

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
MAY 15, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Egan 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: Ms. DeFlice, Mr. Nealon, Mr. Pryle, Ms. Igoe, Ms. Lucas, Ms. Trushina, Mr. Egan and Solicitor Weinschenk. Mayor Barrasse via phone.

**VISITORS:** CSPD Officer Alex Keiser, Rosalie Warner, 245 E. Grove St., and Ben Freda, Abington Journal.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** President Egan entertained the motion to accept the minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Ms. Lucas. All voted in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment.

**POLICE REPORT:** CSPD Officer Keiser briefly reviewed the monthly police report noting there has been an increase of domestic disputes and storm calls. Officer Keiser reported on the Safety grant from the County stating we are stopping cars making sure they are buckled up. Mr. Egan asked if the police still do house checks if residents are on vacation. Officer Keiser stated yes and residents can pick up a form at the Clarks Summit police station .

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Barrasse reported he has been in contact with Chief Yarns and the Newton Township contract negotiations with the Clarks Summit police has been postponed until January of next year. Mayor Barrasse stated he will be distributing some memos from the PA Associations of Boroughs to all Council members in the next few days. Mayor Barrasse encouraged President Egan to transfer the budgeted funds to the Capital fund, President Egan stated he will take that in consideration. Mayor Barrasse gave a brief history concerning a grant that was approved for a backhoe but the fund was used for a skid steer noting the current skid steer is approximately twenty-six (26) years old and the future high maintenance costs. Mayor Barrasse stated if we have a emergency we will not have a backhoe. Ms. Culbertson stated the backhoe is still working and is not used very much and the current DPW informed her that it is still good for another twenty (20) years. Mayor Barrasse stated she should look at an equipment list created in previous years. Ms. Culbertsons stated that list has been updated recently with all the necessary information.

**SOLICITOR REPORT:** Solicitor Weinschenk told Council they will need to respond to the residents that are refusing to comply with our Trash/Recycling Ordinance noting most likely we will need at least another quarter or two (2) to find out the number of violators. Solicitor Weinschenk reminded Council the bid package was created based upon a certain number of households within the Borough and if that number is significantly less J. P. Mascaro is not collecting the same amount of money as they thought they were going to collect. Solicitor Weinschenk stated no one is exempt. We are under obligation to recycle and collect the refuse within the Borough. Solicitor Weinschenk reported to Council J. P. Mascaro is required under contract to notify us of the residents' non-payment. Then, we can step in and pursue compliance with the Ordinance.

**BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:** Ms. Culbertson reported the DPW are in the process of cleaning the Borough's cash basins. Ms. Culbertson told Council Clarks Summit had signed the Intergovernmental Board of Appeals agreement. Ms. Culbertson informed Council that the 2023 Liquid Fuels Audit had been conducted on May 6, 2024. Ms. Culbertson told Council she is still waiting to hear from the CFA Board meeting approving the scope expansion to include the tar buggy purchase with the \$5312.00 remaining funds.

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

General Fund Checking	\$	522,264.30
General Fund ICS MM #7101443595		257,805.73
Capital Fund Money Market		105,946.01
Sewer Fund Checking		313,116.19
Sewer Fund ICS MM #7101443706		257,826.15

Sewer – FNCB CD #200845158	50,000.00
Sewer – Peoples CD #10003154	76,758.85
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80049035	80,447.67
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80021603	53,634.01
Sewer – Wayne Bank CD #80044088	52,214.08
State Funds Checking	<u>264,273.04</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$ 2,034,286.03

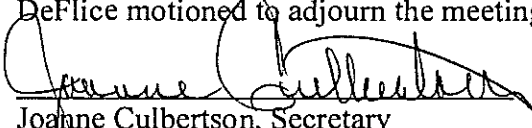
Mr. Egan entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and ratify the payment of the bills. Ms. Deflice motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. All voted in favor.

