

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Barrasse called the meeting of the Clarks Green Council to order at 6:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Secretary Culbertson conducted roll call. The following were present: Mr. Toms, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Williams via phone, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Barrasse, Mayor Lawler and Solicitor Weinschenk via phone. Mr. Rinaldi reported he will be late arriving at 6:30 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Barrasse entertained the motion to accept the minutes of the October 17, 2018 meeting. Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Mr. Dougherty. Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Dougherty, and Mr. Barrasse voted in favor. Mr. Barrasse informed Council Mr. Williams will not be able to participate by phone for the entire Council meeting because of his another engagement noting he will be teaching a class and would like move through the agenda starting with old business.

VISITORS: Denise Knox, 200 Squirrel Run, Maureen Palmer, 280 East Grove Street, Gerard Hetman, Lackawanna County Outreach, Ben Freda, Abington Journal and CSPD Police Officer Robert Shedlock.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Barrasse stated the Clarks Green Borough Council had a meeting before the last work session with officers from AAJRB and members of Clarks Summit and South Abington Township municipalities regarding Clarks Green's request for AAJRB to provide an audit. Mr. Barrasse stated it appeared the other municipalities do not agree with our position in the audit issue. Mr. Barrasse noted AAJRB has committed to doing a review and this review is well needed replacing the audit. Mr. Barrasse stated it was a darn good compromise if you ask me Mr. Barrasse requested a motion that Clarks Green the withheld the payments for the past two (2) years to AAJRB, motioned by Mr. Toms, seconded by Mr. Dougherty. Mr. Williams asked if the review had a timeline to which Mr. Barrasse replied the review will be for the year of 2018. Mr. Hughes suggested to amend the motion noting AAJRB offered to have the accounting review for the years of 2016 and 2017. Mr. Barrasse stated we are going to make the payment without any contingency and noted we are doing this in good faith since Mr. Toms asked will there be a contingency. Solicitor Weinschenk suggest the motion should include the total dollars amounts for the two (2) years, 2017 at \$5,028 and 2018 at \$5,228. Mr. Barrasse asked Solicitor Weinschenk if the motion needs to be re-done. Solicitor Weinschenk stated to amend the motion. Mr. Barrasse restated the amended motion that Clarks Green will make the contributions to AAJRB, 2017 obligation amount of \$5,028 and 2018 obligation amount of \$5,228 total of \$10,256, seconded by Mr. Dougherty. Mr. Williams, Mr. Toms, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Barrasse voted in favor. Mr. Barrasse complimented Council for feeling an audit was necessary stating the financial oversight is on this Borough and other municipalities and "we can't take that with a grain of salt".

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL APPROVAL: Mr. Hughes reported on the checking account balances with comparisons to last month and last year. The Treasurer's report was presented by Mr. Hughes and filed for audit. Current fund balances are as follows:

Capital Fund Money Market	\$	99,412.44
General Fund Checking		328,588.54
General Fund Money Market		35,274.62
Sewer Fund Checking		307,631.90
Sewer Fund Money Market		34,988.76
Sewer – FNCB CD		50,054.93

Sewer – Wayne Bank CD	50,669.36
State Funds Checking	<u>61,800.54</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$ 968,421.09

Mr. Hughes then presented the Budget vs. Actual report comparing balances on the report to amounts to last year. Mr. Hughes told Council permits are up \$36,000 due to St. Gregory's expansion project and Mr. Toms noted even with that project our new enforcement officer brought in approximately \$30,000. Mr. Hughes stated the BIU inspections fees are up \$10,000 from a year ago. Mr. Hughes told Council total expenses are \$62,000 less than a year ago primarily since we have not done any paving project for this year and the net income is \$82,000 higher than a year ago. With no questions from Council Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe to accept the Treasurer's report and ratify the payment of the bills. Mr. Toms, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Barrasse voted in favor. Mr. Hughes discussed the 2019 tentative budget stating with this approval, it will then lay for thirty (30) days for public inspection and noting changes can be made when we ratify this finally in December. Mr. Hughes thanked Councilmen Dougherty and Rinaldi for working very diligently on the budget. Mr. Hughes pointed out the budget presents a net income of \$25,029.28 noting this budget does not include an increase in taxes or fees. Mr. Hughes asked Council to go into an executive session so personnel matters can be discussed in relation to the budget. Executive session started at 6:20 P.M. ended at 6:25 P.M. Mr. Hughes motioned to adopt the 2019 Tentative Budget as presented and reviewed by Council, seconded by Ms. Igoe. Ms. Igoe, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Toms and Mr. Barrasse voted in favor. Mr. Hughes suggested to Council the Wayne and FNCB certificate of deposits be renewed. Mr. Barrasse motioned to renew the CDs for Wayne and FNCB banks, seconded by Mr. Hughes. Mr. Toms, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Barrasse voted in favor. Mr. Hughes entertained a motion to remove the penalty/interest from resident Len Giordano's sewer billing since his check has been misplaced and it still has not been cashed at the bank. Mr. Toms motioned and Mr. Dougherty seconded the motion. Mr. Hughes, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Toms, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Barrasse voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi arrived at the Council Meeting at 6:30 P.M. while the motion was in progress. Mr. Hughes motioned to contribute the final \$1,000 budgeted contribution to the Abington Library, seconded by Mr. Barrasse. Mr. Toms, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Rinaldi, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Barrasse voted in favor. Mr. Hughes reviewed the sewer delinquency report noting sewer delinquencies of \$2,014 has been collected and told Secretary Culbertson to do the second non-certified mailings for the sewer delinquencies that have not responded by early December.

