

**CLEARFIELD BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2021**

Clearfield Borough Council met in regular session on Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the Clearfield Borough Building. Lew Duttry called the meeting to order. Lew Duttry held a moment of silence, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Lewis Duttry, Stephanie Tarbay, Jim Kling, Mason Strouse, Scott Ortasic, Steve Harmic, Robbie Tubbs,

ABSENT: Brande Plyler, Borough Secretary Betsy Houser

OTHERS PRESENT:, Solicitor Chip Bell, Mayor Schell, Borough Operations Manager Leslie Stott, Todd Kling, Solicitor Chip Bell, Code Officer Larry Mack, Chief Vincent McGinnis, Fire Chief Justin Worley

MEDIA: Dustin Parks, Gant Media

Lew Duttry called for a Motion seeking approval of the minutes of the December 17, 2020 Clearfield Borough Council Meeting. **MOTION** was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Mason Strouse. **MOTION** Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

PUBLIC AUDIENCE: None

REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A copy of the Fire Department's report is on file. Chief Justin Worley said that everything is in service. They have been working on some grant work.

POLICE: A copy of the Police Department's report is on file. Chief McGinnis praised his police officers. They did a very good job on the shooting this past weekend on Front St., he said the two are in jail. He also said that Denny Leigey from Denny's Beer Barrel Pub donated the fund for the Police One training software that is later in a motion. He thanked them very much.

The chief added there was a lot of help from Lawrence township, the sheriff department, the State Police and Curwensville Borough regarding the shooting. He appreciated their assistance.

STREET:

MAYOR: He wanted to add to the great job of the police officers. he thanked businesses that contribute to the Police department. They appreciate it very much.

SOLICITOR: A copy of the solicitor report is on file. He will answer any questions on it.

BOROUGH OPERATIONS MANAGER The office is having phone calls on new businesses coming into town. The Skate park is very active, they are very excited. CRC is gearing up for the spring festival. With all hopes we can have it in June.

The Mayor asked where the Christmas decorations were stored, Les said down at the shop near the recycling.

ENGINEER

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: A copy of the code officer reports are on file.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY:

MOTION was made by Jim Kling and seconded by Robbie Tubbs to approve "No Parking" signs to be placed on East 6th Street between Daisy and Bigler Ave. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Stephanie Tarbay and seconded by Steve Harmic to purchase Police One training software for \$1,272.40. **MOTION** Carried. Remark: These will be purchased with donated funds Steve Harmic added.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Open gasoline and diesel bids

MOTION was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Scott Ortasic to approve JJ Powell to supply gasoline and diesel at a variable rate of \$1.869 variable rate for gasoline and \$1.979 variable rate for diesel. **MOTION** Carried.

Mr. Kling asked if there has been anything heard from Mr. Swales. Les said it is in her report. He was in the office today. The project is on schedule to be completed in May. The company had preordered a lot of the materials. That helped. They have met with some tenants for downstairs. There will be three units. Hoping on will be a restaurant facing the river. Another for commercial office space. And facing Market street a coffee shop, or bakery of some sort. Les said what you see is finished. There is new sidewalks in along the river. But they are not looking at changing the streets on Locust or Water Street. Steve Harmic asked if the business from Dubois inquiring, is a relocation or second location. Les believes a relocation.

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

MOTION was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Scott Ortasic to advertise openings on all boards and committees for the Clearfield Borough. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Scott Ortasic and seconded by Steve Harmic to approve Leslie Stott as the delegate and Barb Shaffner and Sam Maney as the alternate delegate to the Clearfield County Tax Collection Committee. **MOTION** Carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

MOTION was made by Robbie Tubbs and seconded by Steve Harmic to approve the bill list for payment. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Jim Kling and seconded by Mason Strouse to approve the 2019 financial audit as presented by auditor. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Robbie Tubbs and seconded by Jim Kling to hire Provost appraisals to appraise the Third Ward fire hall at an approximate cost of \$1,200.00. **MOTION** Carried.

Remark: Scott asked if this ends the reservations of the building. Les said that council asked if she move forward to investigate the possibility to sell it. It is costing the fire depart. and the borough. It is not covering the expenses. They made a commitment not to rent it for 2021. Les said the last two buildings were sold at bottom prices. She encourages communications to the fire dept. so they can get things out of it. The last buildings were given five days to empty it. Mr. Kling said that experience was sour grapes to him. Everyone scrambled. It was too much. Todd Kling said the Third Ward Fire Hall has been a dumping ground for public works. It is a facility used for storage.

Les said the first step is have it appraised. Then a decision can be made.

Justin said they are running out of room, he is not quite sure what is left over in 3rd ward, but like Jim said we got a raw deal selling the other two fire halls, and two fire trucks. I would prefer no rash decisions are made. He sees the money that it is costing, he would like to see that money would still go toward the fire department, such as turn out gear. He said the grants are starting to dry out, they are getting harder and harder to get. It is his hope, moving forward, this money would come back to the fire department. Les also said the State provides funds, and she knows

the fire dept has used it very wisely. She thanked the fire dept. for the fine stewardship. Stephanie Tarbay stated, this area has a shortage of fire fighters, it is a known fact, there is a lot of needing of people and needing of funds, help them out because we don't always see the people what goes on behind the scenes. Justin also added they also have fund raisers to help and we strive every day to progress.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS: Jim Kling said he was very happy to hear of the gift to the Police Dept. We need to establish some type of line item that covers gifts. It needs to be separate. Les said it has been done.

Stephanie wanted to discuss a Facebook page.

Executive session was called.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED 6:39 pm

Submitted By: Betsy Houser, Borough Secretary/Administrative Assistant