

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 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. Nealon, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Williams and Mr. Rinaldi. Mr. Toms joined the meeting at 7:03 PM.

ABSENT: Mr. Egan, Mr. Curran, Mayor Barrasse and Solicitor Weinschenk.

VISITORS: CSPD Chief Yarns, Carole and Joelle Sherlock, 329 Clark St., Leila Walsh, 330 Clark St., Mary Moore, 113 Glenburn Rd., Mary Anne Lucas, 102 Pineview Circle, Jonas Kretizer, Casella Waste Systems/County Waste, Rick Williams, 208 Maple St. and Ben Freda, Abington Journal.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Rinaldi entertained the motion to accept the minutes of the August 16, 2023 Council meeting. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Nealon and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Carole and Joelle Sherlock, 329 Clark St., voiced their concerns regarding the water issues they are experiencing. They stated the water runoff is coming from the new S. Abington development, Seminary Ridge noting there is a ditch along the property lines and runs to a basin along Venard Road. They inquired as to who is responsible to make sure the ditch is cleaned and functioning properly. Mr. Rinaldi stated it would be S. Abington's responsibility. After, further discussion the Sherlocks' stated they will contact S. Abington Township and requested Clarks Green Borough to aid in contacting the Township, too. They feel we would have more authority. Mr. Rinaldi stated the Borough engineers will investigate the water issue. Mr. Rinaldi reported the Borough is developing stormwater plans for the next five (5) to ten (10) years noting a recent Grant application that includes Evans St. Leila Walsh, 330 Clark St., addressed Council stating she is here for the same water reason but feels the water flow could be eliminated with higher curbs noting the curbs are gone because of the recent utility work. Ms. Walsh noted it had been reported to the Borough and the DPW has been very responsive and even put in temporary curbing twice. Further discussion took place and it was discovered through Ms. Walsh that the water company was to start reconstructing the curbing and do more restoration to the road in the following week. Rick Williams, 208 Maple St. reported on the upcoming ACOG/Zoom meeting being held at Dalton Borough building, October 5th and the Cohen Law firm will be in attendance in regard to the Comcast franchise agreement.

POLICE REPORT: CSPD Yarns reviewed the monthly police report. Mr. Rinaldi played a voice message for Chief Yarns which complimented his Officers how they handled a car accident situation making each party feel at ease over a stressful situation. Chief Yarns informed Council that no parking and speed limit signs need to be replaced at E. Grove St. along with straightening out of some of the road signs along Fairview Road. Mr. Rinaldi stated we will contact PennDot.

MAYOR'S REPORT: No report.

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	\$	552,699.95
Capital Fund Money Market		128,700.14
Sewer Fund Checking		243,815.36
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>216,560.60</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$	1,448,881.62

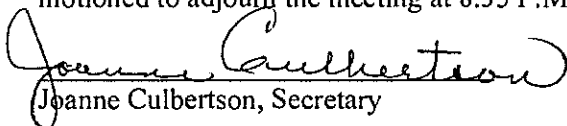
Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and ratify the payment of the bills. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. Mr. Toms, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion to authorize the reinvestment of funds from the Wayne Bank CD 80049035 maturing 9/28/23 and FNCB CD 200469681 maturing 9/30/23. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Williams. Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Williams and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor.

MOTIONS: Mr. Rinaldi introduced the recent proposal from Murphy, Dougherty & Company noting they have been performing our bureau audit services for the last six (6) years. Mr. Rinaldi stated 2022 was the last year for the service contract at the cost of \$7,750. Mr. Rinaldi open the floor for discussion on the contract proposal along with possibility of other alternatives such as advertising for a new accounting firm using a Request for Qualifications. Mr. Williams stated they are very professional and are readily available when needed to answer questions throughout the year. All of council agreed. Mr. Nealon motioned to authorize the engagement of the three (3) year proposal with Murphy, Dougherty & Co. for auditing services 2023...\$9,750, 2024... \$10,000 and 2025... \$10,250. Seconded, by Mr. Toms. Mr. Williams, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Toms, Mr. Nealon and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi entertained a motion authorizing the transfer of \$9,793.54 to the Clarks Summit Volunteer Fire Relief Association. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Toms. Mr. Williams, Mr. Toms, Mr. Nealon, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Rinaldi voted in favor. Mr. Rinaldi explained that this money is allocated by the state requirement of the Act 205 of 1984 stating it is first, directly deposited to the Borough general fund account and within 60 days needs to be transferred to the Volunteer Fire Relief Association.