PERSONNEL: Mr. Williams told Council the advertisement for the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer position will be published in both in the Times-Tribune and Abington Journal papers with a deadline of Monday, November 26th. Mr. Williams stated the open position has also been posted on the Indeed.com website noting we already have a few candidate applications. Mr. Williams ended attending the meeting via phone at 6:27 P.M.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Lawler asked Council to take a moment to recognize the privileges and responsibility to serve the residents of Clarks Green Borough. Mayor Lawler reported correspondence has been sent to the individuals who helped assistant with leaf bag distribution along with Clark Summit University Service Day Project which provided valuable assistance to our elderly and disabled residents in our community. Mayor Lawler announced Chris Calvey gifted the Borough American and Commonwealth of PA flags in memory of late Mayor Thorburn noting a note will be sent in his recognition. Mayor Lawler updated Council on the Shade Tree Committee stating the fall tree planting has taken place. Mayor Lawler thanked everyone who participated in the "Lighting of the Green" ceremony in honor of the late Mayor Thorburn noting the Thorburn family was quite excited. Mayor Lawler stated the catering was my gift to the Thorburn family. Mr. Hughes asked Mayor Lawler to check with the Abington Heights School District regarding how the scholarship funds held by the Borough will be handled in memory of the late Mayor Thorburn.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Weinschenk stated he had nothing specific to report. Solicitor Weinschenk did ask Council if the project on Crest had been delayed to 2019. Solicitor Weinschenk stated the temporary easement along with the agreement for maintaining the swale has not been completed. Mr. Barrasse stated it is consensus of Council to postpone noting it is already Thanksgiving and it is getting cold. Mr. Toms stated all the material needed is here to proceed but agreed in postponing. Mr. Rinaldi asked Solicitor Weinschenk if the Borough Engineers provided a revised plot plan and Solicitor Weinschenk stated no and Mr. Rinaldi stated nor has he.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Denise Knox, 200 Squirrel Run, addressed Council thanking all Council members on their service to the Borough noting everyone does a great job. Ms. Knox proceeded to state she is interested in buying another property in Clarks Green at 301 Brighton Drive and would like to know who is responsible for the swale behind the property along with future plans. Mr. Barrasse was not quite sure and directed the question to Mr. Rinaldi. Mr. Rinaldi stated currently there is no swale but just wetlands noting in the Borough's Stormwater Management Plan there are plans for two (2) swales but Council has not taken action to move forward with this project at the time. Mr. Rinaldi suggested to Ms. Knox to contact the assessment office for the description of the property. Solicitor Weinschenk offered some history regarding the property and surrounding land but noted no promises can be made for future development. Ms. Knox told Council she is looking for the covenants and restrictions for Sherwood Acres noting she had contact Darlene Sholcosky and the Recorder of Deeds. Mr. Rinaldi stated any restrictions will be in the chain of title noting there is a master deed. Marnie Palmer, 280 West Grove, addressed Council to have the PennDot snow trucks to slow down while plowing the street noting it completely covers her lawn and she cannot afford snow service to alleviate this issue. Mr. Barrasse told Ms. Palmer he will contact PennDot. CSPD, Officer Robert Shedlock, reviewed the monthly police report noting nothing out of the ordinary but they have been enforcing traffic citations.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Mr. Hetman, on behalf of the County Commissioners thanked Council on their hospitality for hosting one of the three (3) County Budget meetings at the Borough Building. Mr. Hetman proceeded to inform Council the County's Budget will be adopted November 21st at 10 A.M. with any changes. Mr. Hetman briefly reviewed the County scheduled events announcing the Blight Report will be released November 29th at 6 P.M. unveiling its plan for preventing, remediating, and redeveloping blighted properties. Mr. Hetman stated the Adopt an Angel Program will be continuing this year in sponsoring a child in our community noting if anyone is interested you can contact the Office of Youth and Family Services.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: Mr. Toms reported the snow removal equipment is in great shape noting a part had to be replaced on a salt spreading machine. Mr. Toms told Council of a comment heard at the Sunrise Café stating Clarks Green had the clearest roads after recent snow storm.

