

**CLEARFIELD BOROUGH
BOROUGH 2022 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2022**

Clearfield Borough Council met in regular session on Thursday, March 17, 2022, 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, Steve Harmic, Greg Forcey, Scott Ortasic, Annjane Ross, Brian Lytle, Steve Livergood,

ABSENT Chief Andrew Smith

OTHERS PRESENT:, Solicitor Chip Bell, Mayor Mason Strouse, Chief Vincent McGinnis, Borough Operations Manager Leslie Stott, Borough Secretary Betsy Houser, Street Dept. Todd Kling, Code Officer Andrea Stewart

MEDIA: Cherie Dysard, Gant Media LLC and Jeff Corcino, The Progress

Lew Duttry called for a Motion seeking approval of the minutes of the January 20, 2022 Clearfield Borough Council Meeting. **MOTION** was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Brian Lytle. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Stephanie Tarbay to approve the minutes of February 17, 2022. **MOTION** Carried.

Public Audience: Wendy Moore, Marv Smith, Randy Powell

Wendy Moore came to council with a parking issue at 402 E. 7th Street. Her front door opens pretty much to the street. She is asking for no parking on that part of the road. Her front door and stoop opens right to the road. When people park there, there is no way she can access her house. The Chief had went up, and the parking is too close. There had been someone arrested, taken to court, and found not guilty. This is an issue. She was told to come here and ask for a no parking sign to be posted. The Chief said he could go up with Todd to take a look, and he also said she needs more curbing. Lew said it can be looked at and see what can be done.

Marv Smith lives on 8th Street, he has concern about Ogden Ave. He said the Boro crew did a real good job on the right side coming down, the grates were lifted, its good. But the opposite side of the road, at the bottom, you hit the first drain, it is 3-4 inches lower than the road. But at 3rd and Ogden it's like going over a rumble street. He would very much like the Borough to consider what needs done moving forward.

REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICERS

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A copy of the Fire Department's report is on file

POLICE: A copy of the Police Department's report is on file. The Chief stated the meter person will be out from 4/14 to the end of May. They will do the best they can to cover her schedule. Officer Fritz is doing a volunteer training. And there are more scams out there. There was a lady scammed, she gave out her debit card number. There is also an IRS scam going around, do not give info out, please call the Police Dept. and they can check things out.

STREET:

MAYOR: A copy of his report on file. He talked to Shaw Public Library and went over their summer activities. He had a meeting with Meals on Wheels, very impressed with them, he had no idea what they all do. He appreciated the beautiful service for Jim Schell. He also spoke of staffing issues our police departments are facing as written in his report. The Mayor said we need to pass a resolution that we want to enter into a potential regionalized department and we need to appoint 2 people to the commission tonight that will make decisions about the regionalized department. He said both the Borough and Lawrence Township wants this. They understand what is happening to our communities. The Mayor appreciates the discussions they already have had about this. He thanked for everyone taking this seriously and working to find a better solution for our police departments.

SOLICITOR: A copy of the solicitor report is on file. If anyone has any questions he will answer.

BOROUGH OPERATIONS MANAGER Report is on file. She hoped she answered any questions that has been sent. She said Warren Dietrich will be closing his fund raising and will start as soon as possible. So if you have any donations she will collect them for the Gaga ball court. She also thanked the Salvation Army for the great snack basket donation they delivered this week to the office.

ENGINEER

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY:

MOTION was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Stephanie Tarbay to approve the resolution to move forward with possible solutions to scheduling and financial issues to the Borough and the Township including regionalizing the police department. **MOTION** Carried.