2024-2029 REFUSE/RECYCLING CONTRACT: Mr. Rinaldi gave a brief history of the various refuse/recycling contracts at the Borough and how County Waste was sold to GFL Environmental and now, they sold us to Casella Waste System, Inc. The proposed new contract will start April 1, 2024 and end March 31, 2029. Mr. Rinaldi stated the Borough received two (2) proposals which were open September 18th. J.P Mascaro total for five (5) years will amount to \$1,768,445.52 and Casella Waste Systems Inc./County Waste will amount to \$1,643,050.32 which is a significant increase from our current contract. Mr. Rinaldi told Council this really isn't a surprise since our neighboring municipalities have also received significant increases. Mr. Rinaldi reported both bids included carts and unlimited bulk waste. Mr. Rinaldi stated we are not in a position tonight to vote on awarding a contract until we have opportunity to speak with the Borough's Solicitor. Mr. Rinaldi told Council the lowest bid from Casella Waste Systems/County Waster has some proposal exceptions and details that need to be reviewed by our Solicitor. Plus, our Solicitor has not had the opportunity to review the higher bid proposal.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Rinaldi talked about the recent September 9th storm and opened the floor for discussion in regard to declaring an emergency within the Borough noting the Mayor had not declared an emergency declaration for the Borough while all of the surrounding municipalities had issued such a declaration. A discussion took place stating no public property got destroyed from the storm and the Borough manager, Ms. Culbertson attended a meeting at the Communication Center stating the County declared it an emergency and we did not have to declare it. Several residents attending asked where they can submit damage claims. Mr. Rinaldi told everyone our website has been updated with the Public Damage Assessment link and that the Chinchilla Fire Co. will be the temporary Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC) opening September 21, 22, and 23 providing resource information and guidance to residents and businesses that had experienced significant damage noting various agencies are scheduled to attend. Mr. Rinaldi proceeded to show pictures of the damage to the Abington Regional Wastewater Authority's facility and surrounding areas caused by the storm. He told everyone the Borough's DPW assisted in helping to secure the overflow pump which was dangling above the stream and clean up the debris. Mr. Rinaldi read a thank you letter from ARWA appreciating our support in restoring operations in such a meaningful way. Mr. Rinaldi informed Council the leaf bags have arrived and discussed the preparation and possible distribution date. It was agreed that bags will be delivered the 1st week of October weather permitting and DPW will assist if needed as well as prepare the bags for delivery. Mr. Rinaldi reminded all Council members that they need to set an example to our community by obtaining the required permits for residential work before the project's start date for work on their own properties.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Rinaldi entertained the motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Igoe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M., seconded by Mr. Nealon. All in attendance voted in favor.


Joanne Culbertson, Secretary

CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA
September 20, 2023
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 August 16, 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. Progress on establishing sweep accounts. Consideration of reinvestment of funds from Wayne Bank, CD80049035 maturing 9/28/2023 and FNCB CD200469681 maturing 9/30/2023.
8. Consideration of three (3) year proposal from Murphy Dougherty to continue Borough Audit Services. Final Year of current engagement \$ 7750.00. Proposal 2023, \$9750.00, 2024, \$10000.00, 2025 \$10250.00.
9. Authorization to transfer \$9793.54 to Clarks Summit Volunteer Fire Relief Association after receipt of Sate Allocation as required by Act 205 of 1984 upon receipt of funds. Per Pa. Auditor General, Borough to receive direct deposit on September 21, 2023.
10. Review of bids received for 2024-2029 Refuse Contract and possible award. 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. Discussion concerning Declaration of Emergency for storm damage from September 9, 2023.
12. Other Business/discussion. Discussion on 2023 Leaf Bag Distribution. September 9, 2023 Storm Damage assessment. Reminder to elected officials to set example for community by obtaining permits required for residential work before project start dates.
13. 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.