

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 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, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Williams, Mr. Rinaldi, Mayor Barrasse and Solicitor Weinschenk were present.

ABSENT: Mr. Toms, Mr. Curran.

VISITORS: CSPD Officer Yetkowskas, Chris & Roseanne Michaels, 107 Greenbrier Dr., Mike & Denise Wylie, 205 Fairview Rd., Rick Williams, 208 Maple St., Ashley DeFlice, 312 Evans St. and Laura Meade, 318 Clark Street.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Rinaldi entertained the motion to accept the minutes of the July 19, 2023 Council meeting. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Egan and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Michaels, 107 Greenbrier Dr. addressed Council stating there has been an ongoing stormwater problem at Greenbrier Dr. noting several years ago his neighbor put in a new driveway removing some of the curbing since that time water comes down into his yard increasing water in his basement. Mr. Michaels told Council he had addressed this with the former DPW Foreman Santersiero and the contractor at that time. Mr. Rinaldi verified the homes do not have sidewalks or concrete curbs on Greenbrier Drive and that curbing was the asphalt lip from the street paving. He stated the Borough will survey the situation noting the currently underway Greenbrier paving project. Mr. Rinaldi further verified Mr. Santersiero has not been employed at the Borough for at least ten (10) years. Mike Wylie, 205 Fairview Rd., told Council his property is also experiencing water problems to which he explained how water shoots out of a manhole cover along with the issues associated with two (2) drain pipes which are on his neighbor's property noting he believed the stormwater was originating from the College Park area. He informed Council, after speaking with his neighbor, the metal corrugated pipe was installed by the state and he would like the Borough to contact the state to rectify this ongoing problem. Mr. Rinaldi asked Solicitor Weinschenk if he can initiate a letter to PennDot to verify they had placed a pipe on the property noting if yes, then Penn DOT are responsible for the pipe.

POLICE REPORT: CSPD Officer Yetkowskas reviewed the monthly police report noting it has been good month for Clarks Green with only two minor accidents reported.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Barrasse reported he has been experiencing some runoff water issues affecting his driveway on at Fairview Road noting he had sent letters and had called several times. Mayor Barrasse stated PennDot finally has been in contact and is scheduled to come next week. Mayor Barrasse offered to send the supervisor to the Wylie address. Mayor Barrasse informed Council St. Gregory's will be having a Blue Mass sometime in November to honor first responders.

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	\$	750,918.35
Capital Fund Money Market		128,373.05
Sewer Fund Checking		554,587.51
Sewer – FNCB CD #200469681		76,488.61
Sewer – FNCB CD #200845158		50,000.00
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80049035		76,974.99
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80021603		53,339.83
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80044088		50,302.14
State Funds Checking		<u>216,542.21</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$	1,957,526.69

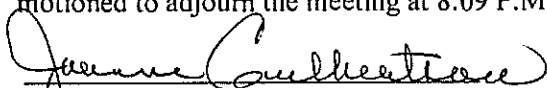
Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and ratify the payment of the bills. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Egan. Mr. Nealon, Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Egan and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi had a discussion regarding the proposed money market sweep accounts at NBT Bank which will earn greater returns than an ordinary checking account while still offering liquidity. Ms. Culbertson played a video explaining the Intrafi Network Deposits and Funding showing it was insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to provide greater FDIC protection. FDIC insurance covers individual depositors up to \$250,000, guaranteeing that in the event of a bank failure, the federal government will reimburse those depositors up to that limit. To extend FDIC protection, ICS accounts (also called networked deposit services) place funds in increments of \$250,000 throughout their networks of FDIC-insured banks. To look at a simple example, if you have \$1,000,000, and place it in an ICS account, your main bank will keep \$250,000, and then "syndicate out" three more deposits of \$250,000 to three other FDIC-insured banks. Your main bank or financial institution does the work to distribute your deposits, and acts as a central point of contact for you to monitor and access your funds. The idea is that if any of the banks in that network fails, depositor's funds would be reimbursed by FDIC. Mr. Egan motioned to open (2) new money market sweep accounts for the general and sewer fund authorizing the Borough Manager to determine the amount of money to be deposited, seconded by Ms. Igoe. Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Williams, Mr. Egan and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi told Council with opening the new accounts we would like to add Councilwoman M.J. Igoe on the signature card for an additional signer. Mr. Williams motioned to authorize M.J. Igoe to be added to the NBT Bank signature card, seconded by Mr. Nealon. Mr. Egan, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Williams and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

