

**BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 30, 2012
7:00 PM**

The October Work Session Meeting for the Borough of Clark's Summit was conducted on Tuesday, October 30, 2012 at 7:08 P.M. The meeting was held in Borough Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 304 South State Street, Borough of Clark's Summit, County of Lackawanna and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Council members in attendance were President Gerrie Carey, Mr. Herman Johnson, Mr. Patrick Williams, Ms. Patricia Lawler, Mr. Dominic Scott, and Recording Secretary Virginia Kehoe. Mr. Roy Davis, Mayor Harry Kelly and Mr. David Jenkins were absent.

1. WORKSESSION:

President Carey

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Carey

Janine Port, a Clarks Summit Borough resident who lives at 408 Center Street, expressed her concerns about her neighbor who dumped leaves into the swale, just before Hurricane Sandy. There were quite a few piles of leaves on Center Street, and Ms. Port asked Council if it is a service that the Borough provides, picking up leaves. Ms. Port stated that she is very upset with the fact that she addressed her neighbor about the massive pile of leaves in the swale and was disregarded. Also, this neighbor has an elevated driveway which has since created a mud-pit and destroyed the macadam and constantly collects water. Ms. Port asked if there is an ordinance of some sort that, if you have woods it can be made mandatory to dump leaves in those woods. Virginia Kehoe stated that the Borough cannot legally do that. The state says that the Borough needs to recycle the leaves. The DPW takes the leaves, after they are raked to the end of the yard. The leaf pick-up runs continuously through Thanksgiving. The Borough is obligated by DEP to recycle leaves; the vacuuming is a service to the residents. The Borough does not have a schedule for the residents telling them when the DPW will be around to pick up the leaves. It would be very difficult to determine how long one neighborhood will take, as well as any issues that may come up any day of the week where the DPW is needed. Typically the DPW comes to each community about once a week. The Borough has posted on the website and the bulletin board that the leaves should not be in the swales, they should be raked to the edge of their property. Ms. Port stated that there are 6 houses that had their leaves in the swales on Center Street what can be done? Virginia Kehoe state that unless it's been a continuous problem, the resident will be notified politely by letter. Patty Lawler commented that she moved the leaves with a snow shovel before the Hurricane in fear of flooding from the blocked up sewer grates. Ms. Lawler suggested that Council maybe should go back to the drawing board put the Borough in zones to let the residents know when the leaf pickup is coming to their neighborhood. People are uneducated about the danger of having the leaves in the swales. Herman Johnson stated that it is a matter of education and enforcement. If the Borough had more rain from Hurricane Sandy we would have seen much more flooding. There is a problem with this. Janine Port stated that people drive excessively fast on Center Street when disasters are happening. People are not paying attention to speed limits. Ms. Port wanted to bring these

issues to the Borough Council to discuss. Gerry Carey did praise the local EMA for all of their hard work. Herman Johnson prepared a three page report also on the EMA's activities during Hurricane Sandy.

- **Uniform Construction Code Inspections – Lee Batista 570-280-2111**

Lee Batista did not come to the meeting to discuss an alternative to BIU.

- **White Ribbon Campaign**

Gerrie Carey presented a proclamation to Patrick Williams for the White Ribbon Campaign. The week of October 31, 2012 to November 7, 2012 is proclaimed "White Ribbon Against Pornography Week." Patrick Williams pinned a white ribbon on Gerrie Carey and Mr. Williams added that residents can wear a white ribbon or put one on a doorknob, etc., wherever it is visible.

- **W/C distribution**

Virginia Kehoe provided a spreadsheet with the new workers compensation distribution. This is concerning the workers reimbursement for the Workers Compensation for the fire and ambulance. Herman Johnson suggested going into discussions before the final vote is made may be a good idea. Mr. Johnson stated that this should be discussed with Borough Solicitor Pat Rogan. It is fine to vote on in public and discuss with Council but any legal discussion on litigation would be for set aside for executive session.

3. REVIEW OF NOVEMBER 7, 2012 AGENDA

Virginia Kehoe stated that the Parking meter suspension for ABPA will be on the agenda for a vote. This is something that the Borough has approved in the past.

