

**BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012
7:00 PM**

The September Borough Council Meeting for the Borough of Clarks Summit was conducted on Wednesday, September 25, 2012, at 7:00pm. The meeting was held in borough Council Chambers, 2nd floor, 304 South State Street, Borough of Clarks Summit, County of Lackawanna and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Council Members in attendance were Gerrie Carey, Herman Johnson, Patrick Williams, Virginia Kehoe, and Patricia Lawler. Absent from the meeting, were David Jenkins, Dominic Scott, Roy Davis.

1. **WORKSESSION:** **President Carey**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** **President Carey**

- **Ellen Beechko – Christmas Decorations: N/A**
- **Junior Council**

Council received two applications from Matt Remus and Greg Johnson. Herman Johnson commented that in the years past the Jr. Council members were put in charge of Veteran’s Park and all 4 Jr. Council members did a great job. They learned a great deal about the Municipalities and this is a worthwhile program. Council need to vote tonight, so Jr. Council members can participate next week during the regular Council Meeting. Herman Johnson was the first to make a motion to accept the two Abington Heights students to be on JR. Council at October 3, 2012 Council Meeting, Patrick Williams seconded the motion. Vote is unanimous 4-0. Patty Lawler asked if women have shown interest in the program. The answer was “not currently”, but there was one girl who did participate at one time. Herman Johnson suggested opening up to the process to the whole Abington Area as opposed to limiting it to the Clarks Summit area. Virginia Kehoe stated she would research to see if the student has to be a resident of Clarks Summit. Council discussed the mentoring program also there will be more discussion at the Council Meeting.
- **New Streams of Revenue – vehicle advertising - parking meter permits – etc**

Council discussed advertising on Borough Vehicles/Police/DPW and EMA. Advertising on these vehicles can generate more revenue for the Borough. Patrick Williams discussed ideas about putting the advertisement on the rear quarter of the back of the Police cars. Virginia Kehoe stated that a deposit may be in order if the sign does not come off and possibly damage the vehicles. Mayor Harry Kelly was asked for his opinion. He is only concerned that the police car will continue to be respectable and tasteful with the added advertisement. Herman Johnson suggested the department head “ok” the advertising for those departments’ cars. The Finance Committee should come up with the rates for the advertising.

Parking Meter Permits: Patty Lawler stated that business owners asked about parking permits. The most one meter can bring to the borough is \$40 per month. If we offered parking permits for \$30 a month that can raise revenue for the Clark Summit Borough and be more convenient to the business owners. Herman Johnson asked how do you enforce the permit parking, and the meters are for the consumers/customers who come into Clarks Summit to shop. One suggestion was to share this idea with Barry Kaplan and the Business Association (ABPA) and get their input. Virginia Kehoe stated that allowing Barry Kaplan to define the terms and what would work best for the businesses may be a good idea. Also allow the parking permit only on the side streets, not on the main streets would be better. Virginia Kehoe stated that Clarks Summit’s meter parking program is an ordinance and that would have to be modified. If this is considered a “Pilot” program, the ordinance change would have to be advertised and passed by Council to be legal.