MOTIONS: Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to authorize the Stormwater Pamphlets purchase at the cost of \$2,437.50 to Cooper Printing, Inc. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Williams and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to approve the 2023 Annual Preventative Maintenance contract with Northeast Signal & Electric Co., Inc. at the cost of \$625.00. Mr. Egan motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Williams, Mr. Egan and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mayor Barrasse suggested when Northeast Signal and Electric does the scheduled maintenance our DPW crew should test hooking up our portable generator to the traffic light for emergency purposes noting our DPW department has new laborers. Mr. Rinaldi open the floor on discussion on the revised Refuse/Recycling Contract bid. Solicitor Weinschenk reviewed the changes based off of the last Council meeting suggestions and findings. Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to advertise for bids for the 2024-2029 Refuse/Recycling contract received by noon, and open at 1:00 P.M., September 18, 2023. Mr. Egan motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. Mr. Williams, Mr. Egan, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to ratify the hiring of Jon Clemens, Tunkhannock, PA to the position of DPW laborer at the rate of \$18.50 per hour retroactive to July 24, 2023. Mr. Williams motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. Mr. Nealon, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Egan, Mr. Williams and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi opened the floor for discussion on hiring additional clerical/technical help for the Borough office. Council was all in agreement that the office needs to be open until 3 P.M. and we are limited now since the assistant secretary/treasurer is a school bus driver. Mr. Rinaldi stated the job opening would entail skills knowledgeable with social media and website maintenance. All of Council agreed. Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to approve authorization of placement of liens on sewer delinquent accounts #0378 and #0255. Mr. Egan motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Williams, Mr. Egan and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Rinaldi talked about the recent camera technology that had been installed at the Borough building noting a request was made for a specific type of camera (dome) for the front of the building to record weather conditions and traffic at the Borough's intersection in addition to who is entering in and out of the Borough building. Mr. Rinaldi told Council our current vendor, Appel Technology Solutions does not supply a dome camera but only the currently installed fixed camera noting Mr. Appel stated that is what the contract contained. Mr. Rinaldi told Council maybe in the future the Borough should consider hiring an IT person in house once our systems are all up and running since that would allow us to do various IT work ourselves without the need for a third-party firm. Mr. Rinaldi asked Solicitor Weinschenk for a status update concerning the alleged Zoning Ordinance violation located at 241 N. Abington Road. Solicitor Weinschenk gave a brief history of the permit issued to Elkins/Magnotta for the erection of the fence and stated he had researched the issue in question. Solicitor Weinschenk told Council he determined since the permit was validly issued and the property owners complied with the permit without anyone filing an objection. As a result, the permittee has a right to keep the fence as it was erected noting he had advised the Council President, Mr. Rinaldi the Borough should not pursue it. Solicitor Weinschenk informed Council that no one filed an appeal within the thirty (30) period when the permit was issued noting the property owners waited the thirty (30) days before erecting the fence. Mr. Rinaldi reported

to Rick Williams, member of the Shade Tree Commission, the owner of a dead street tree located on the 200 block of Princeton was requesting a permit for removal.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Rinaldi entertained the motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Igoe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 P.M., seconded by Mr. Williams. All in attendance voted in favor.


Joanne Culbertson, Secretary

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA
August 16, 2023
7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – President Rinaldi
2. Roll Call - Secretary Culbertson
3. Motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes July 19, 2023
4. Public Comment.
5. Police Report.
6. Mayor's Report.
7. Review of Borough Financials, Budget vs. Actual Report and Motion to pay bills. Discussion on sweep accounts from NBT Bank. Authorize NBT Bank signature card name addition M.J. Igoe.
8. Authorize the StormWater Pamphlets purchase at the cost of \$2,437.50 includes the \$110.60 freight charge to Cooper Printing, Inc.
9. Approve the 2023 Annual Preventative Maintenance contract with Northeast Signal & Electric Company Inc. at the cost of \$625.00.
10. Review of bid package for future Refuse contract and authorization to advertise for bids. Bids to be received by 1:00 PM September 18, 2023. Discussion of auditing current trash hauler (GFL contract concerning overcharging Borough Residents from April 2022 through April 2023) and unauthorized assignment of recycling portion of existing contract to Casella Waste Systems Inc.
11. Personnel Issues: Ratification of hiring of Jon Clemens, Tunkhannock, Pa. to the position of DPW Laborer at a rate of \$18.50 per hour retroactive to July 24, 2023. Discussion on hiring additional clerical/technical help for Borough office.
12. Sewer Account delinquency lien authorization for Acct. 0378 Scoda \$2,910.26 and Acct. 0255 Voinski \$1,985.75
13. Other Business/discussion. Final resolution of Elkins alleged Zoning Ordinance Violation, Appel response regarding front of building camera and future Borough Information Technology position.
14. 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.