CLEARFIELD BOROUGH

**BOROUGH 2023 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**November 16, 2023**

Clearfield Borough Council met in regular session on Thursday, November 16,2023 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the Clearfield Borough Building.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**: Stephanie Tarbay, Barb Shaffner, Steve Harmic, Brande Plyler, Nichole Norris

**ABSENT**: Scott Ortasic, Steve Livergood, Annjane Ross, Mayor Mason Strouse,

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Solicitor Chip Bell, Chief Vincent McGinnis, Street Department Todd Kling, Deputy Chief Yankavich, Borough Secretary Betsy Houser

**MEDIA:**

Stephanie Tarbay called for a Motion seeking approval of the minutes of September 21, 2023, Clearfield Borough Council Meeting. **MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Steve Harmic. **MOTION** Carried.

**Communications:** None

**Public Audience**

Fred Long asked if he could carry over days left, he has 26 left, and Stephanie said they can be rolled over.

He has asked Mr. Livergood regarding a second position for the street department. It is an overwhelming job for Todd Kling. Stephanie said it is in the plan, she said it is being looked into. It is in the plan. Fred also invited everyone up and see what goes on.

David Shultz needs support from Borough Council. The $5000 allocation is not enough. He gave you several options, asked for more funds. The airport is just as important as Police, Fire department, road, other entities you own. You own the airport. Could we share services? Perhaps utilize the solicitor here or with the township. On 9/6/2023 you received a letter from county commissioners in reference to his ask, it was noted that with no amount of displeasure that the borough and township did not follow suit. It is their understanding that one is going to reduce the amount. Stat Med is the #1 issue. They can be in minutes to take and go to the hospitals. They do it every day.

He asks for you to relook at this. He can meet you. He can bring his board. You can come up; the next meeting is next Tuesday. He wants everyone to realize how important this is.

Rob Swales with Clearly Ahead Development wanted to come in with a follow up with the public whitewater system and recreation parks with council. A feasibility study was conducted by S2O Design Engineering, a company out of Lyons, Colo., this study is looking at economic development, work force work retention, possibility of removal and replacement of three dams, the Raftsman Dam is in the borough. This would attract tourism, perhaps a solution taking care of public hazards liability and turning it into an asset. The first phase would cost the Borough $100,000, but there are a lot of funds out there to assist with that. He also offered to meet with the council at another time where they could discuss the project at length and strategy for the cost, his packet has illustrations, it is very interesting, it has a lot of unique information. Clearly Ahead would help with anything they can for the Borough.

Steve Harmic thinks it’s a very cool idea. From the Borough standpoint it’s the extra money. Just as it is for the airport. He is not sure of what kind of ownership, like the raftsman dam, as we as the Borough cannot own that. Rob said with the low head dams he is not sure; he believes in essence the municipality is to maintain. Chip said we do not own the Raftsman dam. He agrees with Steve, the funds are the real issue.

**REPORTS OF BOROUGH OFFICERS**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**: A copy of the Fire Department's report is on file. December 2 will be the Christmas parade down town. There will be some road closures involved with that.

**POLICE:** A copy of the Police Department’s report is on file. The new police secretary will be Baily. They received a $3000 grant for policing supplies. They have collected 282 pounds of prescription drugs. Vinnie asked Chip about if there is anything being worked on Park-n-shop with Terry Malloy. Chip said they would have to track down the stockholders and speak with Terry Malloy. Vinnie said he would greatly appreciate it if we could get this moved on. He wanted to thank the council for their support and the resolution in the LSA grant they are working on. Vinnie also wanted to recognize the passing of Merril Hillard, he was a great employee, he did a wonderful job, and will be sadly missed.

**STREET:** A copy of his report is on file. Tomorrow is the last day for the leaf vac. They will be switching over. They will get winter maintenance out. He thanked the community for helping the leaf pick up. They still will pick up bags.

**MAYOR**:

**SOLICITOR:** A copy of his report is on file. He has prepared resolutions.

**ENGINEER:**

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

**MOTION** was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Brande Plyler to approve road closures on Dec. 2,2023 for the Annual YMCA Christmas Parade. Time begins at 3:00. The route will go from Third Street to Cherry then Second Street and finishes on Locust. Market Street from Second to Third will also need to be closed. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Brande Plyer and seconded by Steve Harmic to order 10,000 parking tickets from Traffic-O-Teria. **MOTION** Carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Brande Plyer to approve the Resolution for the Local Share Grant for Bucket Truck in the amount of $167,275.00.  **MOTION** Carried.

**PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

**MOTION** was made by Brande Plyer and seconded by Nichole Norris to support the Local Shares Account grant. It is one grant for the building renovations for the police department and the other is for a new garage for the police department at the current site location. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Nichole Norris and seconded by Brande Plyler to approve that the Clearfield Borough Council supports the Local Shares Grant with a Resolution of $971,613.00 from the Commonwealth financing Authority to be used for the building renovations for the Clearfield Regional Police Department. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Steve Harmic to approve a support letter for the Local Shares Grant to request funding on behalf of the Clearfield Regional Police Department through the DCED program. **MOTION** Carried.

NOTE: CNB came into the office regarding the holiday parking that they always do. They will provide the bags and stickers and give the Borough a donation as years before. This is the Friday after Thanksgiving Day. She said the Boy Scouts assist the bank with the meter bags.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**NOTE:** Since Dec. 24, 2023, is on a Sunday, Christmas is on Monday, the Borough will be closed on the 26th.

Executive Session.

**MOTION** was made by Steve Harmic and seconded by Nichole Norris to authorize the solicitor to send a formal employment offer to the successful candidate for the code enforcement position, setting forth the salary, benefits, insurance and that the name will be released once formal acceptance is received. **MOTION** Carried.

**MOTION** was made by Nichole Norris and seconded by Steve Harmic to accept the Resignation of Andy A. Spencer from the Clearfield Municipal Authority Board. **MOTION** Carried.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Nichole Norris to implement a Fire Tax of 2 mils for 2024. **MOTION** Carried. Steve Harmic opposed.

**MOTION** was made by Barb Shaffner and seconded by Nichol Norris to approve the budget for 2024 and present it for advertisement. **MOTION** Carried. Steve Harmic opposed.

**MOTION** was made by Nichole Norris and seconded by Barb Shaffner to set the tax rate for 2024 at 29 mils. **MOTION** Carried. Steve Harmic opposed.

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**MOTION** was made by Stephanie Tarbay and seconded by Barb Shaffner to move the lighting fund to CRC to manage. **MOTION** Carried. Chip said the element of control is the fact citizens or borough council cannot make decisions, however there is a council person and the mayor on the CRC board.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chip was contacted by the Fair board. They want to apply for a grant for a livestock building, with the North Central Regional Development helping them. Since it is on property owned by the Borough, they have to be involved in the application of the grant. It would be managed under the Fair and Park board. The grant has to be in at the end of the month.

**MOTION** was made by Nichole Norris and seconded by Barb Shaffner that council supports application either by the Borough or the Fair and Park board by the grant with the North Central Regional Development to place a multi-purpose livestock building. **MOTION** Carries.

Legal executive session. No motion needed.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED 7:00pm

Submitted By: Betsy Houser, Borough Secretary/Administrative Assistant