

Minutes of the Clark Borough meeting – December 09, 2025 6:00PM

The meeting of Clark Borough Council was called to order by council President Jim Carucci who led in the pledge to the flag on Tuesday December 09, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Others in attendance were Doug Robbins, Clark Eberhart (late), Joe Simko, Carol Houck, Alesha Culp, Jason Engstrom, Maryjo Harakal, Chief Piccirillo, Fire Chief Gregg Sanford and Lisa Sanford, Monica Simko.

Jason Engstrom made a motion to accept the November minutes as read. This motion was seconded by Doug Robbins and passed with all present voting yes.

Jim Carucci read the Treasurer's Report for the Month of November. Doug Robbins made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion was seconded by Jason Engstrom and passed with all present voting yes.

Visitors:

Sandee Winslow announced to council that the LSA grant award meeting was pushed to January 2026.

Unfinished Business:

Doug Robbins made a motion to adopt the final 2026 budget. The motion was seconded by Jason Engstrom and passed with a roll call vote of Jim Carucci – Yes, Doug Robbins – Yes, Jason Engstrom – Yes, Joe Simko – Yes, Alesha Culp – Yes and Carol Houck – Yes.

Jim Carucci made a motion to advertise the final 2026 budget. The motion was seconded by Joe Simko and passed with a roll call vote of Jim Carucci – Yes, Doug Robbins – Yes, Jason Engstrom – Yes, Joe Simko – Yes, Alesha Culp – Yes and Carol Houck – Yes.

New Business:

Joe Simko made a motion to approve and advertise the 2026 meetings dates, noting that it is a re-organization meeting with the January meeting to be held on Monday January 5, 2026. The motion was seconded by Carol Houck and passed with a roll call vote of Jim Carucci – Yes, Doug Robbins – Yes, Jason Engstrom – Yes, Joe Simko – Yes, Alesha Culp – Yes and Carol Houck – Yes.

Doug Robbins made a motion to accept the 2026 bid tabulations. The motion was seconded by Jim Carucci and passed with all present voting yes.

Questions for the Solicitor:

None

Correspondence and Other Communications:

Maryjo Harakal read a letter from The Herald announcing the release of the 2026 Outlook sections in the paper opportunity if council is interested in submitting an article.

The 2026 Bidding Thresholds are as follows:

Effective January 1, 2026, the bidding threshold for Pennsylvania municipal authorities and municipalities are:

- Purchases and contracts below \$13,200 require no formal bidding or written/telephonic quotations.
- Purchases and contracts between \$13,200 and \$24,499 require three written/telephonic quotations.
- Purchases and contracts \$24,500 or more require formal bidding (advertisement)

Maryjo Harakal read a letter of proposal for updating the zoning ordinance book from Keystone State Consulting to which Doug Robbins responded to utilize PSAB instead.

Officials & Committees:

Sewer:

Monica Simko read the Sewer bills for the month of December. Jim Carucci made a motion to pay sewer bills as read. The motion was seconded by Joe Simko and passed with all present voting yes.

Fire:

Joe Simko read the Fire Report for the Month of November. Doug Robbins made a motion to accept the Fire report as read. The motion was seconded by Joe Simko and passed with all present voting yes.

Gregg Sanford announced that the CVFC cannot keep up with the amount of calls coming in, therefore, has opened the dialog of merger with the City of Hermitage. The CVFC cannot continue with the amount of active volunteers they currently have. If approved, the CVFC would be dissolved. Gregg also stated that residents will start to see more of a presence from Hermitage during medical and fire calls. Doug Robbins and Maryjo Harakal responded that Clark Council will get a vote on the possible merger due to the possible change in millage.

Police:

Maryjo Harakal read the Police Report for the Month of November. The police patrolled the borough for a total of 44.5 hours and answered 4 calls for service. Jim Carucci made a motion to accept the report as read. The motion was seconded by Alesha Culp and passed with all present voting yes.

Highways:

Doug Robbins requested that snow markers be installed at the cul de sacs now that the ditches have been repaired.

Clark Eberhart stated that council needs to put bids in for tar & chip in the spring.

Clark Eberhart stated that he and Jim Miller took the excavator to LEPP0 for repair because the boom wasn't working. When the Sewer Committee purchased the excavator, it was agreed upon that the Borough would pay the maintenance costs.

All other committees:

Doug Robbins spoke with FNB Branch Manager, Brian Nespor who has agreed to make fund transfers through email request from Monica Simko. Council approved sending a letter to him, authorizing Monica to send the requests through email.

Maryjo Harakal announced that the 2026 Winter Borough's Association meeting will be held on January 22, 2026 at Dock Side Cellars Winery. Anne Coleman cannot speak due to a prior commitment. Recommendations are accepted.

Mayor:

Maryjo Harakal stated that there was a solicitor in the borough without a permit and wanted council and residents to know that anyone can ask for a permit, ask them to leave the borough if one isn't provided and/or call the police to have the checked.

President of Council:

Payment of Bills:

Jim Carucci read the Payroll Distribution - General Fund Distribution and the State Liquid Fuels Distribution for the month of December. Doug Robbins made a motion to pay the bills as amended. The motion was seconded by Alesha Culp and passed with all voting yes.

Doug Robbins made a motion to deny a hall refund from 11/29/25 due to fire bay doors being blocked. The motion was seconded by Clark Eberhart and passed with all present voting yes.

Monica Simko stated that the Liquid Fuels auditor advised her that the Street Lighting bill that is currently being paid from the General Fund can be paid with Liquid Fuel money. Council is going to consider that change during the 2027 budget process.

Adjournment:

Jim Carucci made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Doug Robbins.

Monica Simko, Secretary/Treasurer