

**CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH
COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 19, 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. President Egan asked everyone for a moment of silence for CSPD Chief Yarns son, Chase Yarns.

ROLL CALL: Secretary Culbertson conducted roll call. The following were present: Mr. Nealon, Mr. Pryle, Ms. Igoe, Ms. Lucas, Ms. Trushina, Mr. Egan, Mayor Barrasse and Solicitor Weinschenk.

ABSENT: Ashley DeFlice

VISITORS: CSPD Officer Steve Hall, Mary Moore, 113 Glenbum Rd and Ben Freda, Abington Journal.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Egan entertained a motion to accept the April 17, 2024 minutes. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Ms. Lucas. All voted in favor. President Egan entertained a motion to accept the May 15, 2024 minutes. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. All voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

POLICE REPORT: CSPD Officer Hall briefly reviewed the monthly police report noting there were no motor vehicle crashes. Officer Hall reported the next wave of the driving enforcement will be starting in July and we have been aiding with traffic control for the DPW to paint crosswalk lines within the Borough.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Barrasse distributed handouts that comprised of the Model Structure of Borough Government, the Role of Mayor and information concerning Capital Improvements and Emergency Management. Mayor Barrasse stressed the importance of financial planning and the need to allocate money to the Capital fund. Mayor Barrasse informed Council of an explosion that took place in West Reading, PA and that his nephew received awards for his handling of the crisis and article was published in the Borough News. Mayor Barrasse told Council the community of West Reading communicated not only with the mayor or president but with all levels of government. Mayor Barrasse stated "he hopes we will be able to communicate in a crisis like that" and the Borough must provide emergency management. Mayor Barrasse told Council they need to appoint an emergency coordinator and for them to contact James Waters.

SOLICITOR REPORT: Solicitor Weinschenk informed Council of a possible (private action) lawsuit among two (2) property owners within the Borough concerning a fence and the Borough's zoning ordinance. Solicitor Weinschenk briefly gave a history of the issue and reviewed the Borough Ordinance. Solicitor Weinschenk told Council he can provide certain facts regarding litigation in an executive session. Mr. Egan open the floor for discussion and everyone agreed to an executive session at the end of the meeting.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT: Ms. Culbertson reported the DPW have been working on painting the crosswalks within the Borough and curb has been fixed on Highland Ave. from a recent complaint. Ms. Culbertson informed Council that the tar buggy request had been approved by the CFA Board. Ms. Culbertson informed Council she has been in contact with Lackawanna County Planning and Economic Development on future grants. Ms. Culbertson stated she has been working with the Borough engineers in preparation for the 2024 Stormwater project and hoping to have the project advertised in July along with next year's grant application for paving.

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

General Fund Checking	\$	550,805.73
General Fund ICS MM #7101443595		258,879.76
Capital Fund Money Market		106,215.95
Sewer Fund Checking		263,216.04
Sewer Fund ICS MM #7101443706		258,890.29
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>264,296.87</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$ 2,015,359.25


Mr. Egan entertained a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report and ratify the payment of the bills. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Ms. Lucas. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion for the re-investment of funds from the Wayne Bank CD #80044088 maturing 6/29/24. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion for the re-investment of funds from the FNCB CD #200845158 maturing 6/30/24. Ms. Lucas motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. All voted in favor.