**MOTIONS:** Mr. Egan entertained a motion to approve the second quarter payment to Hillside Park in the amount of \$1,585,25. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to approve the change order for Vortex adding an additional four hundred (400) feet for the Clarks Green Borough Sanitary CIPP Liner Project at the cost of \$17,500. Mr. Egan told Council this additional amount will still be funded by the awarded grant. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Lucas. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to re-appoint Bill Risse to AAJRB for a five (5) year term. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Ms. Lucas. Ms. Lucas, Ms. Trushina, Ms. DeFlice, Mr. Pryle, Mr. Nealon, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Egan voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to re-appoint. M.J. Igoe to the AAJRB for a five (5) year term. Mr. Nealon motioned, seconded by Ms. DeFlice. Mr. Nealon, Ms. Lucas, Ms. Trushina, Ms. DeFlice, Mr. Pryle, Ms. Igoe and Mr. Egan voted in favor. Ms. Igoe thanked Council for her appointment. Mr. Egan introduced the next motion stating he had talked with the Borough Engineers, Colwell & Naegele being a representative for the Board of Appeals and they had agreed to be an alternate if the need arises prior to finding someone to appoint to the board. Mr. Egan directed a question to Solicitor Weinschenk asking if we cannot find a qualified candidate can we go outside the Borough. Solicitor Weinschenk stated yes and told Council he would need to review the Borough Engineers appointment to the Board to see if it would be allowed in the Ordinance but you can continue with the appointment motion subject to his review. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to appointment the Borough Engineers' as the alternate representative for the Intergovernmental Board of Appeals pending clarification from Solicitor Weinschenk. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to bring the tabled motion back to the floor for a vote noting the motion was to appoint David Rinaldi to the Zoning Hearing Board. Ms. Trushina motioned, seconded by Mr. Pryle. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to appoint Dave Rinaldi to the Zoning Hearing Board. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Pryle. Ms. Trushina stated there is no reason to appoint Dave Rinaldi. Murray Glick had emailed twice asking to be re-instated back to the Zoning Hearing Board and resigned from the recent Planning Commission appointment. Ms. Trushina told Council that there are many people that are not happy to work with Dave Rinaldi noting even though he has a lot of experience. Ms. Trushina informed Council that there are two (2) people on the Zoning Hearing Board that will resign if Dave Rinaldi is appointed. Mr. Egan continued with motion by asking for a vote. Mr. Pryle, Ms. Igoe, Mr. Nealon, Ms. Lucas, Ms. DeFlice and Mr. Egan voted yes. Ms. Trushina voted no.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Egan asked if there was any new business to discuss. Ms. Trushina distributed information concerning social media and an example of an ordinance regarding the usage of social media. Mr. Egan asked Solicitor Weinschenk to start the process of looking at setting up a template to move forward with a social media policy. A discussion took place on what will be posted, handling of comments along with who will be posting. Ms. Culbertson told Council social media can turn into a full-time job plus, the possibly of how it is handled can even become a liability. Ms. Trushina talked about the Shade Tree Commission and Tree City. Ms. Trushina expressed her concern that Council does not support the Shade Tree Commission noting residents continue to cut down healthy trees. Ms. Trushina stated the Ordinance regarding trees need to be enforced and questioned if the zoning officer is responsible for the enforcement. Solicitor Weinschenk stated the zoning officer is not responsible for enforcement. Solicitor Weinschenk told Ms. Trushina the Ordinance puts the burden on the Shade Tree Commission in regard to issuing permits on street trees and pursuing with the District Justice the fines associated with not having a permit for the cutting of a street tree. Ms. Trushina informed Council for the Borough to remain a Tree City we need at least \$2 per capita noting we have a population over 1500. Currently, we receive \$2,000 annually. Ms. Trushina told Council the budget will need to increase by at

least another \$1,000. Ms. Trushina stated another standard to receive Tree City recognition is celebrating Arbor Day by planting a tree or other activity which customarily has been observed.

**MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Egan entertained the motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. DeFlice motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 P.M. All voted in favor.



Joanne Culbertson, Secretary

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH**  
**AGENDA**  
**MAY 15, 2024**  
**7:00 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – President Egan
2. **ROLL CALL** – Secretary Culbertson
3. **MOTION TO APPROVE COUNCIL MEETINGS MINUTES:** March 20, 2024
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
5. **POLICE REPORT**
6. **MAYOR’S REPORT** – Mayor Barrasse
7. **SOLICITOR REPORT** – Atty. Weinschenk
9. **BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:** Ms. Culbertson
10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Legal /personnel issues
11. Review of Borough Financials, Budget vs. Actual and motion to pay bills.
12. **MOTIONS:**
  - Approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter payment to Hillside Park in the amount of \$1585.25..
  - Approve a change to the Clarks Green Borough Sanitary CIPP Liner Project adding an add'l 400 ft. at \$17,500.
  - Note: The additional cost is still within the awarded amount of the grant.
  - Consideration to appoint members to the Abington Area Joint Recreation Board.
  - Consideration to appoint member/members to the Board of Appeals.
  - Consideration to a tabled motion of appointing a member to the Zoning Hearing Board.
13. **OTHER BUSINESS:**
14. **OTHER COMMENTS/CONCERNS**
15. **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. Speakers are allowed 3 minutes each for comments. Thank you.