as part of this project. This includes one length of sanitary sewer line that does not have a manhole structure at a significant change in the horizontal alignment. The Borough engineers have prepared preliminary construction plans and two cost estimates using recent bid numbers for similar projects. Mr. Egan told Council the preliminary plans are here if anyone is interested in reviewing them tonight or anytime at your convenience. Mr. Egan stated next month we will have a motion approving the plans along with advertising for the stormwater project. Mr. Egan told Council he has distributed to everyone copies clarifying the duties of the mayor and council.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Egan entertained the motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. DeFlice motioned, seconded by Ms. Lucas. All of Council voted in favor 8:20 P.M.


Joanne Culbertson, Secretary