

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 16, 2022**

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 Culbertson conducted roll call. The following were present: Mr. Egan, Mr. Toms, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Williams, Mr. Curran and Mr. Rinaldi and Mayor Barrasse were present.

ABSENT: Ms. Wanchisen and Solicitor Weinschenk.

VISITORS: CSPD Officer Ken Yetkowskas, Ben Freda, Abington Journal and George Parker, Clarks Green Zoning officer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Rinaldi entertained the motion to accept the minutes of the October 19, 2022 Council meeting. Mr. Egan motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Egan, Mr. Curran and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

POLICE REPORT: CSPD Officer Yetkowskas briefly reviewed the monthly police report. Officer Yetkowskas reported the department added another full-time police officer and the vascar lines have been re-painted on Fairview Road. Officer Yetkowskas told Council a walk through at OLP was recently done and the blue mass at St. Gregory's Church was held last Sunday. Mr. Rinaldi asked Officer Yetkowskas why there was no call to the DPW for the past Wednesday snowstorm. Officer Yetkowskas stated he will relay the concern to Chief Yarns commenting probably the part-time officers did not know that they had to call Clarks Green's DPW for them to salt the roads.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Barrasse told Council there has been talk about Commonwealth ambulance service pulling out of their agreement with Clarks Summit and Clarks Green might want to consider some dual dispatching. Mayor Barrasse told Council Clarks Summit income will be going grossly down since they are losing a tenant.

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

General Fund Checking	\$	697,705.33
Capital Fund Money Market		126,496.66
Sewer Fund Checking		524,414.99
Sewer – FNCB CD #200469681		76,488.61
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80049035		76,974.99
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80021603		53,206.65
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80044088		50,188.16
State Funds Checking		<u>168,514.14</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$	1,773,989.53


Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and ratify the payment of the bills. Mr. Toms motioned, seconded by Mr. Curran. Mr. Toms, Mr. Curran, Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Egan and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

MOTIONS: Mr. Rinaldi asked Council if they had any questions on the 2023 proposed budget noting it has been advertised more than ten (10) days. Mr. Rinaldi entertain a motion to approve Clarks Green Borough's budget for 2023. Mr. Williams motioned, seconded by Mr. Egan. Mr. Egan, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Williams, Mr. Curran and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi told Council the budget is based on our revenue projections and there is no need to increase taxes for next year. Mr. Rinaldi stated at the December 21st meeting a resolution will be presented to Council to set the tax rates reiterating there are no changes for 2023. Mr. Rinaldi reminded Council previously approved a proposal from Buranich Excavating to replace a catch basin on Rabbit Run. In the course, of the project it was determined that the catch basin across the street needed some work around the perimeter and a change order has been submitted in the amount of \$2,400 to cover the additional repairs. Mr. Rinaldi requested a motion to approve the change order in the amount of \$2,400. Mr. Curran motioned, seconded by Mr. Egan. Mr. Curran, Mr. Egan, Mr. Williams, Mr. Toms, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Rinaldi asked Mr. Parker to explain to Council about Frontier Communications project plan for the installation of fiber optics cabling in the Borough. Mr. Parker stated he had emailed Council the plans and had them re-done into full-size plans for better visualization. Mr. Parker told Council optical fiber cable will require both underground and above ground installation by contractors working for Frontier Communications. Mr. Parker stated when doing the installations underground the process will be directional drilling. He explained the method involves placing a pilot hole and then boring underground instead of open trenching. Mr. Parker told Council the plans have been reviewed by the Borough Engineers and a permit application sent to the contractor for completion. Mr. Rinaldi had a concern how are they going to guarantee the work they do is within the right of way especially in areas of the Borough that don't have sidewalks or curbed roadways. Mr. Rinaldi addressed Council on a communication situation at the Borough stating an owner from Central Park Flowers submitted a permit application asking for a receipt for the submittal from the Borough Manager. The Borough Manager's job duties do not include accepting documents on behalf of the Zoning Officer who acts independently. The Central Park Flower owner insisted that a paper be signed and indicated they were told by a Council member to ask for a signature with a date. The Borough Manager asked who told them to request a receipt. The owner stated, "I rather not say". Mr. Rinaldi told Council no elected officials should be telling the public to act outside of the process since this is not the procedure for permits. Plus, Council Members should not be involving employees of the Borough in the middle of the statutory permitting process. Several Council members question the permit application content. Mr. Parker stated the permit was for two (2) signs one for florist shop and the other for the proposed café. Mr. Parker stated he had advised the owners the one (1) sign for the café should not be put up until conditional use is granted by Council and that will be by recommendation of the Planning Commission. Mr. Rinaldi told Council the Borough Solicitor is drafting a Fire Contract Agreement and will be sent to the Clarks Summit Fire Company for review and if agreed upon we can approve it at the December 21st meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Rinaldi announced an executive session will take place to discuss proposed 2023 employee raises and possible bonuses stating after the session the meeting will be adjourned. Session started 7:50 PM to 8:20 PM.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Rinaldi entertained the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Williams motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 P.M., seconded by Mr. Egan. All in attendance voted in favor.


Joanne Culbertson, Secretary/Treasurer

CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA
November 16, 2022
7:00 PM

1. Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance – President Rinaldi
2. Roll Call - Secretary Culbertson
3. Motions to approve the Council Meeting Minutes October 19, 2022
4. Public Comment
5. Police and/or Fire Report
6. Mayor’s Report.
7. Review of Borough Financials, Budget vs. Actual Report and Motion to pay bills.
8. Consideration and Motion to approve Clarks Green Borough’s Budget for 2023.
9. Review and approval of change order to include surface work on an additional catch basin on Rabbit Run in the amount of \$2400.00.
10. Executive Session to discuss raises (2023)/bonuses (2022) for Borough employees for consideration at December 2022 Meeting.
11. Other Business/discussion. Frontier Permit to install underground fiber optic cabling under and along Borough streets. Discussion on apparent misinformation being provided by Council Member(s) to developers of Central Park Flowers Development of former CVS. Update on Fire Protection Contract with CSFD.
12. Motion to Adjourn.

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