- **Sheridan Ave Property**
Virginia Kehoe stated that in regards to the Sheridan Avenue property, she had not yet received a response from Borough Solicitor Pat Rogan. Herman Johnson discussed the fact that the person who purchased the property was told by the realtor that the land, which does belong to the Borough of Clarks Summit, belonged to the property owner. The Borough needs to take the time and move cautiously with this piece of land. It was suggested that Virginia Kehoe remove this discussion from the agenda for October 3, 2012 and discuss this with Solicitor Pat Rogan during executive session.
- **Policy on Cell Phone Use**
This is for ALL cell phone use in including texting for Borough employees. Herman Johnson does not agree with the policy when it comes to police. He believes that if police officers need to use the radio to communicate with the Comm Center that seems like the same idea as using a cell phone. Herman Johnson stated his opinion that the Police department should be exempt. Patrick Williams voted down the cell phone use policy, Herman Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous 4-0.
- **10/3 Public Hearing on Ordinances 2012-11 and 2012-12**
2012-11: Borough Engineer Bob Nagele feels a three way stop sign is in order on Grandview and Lewis Streets. Herman Johnson stated that the Safety Committee concurred with Bob Nagele's assessment. Also, possibly Hidden Driveway signs may be helpful. Virginia Kehoe stated that the Hidden Driveway signs are already there and not working for the residents.
2012-12: Amendment to current pension ordinance. The Department of the Auditor General's Office recommended that the Borough repeal two lines in the Ordinance to put it in line with the state. Sections 1 and 2, in 505B are no longer relevant and should be deleted. Council will need to pass an Ordinance reflecting the deletion of Sections 1 and 2. This can be voted on at the next Council Meeting as well.
- **Resolution 2012—22 Grant application – scales**
Virginia Kehoe stated that the Police are applying for a grant for scales. DCED requires that Clarks Summit Borough Council pass a resolution showing that Council supports this grant. The deadline is Friday, September 28, 2012. The Borough has to offer a match on this grant, not financially, but by other means like services, training staff and the purchase of small equipment. Herman Johnson made first motion accept Resolution 2012-22, the motion was seconded by Pat Williams, the vote was unanimous 4-0.
Conditional Use – 108 Stone Ave
Virginia Kehoe stated that 108 Stone Avenue is zoned RP, (Residential Professional) our Ordinance states that Professional Offices are allowed in an RP zone, as long as they go before the Planning Commission and get approval from Council and all safety issues are met. The Planning Commission reviewed their application and has made a recommendation for Council to approve the conditional use. Attorney Buscarini was present at the meeting. She discussed her small family Law Practice and a pending sales agreement. She would use the entire house as a Law Practice. The two neighbors living next to 108 Stone Avenue ultimately offered their support for her Law Practice. Signage and parking were discussed. Council will vote on the Conditional Use Agreement on the October 3, 2012.
- **Letter from Beth Florey**
Virginia Kehoe received a letter from Beth Florey expressing concerns about road conditions on Stone Ridge and Hedge Row Runs. Ms. Kehoe forwarded the email to DPW for patching and servicing in meantime. These roads are added to list for consideration for paving. Herman Johnson read the email and the Safety Committee Chairman, checked the two roads in question. Mr. Johnson stated that the road does need maintenance. There are two options, the Borough can overlay the roads or tar the cracks. If the Borough did have blacktopping program in place, those two roads could that be moved up on prioritized list. Herman Johnson stated that the Borough will spend more money in a couple of years patching instead of paving the roads. Virginia asked to meet with Public Works Committee to get recommendations. Mr. Johnson stated that he provided a list of roads in need of paving three years ago, and was told the Borough would work off that list and tweak it. Herman Johnson and Virginia Kehoe will meet to come up with a solid list to go to Finance Committee with.

- **Oct 20 4:30 – 6:30 – table at event**
Dori waters and Mary Ann Nichols are having a Halloween Parade and other events on October 20, 2012 in the first floor of the Borough Building. They wanted to know if the Borough wanted to have a table at the event.

3. REVIEW OF OCTOBER 3, 2012 AGENDA

Virginia Kehoe stated that she will change the agenda to reflect the changes discussed. The Junior Council swearing in will be added to the agenda. The discussion of the property on Sheridan Ave. will be taken off. Selecting a Mentor for Junior Council will be added. Two pieces of correspondence will be added; MRM Trust and Workers Comp Insurance will cover volunteer firefighters for certain kinds of insurance. As of June 2013, they won't cover the Borough for Junior Firefighters' insurance. The other correspondence is from DEP. That can be discussed in Executive Session.

Herman Johnson stated that the EMA Coordinators are going to Mount Hills, PA for training on how to respond if there was ever an ethanol incident. There is another training in Fort Washington, Montgomery County for instruction on how to respond to a train derailment. Mr. Johnson also stated that Public Works did check on Stone Ridge and Hedge Row Run. Also, Mr. Johnson surveyed the area and agrees that the three way stop sign for Grandview and Lewis was a good idea. Mr. Johnson also informed Council that the DPW safety tip for the month was: To avoid a scene, keep your workplace clean. He also asked Council to think about Police consolidation, Chief of Police, full time or part time officers also.

Patty Lawler mentioned new streams of revenue idea for the Clarks Summit Borough. Ms. Lawler inquired about the 6 parks that may be able to bring in revenue. If a business would like to maintain them and advertise for a fee. Virginia Kehoe stated that this is not possible because they are public parks. Gerri Carey discussed putting thank you's in a section in the newspaper for residents who have volunteered their time and deserve to be recognized.

Patrick Williams told Council that Friday night, September 28, 2012, The Borough of Clarks Summit is having a tire collection recycling event from 4-8pm at the DPW building. Patrick Williams asked Virginia Kehoe about the 904 Grant, asking if it will be in the mail by Friday the September 28, 2012. Mr. Williams stated that he would like to know if the course for the EMA Coordinators on railroad derailment is covered in the budget. He inquired about line items for education and training? There would be two or three EMA Coordinators who will be able to attend the training.

**4. ADJOURN:
8:47pm**

President Carey