

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 1, 2023**

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. Nealon, Mr. Toms, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Williams, Mr. Curran, Mr. Rinaldi and Mayor Barrasse.

ABSENT: Solicitor Weinschenk.

VISITORS: John Arcangelo, 719 Highland Ave., Patrick Walsh, 223 Cornell Ave., Joe Barrasse, 408 Fairview Rd., Helene Magnotta, Mary Anne Lucas, 102 Pineview Circle, Mary Moore, 113 Glenburn Rd. and Katharine Spanish, 400 Brighton Drive.

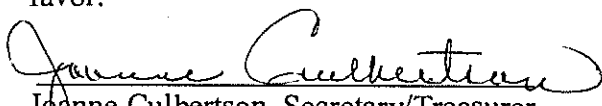
PUBLIC COMMENT: John Arcangelo, 719 Highland Ave., addressed Council on the appointment of Terry Nealon, Jr. asking why it was not publicly advertised. Mr. Arcangelo told Council he had not received any type of notice stating the position was filled since he had submitted a letter of interest to Council. Mr. Rinaldi stated his letter of interest was received and reviewed but Council favored appointing a new resident member in which, Mr. Nealon is highly qualified. Mr. Rinaldi and Mr. Williams reviewed the vacancy process noting there is no requirement to advertise. Mr. Arcangelo asked if the Borough has any form of social media. Mr. Rinaldi stated no, just have the Borough's website. Joe Barrasse, Mayor of Clarks Green, stated he wanted to speak during public comment as a resident of the Borough. Mr. Barrasse welcomed Councilman Nealon offering his support. Mr. Barrasse stated he agreed with Mr. Arcangelo regarding how the council vacancy was filled stating appointments for Council should be open and transparent noting Councilman Nealon is highly qualified. Mr. Rinaldi reminded Mr. Barrasse when he was involved in filing council vacancies, the same procedure was followed citing the Joe Dougherty appointment. Mr. Barrasse talked about social media noting that the Borough does not have a Facebook page but there is individual from Council that has a personal page in which he had some issues and he claimed to have had to engage the Borough's Solicitor for legal advice noting expressing his belief that is why Council will be having an executive session for threatened litigation. Mr. Barrasse stated the Squirrel Run incident was a tragedy and the recent individual posts on social media even made it worse. Mr. Barrasse asked when posting to use discretion. Mr. Rinaldi questioned why Mr. Barrasse would make any such remarks after receiving a Solicitor's opinion on the subject.

MOTIONS: Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to appoint Katharine Spanish, 400 Brighton Drive to Clarks Green Planning Commission term ending 12/31/25. Mr. Egan motioned, seconded by Mr. Curran. Mr. Williams, Mr. Toms, Mr. Egan, Mr. Curran, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to appoint Patrick Walsh, 223 Cornell Ave. to Clarks Green Planning Commission term ending 12/31/26. Mr. Egan motioned, seconded by Mr. Toms. Mr. Toms, Mr. Nealon, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Curran, Mr. Williams, Mr. Egan and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to appoint Mary Anne Lucas to Clarks Green Planning Commission term ending 12/31/27. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Curran. Mr. Curran, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Egan, Mr. Williams and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi thanked all the new appointees and their families for volunteering their time and service to the community. Mr. Rinaldi stated a meeting will need to be scheduled next week for the reorganization of the Planning Commission and the Central Park Flower conditional use permit application. Mr. Rinaldi stated when scheduling the Planning Commission meeting it should not be on the same day as the Council meeting to give Council time to review the

recommendations before considering the issue at the Council meeting. Mr. Rinaldi explained Council needs some time to review the recommendation along with possible questions that might arise before approval. Mr. Rinaldi next moved on to filling the Vice President position on Council due to the resignation of the former Vice President. Mr. Rinaldi motioned to appoint Councilman Bill Egan as Vice President, seconded by Mr. Curran. Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Egan, Mr. Curran and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Egan thanked Council President Rinaldi for the appointment.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Rinaldi informed Council on the issues to be discussed at the February 15th Council meeting. Mr. Rinaldi stated there is another situation with appointees expired terms on the Abington Area Joint Recreation Board (AAJRB) and that issue is currently being reviewed by the Borough Solicitor. Mr. Rinaldi explained there is extensive history involved and he will provide Council with copies of the AAJRB bylaws to aid in Council's discussion. Another topic of discussion will be a proposed Amendment to the Borough's Zoning Ordinance to update regulation of wireless communication facilities within the Borough. Mr. Rinaldi stated this proposed amendment changes the existing ordinance not the proposed unadopted SAPA Ordinance and has been in contact with the Cohen Law firm for the revisions. Mr. Rinaldi told Council it must be submitted to the Borough's Planning Commission at least 30 days prior to an advertised public hearing before it can be approved. Mr. Rinaldi open the floor on the email that was sent by Morris and Kate Jackson in regard to being placed on the February 15th agenda. Mr. Rinaldi told Council Mr. Jackson is claiming his personal social media posts contain false information. Mr. Rinaldi stated it is Council's decision if they want it placed on the agenda as an separate item or public comment which due the amount of time Mr. Jackson is requesting would be moved to the end of the meeting to provide the Jacksons' the fifteen minutes requested. Several Council members stated the social media in question is not part of the Borough's social media and should not be placed as an agenda item but is open to extending the public comment. Mr. Rinaldi told Council he will respond to the Jacksons' email telling them of Councils' decision. Mr. Williams informed Council a reporter from the Times had contacted him regarding the appointment of Councilman Nealon asking about the vacancy process and if it was intemally posted as well as if it was publicly advertised. Mr. Rinaldi stated this reporter previously contacted him before calling Mr. Williams. Mr. Rinaldi reported the Abington Journal published an article about the appointment of Councilman Nealon. Mayor Barrassé told Council the DPW crew did a tremendous job with the roads with the recent snowfalls but noticed the F350 truck might be needing new tires. Ms. Culbertson stated she will double check and if needed will purchase new tires.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Williams motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 P.M. All in attendance voted in favor.


Joanne Culbertson, Secretary/Treasurer

CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA
FEBRUARY 1, 2023
7:00 PM

1. Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance – President Rinaldi
2. Roll Call - Secretary Culbertson
3. Public Comment
4. Consideration of appointments to the Clarks Green Borough Planning Commission: 1. term ending 12/31/25 (Katherine Spanish 400 Brighton Dr. CGB), 2. term ending 12/31/26 (Pat Walsh 223 Cornell Ave, CGB); and 3. term ending 12/31/27 (Mary Anne Lucas 102 Pine View Circle).
5. Executive Session – Threatened Litigation
6. Other Business/discussion. Any other business which may come before the Council.
7. 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.