CLEARFIELD BOROUGH

**BOROUGH 2023 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**April 20, 2023**

Clearfield Borough Council met in regular session on Thursday, April 20,2023 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the Clearfield Borough Building.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**: Stephanie Tarbay, Steve Harmic, Scott Ortasic, Barb Shaffner, Brande Plyler, Steve Livergood

**ABSENT** Nichole Norris, Annjane Ross, Mayor Mason Strouse

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Solicitor Chip Bell, Chief Andrew Smith, Chief Vincent McGinnis, Street Department Todd Kling, Borough Secretary Betsy Houser, Code Officer Andrea Stewart

**MEDIA:** Cherie Dysard Gant Daily, Jeff Corcino The Progress

Stephanie Tarbay called for a Motion seeking approval of the minutes of March 16, 2023, Clearfield Borough Council Meeting. **MOTION** was made by Brande Plyler and seconded by Barb Shaffner **MOTION** Carried.

**Communications:** None

**Public Audience:** Lisa Kovalick with Redevelopment Authority of Clearfield County, Pennsylvania

She wanted to clear up a few things regarding the Home Furniture building, it has received some stink on social media. It was purchased last fall, the plan is to demolish it, it would cost more than a million to do anything with it. At this time, she has an engineer, they will take it down. The plan for it will be a Pocket Park, it will be more concrete and some greenery. It takes more manpower to take care of more greenery. Perhaps CRC will have more to work with it and is excited to work with it. The building was purchased by the Redevelopment Authority, to remove blight. People that are walking by it and seeing the condition, it has been in the condition for some time. This problem is being worked on; it all takes time. And if anyone wants to give Lisa a call with any questions her number is 814-765-5149. It is scheduled this summer to take it down. There is a small piece on the back that was sold to Jim’s from Dan Fishbone as a loading dock for Jim’s Sports Center, it will remain their loading dock.

The other thing she wants to talk about is that she wrote a grant to get some money to clean up the Third Ward area. It will be a Beautification Program. It will be for curb appeal, it will clean up brush, paint porches, put a new door on the front, sidewalks, things like that It will be Merrill, Weaver, Nichols, and Williams Street. It will be up to a $2000.00 match. She is working with Andrea as well with this program.

Lisa also wants to talk about CDBG money. You have covid money, about $8000.00. In the Resident Assistance $6072 has gone to heating bills, it made a big impact on some people, $20,025 went out in oil. $6945 went to CMA to prevent shutoffs. That is where the covid money went. The reminder is to go to the food bank, after a public meeting, because if not, it will all go to the state.

The bid for Tyler Ave., came in at $63000, everything was good on that bid. There will be money then to work with. Perhaps blight property. There are a few to consider. There is a burn out over on Clearfield Street, but there are others. She said Chip’s expertise will come into this.

Lisa will check back with Stephanie and Chip.

Lisa expects 2023 CDBG will be coming out soon.

**REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICERS**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**: A copy of the Fire Department's report is on file. Andrew added that they have been busy. The Novey fire, the Walker fire. They plan on getting work parties organized to get sidewalks cleaned up.

**POLICE:** A copy of the Police Department’s report is on file. The Chief had nothing to add.

**STREET:**  Todd Kling said he met with Todd Banks and Barb to review the retaining wall on Apple Street. Also discussed what can be done on Williams Street. What we want to do, and most cost effective.

He wanted to ask to continue to pick up bags and sticks at curbside. He wanted to get ready for the paving bid ready, and do Elm Ave. It isn’t as much money as he would like to see. He also touched base with the Fire Dept. and Council. He wanted to talk about the aging apparatus. There is a vehicle that fits what they are needing, it is a 2015 Quint, he received a message from Alabama. It is almost to good to be true. The truck is in Illinois. They want four of us to go out and see it. If we are interested the down payment would be $180,000.00. We could go to the bank and see what finances are out there, we could sell ours for $100,000. There is $150,000 in the Capitol fund. It will come with a new certification; it would come with a warranty. It could be a good asset for the next ten to fifteen years. Council told Todd to move forward on the new truck.

**MAYOR**.

**SOLICITOR:** Report is on file. He sent around and has been advertised an alternative dispute resolution for your consideration. Andrea found this ordinance, other municipalities have it, such as Dubois, Curwensville, and Chip believes it is appropriate for Clearfield Borough. Instead of going to the citation procedure there is a ticket process, it is quick to resolve. There is a provision that if necessary The Code officer has the ability to correct the situation , a municipal lien placed against the property. This would be Ordinance number 1360.

**MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Steve Harmic to approve Ordinance #1360 The alternative dispute resolution Ordinance of the Borough of Clearfield 2023. **MOTION** Carried.

Barb Shaffner thanked Chip; it is a pleasure working with you.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:** A copy of the code officer reports are on file. The two dumpsters are full. They were very well utilized and filled fast for the Clean up Event. She thinks this should be done yearly.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

**MOTION** was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Brande Plyer to approve to change to a handicap port-a-john at Upper Witmer Park. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Barb Shaffner to request a handicap parking spot on south Second Street alongside Burns and Burns.  **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Brande Plyler to approve road closure for Healy Ave., the part adjacent to the St. Francis School for their Food Truck events on May 8, Sept. 11, Octo. 9, 2023, between the hours of 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Brande Plyler to approve the road closures for the annual Clearfield County Fair Parade to be held on Monday, July 31, 2023. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Brande Plyler and seconded by Barb Shaffner to approve road closure on May 7th around Clearfield County Fairgrounds for the Rosary March. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Brande Plyler to provide two parking spaces outside the former police station garage and designate them as a Safe Exchange Zone. Custom signage will be purchased from Action Graphics at a cost of $130. **MOTION** Carried.

Steve Harmic asked what they could be used for. Steve Livergood said custody exchange, marketplace exchange.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Steve Harmic to sell the car lift at the garage. **MOTION** Carried.

Chip said if it is to sell more than a $1000 it must go up for bid. Unless it was going to another municipality then that is another procedure. We need to determine its value.

**PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

Everyone was sent a fee sheet. To have a fee sheet with everything on it. There is a gap in it for the amusement tax, it will be on it too. It can be passed at next month’s meeting. Chip is going to check on some things.

Brief Executive Session for Personnel.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Brande Plyler to pay Andrea Stewart $25 per meeting attendance, Todd Kling $25 per meeting attendance, and $50 Betsy Houser per meeting attendance. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Brande Plyler to accept Steve Biancuzzo resignation April 28, 2023. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Steve Harmic to advertise for a new street crew position. **MOTION** Carried.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**MOTION** was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Barb Shaffner to approve the bill list as presented. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Scott Ortasic to move the Clearfield Borough Police Pension funds to Fairwinds as per Clearfield Regional Police.  **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Barb Shaffner to pay $100 Kiwanis Corporate Membership fee for Clearfield Borough. Ann Jane ross will represent the Brough in the Kiwanis organization. **MOTION** Carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS** President Tarbay mentioned of any items over in the police department building that could be used.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Livergood and seconded by Barb Shaffner to sell remaining items that could not be used. **MOTION** Carried.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED 7:05pm

Submitted By: Betsy Houser, Borough Secretary/Administrative Assistant