Remarks: Steve Livergood said they have met with Lawrence Township, they are not hiding anything, there has been no formal discussion, but once the resolution is approved, they can meet, move on, and bring things to the council. The Chief and Steve met talked about Bellefonte, they didn't like it. April 14 the State Police will meet and do their version on their ideas. So they will be here to do a presentation at the committee meeting. Steve Harmic said he does not need any convincing. He appreciates all the options are being looked at. Steve Livergood said they still are looking, he said we need to move on. Lew asked if we enter into the resolution and we find out that this isn't it or another option, are we locked into it? Chip said yes you are. Steve Livergood said they pretty much exhausted all options. Steve Livergood said we have to protect the community. Stephanie believes this is where we need to start. Lew said it would be a good step forward, if we were to create this regional police department, then at some point do the Greater Clearfield City, that would not absorb there still a separate police department we would be hiring to be our police department. Chip said there is a provision of withdrawal so if you did consolidate both municipalities with the agreement at the the time they combine together you could withdrawal from the formal regionalization and just have one department. It's not going to stop you if you later regionalize completely. then the new municipality having a police department that they control. Lew said that makes it clear. Chip said the agreement is provided by the State. He and Linda Lewis will both work on the language of it. Mason also stated that you are welcome to these meetings. Brian Lytle said being committed to a regionalization, do we know what the plans is, Stephanie said that is what the commission will be, Steve Livergood said we need the blessing of the council to do this planning. Brian clearly believes that both departments should be together. If back in 2016/17 the consolidation would of happened we wouldn't be having this conversation. Mason said Chip just shared with us it is doable. With taking out time, we could start this in January of 23. Mason said the State requires a Resolution to carry on. Chip said you don't need a Resolution to talk. Chip feels we don't have enough information. There is more to discuss. Chip feels everyone also needs to know the costs. Steve Livergood said both departments are getting burned out, he feels we need to move on. Check on grants. Have more information for you. Les ask if Chip could contact Ms. Marrow with DCED. Chip can contact Ms. Marrow Monday or Tuesday and report to all council members, and/or Joe Kirshner. That may relieve some of Chip's concerns.

Brian Lytle believes the Borough manager needs to sit in on the meetings with her financial background, nobody know the numbers of the borough like she does, her input is valuable.

MOTION was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Stephanie Tarbay to have the solicitor prepare the State Resolution for the Regionalization . **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Stephanie Tarbay and seconded by Steve Livergood to purchase 2 premium recertified AEDs at \$560 apiece for a total of \$1120. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Steve Harmic to approve road closures for the 2022 Clearfield County Fair Parade to be held August 1, 2022. **MOTION** Carried.

PUBLIC WORKS:

MOTION was made by Brian Livergood and seconded by Steve Livergood to repair the GMC Dump Truck axel at an approximate cost of \$1200. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Steve Livergood to send the Ram Vac for evaluation and repairs to the company where it was purchased. The expense of repairs will be paid from the sewer fund. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Harmic and seconded Steve Livergood to repair the street sweeper. We asked for \$2900 for the vacuum part. The chassis is an additional \$2800. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Brian Lytle to approve spring Clean-up with West Side the week of 3/28 and East Side the week of 4/4 with possible extensions dependent on weather. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Steve Harmic to approve a resolution to file for a grant through the local share account for 2 dump trucks post dated 3/10/22. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Brian Lytle to approve a resolution to file for a grant through the local share account for road paving post dated 3/10/22. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Stephanie Tarbay and seconded by Steve Livergood to approve to bid for between Cumberland and the balance of South 6th Street. **MOTION** Carried.

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

MOTION was made by Scott Ortasic and seconded by Stephanie Tarbay to approve the site development plan for the CNB Bank expansion. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Brian Lytle and seconded by Stephanie Tarbay to approve the rebuilding of a deck at 325 Pennsylvania Ave. with non-conforming setbacks. . **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Scott Ortasic and seconded by Steve Livergood to approve a driveway off of South 6th with the address of 515 Park Avenue. **MOTION** Carried.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

MOTION was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Brian Lytle to advertise for to accept applications for an equipment operator for the Street Department. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Steve Harmic to appoint Rick Mattern as an alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Brian Lytle and seconded by Stephanie Tarbay to hire Larry Mack as a temporary part time as needed acting BCO on the projects as assigned. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Stephanie Tarbay and seconded by Brian Lytle to appoint Ronece Walters to the Planning Commission. **MOTION** Carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

MOTION was made by Scott Ortasic and seconded by Steve Livergood to approve the bill list for payment . **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Scott Ortasic and seconded by Stephanie Tarbay to approve to sign the final draw of RACP funds for the riverfront development project. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Scott Ortasic to approve the addendum to agreement for Uniform Construction Code Plan review and inspection services with the MDIA. **MOTION** Carried.

MOTION was made by Scott Ortasic and seconded by Stephanie Tarbay to approve to open a checking account titled Clearfield Borough Police fund. **MOTION** Carried.

Steve Livergood asked for a copy of the Police Dept. and the Street Dept. contracts. Chip said in previous we had contracts and separate document, or benefit package, so contracts didn't have to be redone all the time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS None

The Chief asked if he could talk about the new Clearfield Borough Police Fund. The Solicitor said Borough Council still has to approve purchases. Donated funds become public money. The Chief said he will bring forward to council future purchases paid out of this account.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED 7:15 pm

Submitted By: Betsy Houser, Borough Secretary/Administrative Assistant