REFUSE & RECYCLING: Ms. Igoe told Council she had nothing to report and wished all of Council and the public a Happy, Healthy Holiday.

HEALTH & SAFETY: Mr. Rinaldi did not have anything to report.

ARWA: Mr. Rinaldi reported to Council EnviroMix had been contacted regarding their piping used in the biometrics due to pitting and noted they will replace if needed. Mr. Rinaldi told Council two (2) insurance proposals have been submitted noting one (1) proposal was approximately less than \$16,000 in the current provisions with DGK.

GRANT: Mr. Dougherty reported to Council that he has been working with Mr. Chris Calvey, Program Manager of the Arts and Culture department of Lackawanna County on a \$500 grant for Community-based projects.

OLD BUSINESS: Mayor Lawler summarized the recent meeting with Bill Jones, Jr. an advocate for Marsy's Law to Council stating it is a constitutional amendment supporting the greater rights for victims of crime which passed unanimously through the 2018 Pennsylvania Legislature and will be considered one more time in the 2019 Legislature Year before being sent to the voters of PA for final approval. Mayor Lawler stated after the meeting it was the pleasure of Council to adopt the resolution. Mr. Hughes motioned to adopt Resolution No. 4 of 2018 Marsy's Law, seconded by Mr. Dougherty. Mr. Rinaldi, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Dougherty and Mr. Barrasse voted in favor.

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS GREEN
RESOLUTION NO. 4 OF 2018**

WHEREAS, Marsy's law is a constitutional amendment supporting greater rights for victims of crime which passed unanimously through the 2018 Pennsylvania Legislature and will be considered one more time in the 2019 Legislative Year before being sent to the voters of Pennsylvania for final approval; and

WHEREAS Governor Tom Wolf, the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association and the Lackawanna County District Attorney are in support of Marsy's Law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Clarks Green hereby supports Marsy's Law and further authorized this Resolution to be forwarded to our Legislative Representatives and such other elected officials and persons as are deemed appropriate. Further the Officers of the Borough are authorized to do all acts to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

DULY RESOLVED AND ADOPTED, this 20th day of November, 2018, by the Council of the Borough of Clarks Green, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF CLARKS GREEN

By: /s/ Joanne Culbertson
Joanne Culbertson, Secretary

By: /s/ Joseph Barrasse
Joseph Barrasse, President of Council

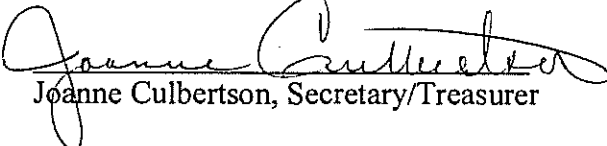
Approved this 20th day of November, 2018

/s/ Patricia Lawler

Patricia Lawler, Mayor

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Barrasse told Council the December Council Meeting needed to be changed since the 2019 tentative budget legally needs thirty (30) days to be reviewed by the public. Council discussed possible dates to meet the legal requirements and December 20th worked out best for all Council members. Mr. Rinaldi motioned to change the regular scheduled meeting of December 19th at 7 P.M. to December 20th at 7 P.M., seconded by Mr. Dougherty. Mr. Barrasse stated all in attendance voted in favor.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Barrasse entertained the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hughes motioned, seconded by Mr. Dougherty to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 P.M. All in attendance voted in favor.


Joanne Culbertson, Secretary/Treasurer

CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
Agenda

November 20, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- President Joe Barrasse
2. ROLL CALL- Secretary Culbertson
3. MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES
4. MAYOR'S AND POLICE REPORT, FIRE & AMBULANCE
Mayor Lawler, Clarks Summit Police Chief Yarns
Clarks Summit Fire Co. President Mike Lukus, Chief Jay Miller, EMS Corey Colarossi
4. OLD BUSINESS, AAJRB FUNDING
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
Visitors should approach the podium and state their name and address. Comments limited to 5 min
6. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Mr. Williams

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE– Mr. Williams
7. TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL APPROVAL – Mr. Hughes
Annual Budget Review
8. SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Mr Weinschenk will attend by phone
9. FINANCE COMMITTEE – Mr. Hughes
Sewer Account Delinquencies & Payments
10. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – Mr. Toms
11. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE– Mr. Williams covered before, as Keith has to leave meeting early.
12. REFUSE & RECYCLING COMMITTEE– Ms. Igoe
13. HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE-Mr. Rinaldi
14. ABINGTON REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY REPORT – Mr. Rinaldi
15. GRANT COMMITTEE- Mr. Dougherty
16. OLD BUSINESS
17. NEW BUSINESS
18. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE TO VISITORS: Please sign the attendance sheet and indicate if you wish to address Council, stating the agenda topic on which you would like to comment. Thank you.