MOTIONS: Mr. Egan entertained a motion to remove penalty and interest from sewer account #0190. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Pryle. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to approve the first installment payment to the Cohen Law Group in the amount of \$2,000 for the Comcast franchise legal services. Ms. Nealon motioned, seconded by Ms. Trushina. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan open the floor on discussion for the donation to the Rotary Club of the Abingtons. Council agreed to do the same dollar amount from the previous years, 2022 and 2023. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to donate \$800 to the Rotary Club of the Abingtons for the Independence Day fireworks display. Ms. Trushina motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan open the floor for discussion on a new website vendor. Ms. Lucas gave a brief review of Munibit and informed Council she tried reaching out to local companies including our current website vendor. Ms. Lucas told Council Munibit can be cancelled / terminated at any time. Ms. Lucas reported they will pull content from our current website and we are able to keep our web address. Ms. Lucas verified pricing will not be raised after the first year and cost annually will be \$1,026.00. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to approve hiring Munibit to design and implement Clarks Green website at the annual cost of \$1,026.00 a year. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Ms. Trushina. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan reported on the work being done by the Borough engineers concerning the stormwater project and asked if Council will consider approving the bid advertisement in advance if the Borough engineers complete the necessary steps before the next Council meeting. Ms. Lucas motioned to authorize the bid advertisement for the 2024 Stormwater Project, seconded by Mr. Nealon. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to appoint Murray Glick to the Zoning Hearing Board term ending 12/31/2024. Mr. Egan stated he will be replacing Ron Leas who recently resigned. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Ms. Trushina. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to re-appoint Dr. James McKenna to a five (5) year term ending 12/31/2028. Ms. Igoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Nealon. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to re-appoint Kathleen Baumgardner, RN to a three (3) year term ending 12/31/2026. Mr. Nealon motioned, seconded by Ms. Igoe. All voted in favor. Mr. Egan entertained a motion to re-appoint Kimberly Dougherty to a two (2) year term ending 12/31/2024. Mr. Nealon motioned, seconded by Ms. Lucas. All voted in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS: Ms. Trushina asked if there is a way to honor Ron Leas for his service on the Zoning Hearing Board for the many years he gave the Borough. Ms. Trushina suggested a letter be sent. Mayor Barrasse agreed stating Ron served for many years and was always non-political with respect to the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Egan told Ms. Trushina a letter could be sent thanking him for his service. Mr. Egan entertained a motion for Ms. Trushina to send a letter of thanking Ron Leas for his service to the community. Ms. Trushina motioned, seconded by Ms. Lucas. Mr. Pryle asked if a proclamation was going to be done for the Abington Heights High School Trial Team since they won the 2024 PA State Championship. Mr. Egan asked if the Mayor Barrasse would prepare the Proclamation and that Mr. Pryle would coordinate with Mayor Barrasse on the date of when the Proclamation will be presented to the Abington Heights High School Trial Team.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The session was called to discuss the possible litigation between two (2) properties in the Borough. Started at 7:50 P.M. ended 8:12 P.M.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Egan entertained the motion to adjourn the meeting. All of Council agreed 8:13 P.M.


Joanne Culbertson, Secretary

CLARKS GREEN BOROUGH

AGENDA

JUNE 19, 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:** April 17, 2024 and May 15, 2024
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
5. **POLICE REPORT**
6. **MAYOR’S REPORT** – Mayor Barrasse
7. **SOLICITOR REPORT** – Atty. Weinschenk
8. **BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:** Ms. Culbertson
9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Legal /personnel issues
10. **Review of Borough Financials, Budget vs. Actual and motion to pay bills.**
Consideration of re-investment of FNCB CD 200845158 maturing 6/30/2024
Consideration of re-investment of Wayne CD 80044088 maturing 6/29/2024
11. **MOTIONS:**
Authorize the removal of penalties and interest in the amount \$16.33 from sewer accounts #0190 ...
to the non-delivery of the 1st Qtr. Sewer Billing
Approve the 1st Installment to the Cohen Law Group in the amount of \$2,000 for the Comcast franchise renewal
legal services
Consideration of a donation to the Rotary Club of the Abingtons for the Independence Day Firework celebration
Consideration to approve a website vendor
Authorize advertisement of the 2024 Stormwater Project per completion by the Borough engineers
Consideration to appoint member to the Zoning Hearing Board
Consideration to appoint member/members to the Board of Health
Consideration to appoint member to the Planning Commission
12. **OTHER BUSINESS:**
13. **OTHER COMMENTS/CONCERNS:**
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. Speakers are allowed 3 minutes each for comments. Thank you.