Herman Johnson discussed Hurricane Sandy. Mr. Johnson thanked Borough Manager, DPW, Police Department, and the citizens who volunteered. The Borough had power outages and limited damage from the storm. Every one worked together. Patrolman Williams kept EMA well versed on the situation. When you work as a team you can get a lot done.

Herman Johnson looked into the Liquid Fuel Tax situation, and then surveyed the Borough to see how many streets need to be blacktopped. Mr. Johnson met with Virginia Kehoe and Bob Nagele and they surveyed every street in the Borough. The streets were prioritized and they came up with a color-coding system. Virginia Kehoe explained the color coding system to Council. Mr. Johnson stated that if the Borough took out a \$1.5 million dollar loan, the whole town could be milled and blacktopped. The streets that are in good shape should be preserved also. This would not cost the Clarks Summit residents' anything. Clarks Summit would become a town for the next 5 to 10 years with good roads. Virginia Kehoe called PENNDOT to make sure the Borough was able to do this and they did agree that yes the Clarks Summit Borough could pave the roads. The Borough will collect the Liquid Fuels money which comes to about \$115 thousand a year. Ms. Kehoe stated that the Borough should receive at least \$100,000 a year. Ms. Kehoe also stated that we don't have an exact number on that the final interest rate would be until we bid out the loan. This would also include storm-water improvements which will free up the DPW. Patty Lawler stated she would look into a Rural Loan with zero interest. Patrick Williams discussed warrantees on the pave cuts suggesting that they be made for one year to ensure the Borough is covered if there is a problem within a year of paving.

Patty Lawler discussed Parking Permits which would cost \$30 a month. The Permit would be a different color every month and the style would have to be finalized. The Permit holder would need to put it on the dashboard of their car so it is clearly visible. There were questions from Council as to where does the Parking Permit allow the owner to park. Ms. Lawler stated that this is a pilot program and this will allow Council to see how it works out. The Parking Permit requires an amendment to the existing parking ordinance. Virginia Kehoe will advertise about the amendment also, so Council can vote in December.

Herman Johnson stated that he would like the November 2012 Agenda to have on it to give Mayor Chili . Mr. Johnson also suggested speaking with the Borough Solicitor Pat Rogan to see if the Borough can have a commuter tax here for the people from Scranton who come to the Clarks Summit Borough to work. Patty Lawler went to the meeting for Chelik, and suggested waiting to see what happens in Scranton as there may be lawsuits with an action such as this. Herman Johnson stated that he feels bad for our citizens who work in Scranton and live in the Borough.

Herman Johnson also wants the Junior Council to write something about themselves, so the Borough could get into Borough of Associations Magazine for Junior Council.

Patty discussed putting the Christmas lights up also and mentioned this to the Junior Council that they are looking for volunteers to help decorate on the weekend. Council discussed the snowflakes that need to be hung in the Borough. Need to rent a bucket truck to put them up. Need to make sure there is nothing more involved than plugging in the snowflakes. If there are any Christmas lights from the residents that they would like to donate to the Borough, it would be appreciated.

Herman Johnson asked about voting and where it will be in the Borough. It will be at the Firehouse and the Methodist Church. Virginia Kehoe also stated that residents can look online for more information. Herman Johnson commented that he liked the Jr. Council pictures on the Borough website.

Patrick Williams discussed the advertising on the Police Vehicles. Need to know how much need to charge for each sticker. Is \$800 reasonable? Council discussed different businesses that may be interested in the advertising. Maybe get a committee together and talk to advertising person that is familiar with the pricing.

Patty Lawler discussed a billboard for the Borough building is there a market for that? Virginia Kehoe stated she would investigate further.

Herman Johnson stated that he is not able to get cable on his television at the Borough. Virginia Kehoe stated that he should have received a cable box about a year ago and would check into it.

4. ADJOURN:

President Carey

The October 30, 2012 Council Special Meetings minutes are respectfully submitted by Jennifer Schmidt.