

CLARK BOROUGH
December 13, 2016 - 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
READING OF MINUTES
TREASURER'S REPORT
VISITORS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Approve 2017 Budget
Approve Tax Ordinance 2017
Set Meeting Dates for 2017
Discuss Auditor

QUESTIONS FOR ATTORNEY MADDEN

CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES

Sewer Committee
Boroughs Association and Council of Governments
Building, Park & Recreation – DCNR Grant
Code Enforcement/ Zoning Officer
Collector of Taxes
Council of Governments
Finance, Insurance, Pension, Personnel
Fire
Highways
Mercer County Joint Sewer Agency
Police
Planning (Local and Regional)
Recycling
Storm Water
Zoning (Local and Regional)
Mayor
President of Council

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ADJOURNMENT

December 13, 2016

The meeting of Clark Borough Council was called to order by President, James Carucci who led in the pledge to the flag on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Others in attendance were Donna Lapikas, Lee Loutzenhiser, Clark Eberhart, Maryjo Harakal, Barbara Dunlap, Larry McKnight, Alvan Harakal, Chief Eric Jewell, Scott Sigworth and Patricia Haggerty.

Clark Eberhart made a motion to accept the November 2016 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Donna Lapikas and passed.

James Carucci read the Treasurer's Report for the Month of November 2016. Lee Loutzenhiser made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Clark Eberhart seconded the motion and passed with all present voting yes.

James Carucci recognized visitor, Hermitage Police Chief, Eric Jewell. Chief Jewell asked if there were any issues Council would like to bring to his attention. Mayor Harakal thanked Chief Jewell for the presence of the Police Department throughout the Clark Trick or Treat Hours in November. Chief Jewell said his department has been enforcing speed limits in the Borough and have written a few tickets. They will continue to be diligent on this issue to ensure safety in the Borough. James Carucci stated the police presence is much more evident in the Borough and thanked Chief Jewell for his efforts and the continued support of the police department.

In the absence of Doug Robbins, James Carucci read the bids for replacement of the heating unit in the Borough Office. The Borough received three bids as follows, Paoletta Heating & Cooling - \$1,850; Grimm Heating & Cooling, Inc - \$2,753.00 and Central Electric - \$2,295.00. James Carucci made a motion to accept the bid from Paoletta Heating & Cooling in the amount of \$1,850. The motion was seconded by Lee Loutzenhiser and a roll call vote was taken, James Carucci – yes, Clark Eberhart – yes, Lee Loutzenhiser – yes, Donna Lapikas – yes.

James Carucci reviewed the Teamsters Contract for Lawrence McKnight. The contract is for 3 years from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019. Clark Eberhart made a motion to sign and accept the contract. The motion was seconded by Lee Loutzenhiser and a roll call vote was taken - James Carucci – yes, Clark Eberhart – yes, Lee Loutzenhiser – yes, Donna Lapikas – yes.

James Carucci asked if everyone had a chance to review the 2017 Proposed Budget and if anyone had any changes or additions they wanted to include. No changes were proposed however Mayor Harakal pointed out that the raise included in the budget for Tax Collector Lori McKnight cannot take place until the end of her current term. The raise for the Tax Collector will take effect after the next election.

Clark Eberhart made a motion to accept the 2017 Proposed General Budget in the amount of \$256,684.75, and the State Liquid Fuels 2017 Proposed Budget in the amount of \$63,062.95. Lee Loutzenhiser seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken - James Caurcci – yes, Clark Eberhart – yes, Lee Loutzenhiser – yes, Donna Lapikas – yes.

Mayor Harakal passed out calendars to set Council Meeting dates for 2017 as follows, January 3, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 11, August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7 and December 5.

Mayor Harakal read letter from Black, Bashor and Porsch stating they can no longer be the auditor for the Borough due to changes in their business and lack of manpower. The Borough contacted several auditors to see if they were interested in the business and received one positive response from Kreider & Associates in Meadville, PA.

James Carucci made a motion to send an RFP to Kreider for pricing. Lee Loutzenhiser seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken with all voting yes.

James Carucci read the Ordinance Fixing 2017 Real Estate taxes as follows: Real estate tax in the amount of 11.67 mills and 1 mill for Fire Protection. Lee Loutzenhiser made a motion to accept the new Ordinance. James Carucci seconded the motion and the motion was passed with a roll call vote - James Caurcci – yes, Clark Eberhart – yes, Lee Loutzenhiser – yes, Donna Lapikas – yes.

Alvan Harakal, Zoning Officer reported he issued a Zoning Permit to Jason Slemmer for the construction of a barn on his property. Some discussion was held regarding the regulations Slemmer must follow to build commercially. Concerns were raised regarding sewage, liquor license, noise, parking, etc.

Clark Eberhart read the sewer bills for December for Council approval. Clark Eberhart made a motion to pay the sewer bills. Lee Loutzenhiser seconded the motion and passed with all voting yes.

Clark stated that a roof has been installed over the crane and is working well to keep the snow and rain off the crane. Bark stated she filed 7 sewer liens for nonpayment of sewer bills.

James Carucci reported a bill from General Recreation has been received in the amount of \$4,680.00. Although this is for the Park and will be included in the DCNR Grant, there are insufficient funds in that account until the grant closes in the spring. James Carucci made a motion to advance \$3,118 from the Tax Distribution Fund to cover this expense until we receive the final payment from DCNR in the amount of \$3,550.00. Lee Loutzenhiser seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken - James Caurcci – yes, Clark Eberhart – yes, Lee Loutzenhiser – yes, Donna Lapikas – yes.

Pat Haggerty asked Council to approve the transfers approved in the 2016 Budget from General Fund to Capital Reserve in the amount of \$5,700, Building Fund in the amount of \$5,300 and Equipment Reserve in the amount of \$5,000.00. James Carucci made a motion to make the transfers in December 2016. Lee Loutzenhiser seconded the motion and roll call vote was taken - James Carucci – yes, Clark Eberhart – yes, Lee Loutzenhiser – yes, Donna Lapikas – yes.

Mayor Harakal read the Police Reports for October 2016. The Hermitage Police conducted 44 hours of patrol and responding to 12 calls for service in the Borough of Clark during the month of September 2016.

Clark Eberhart made a motion to accept the police report. Lee Loutzenhiser seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Doug Robbins received a response from Mark Longiotti regarding the new EMT regulations being imposed upon the PA Fire Departments and made a copy for all Council members to review.

James Carucci contacted Shawn Spang at ECS&R recycling to see if Clark could set up a recycling program for residents only. Jim is going to invite Shawn to attend the February 2017 Council meeting to explain the program they would propose.

Lee Loutzenhiser reported the McClure pipe has been reset to make the trench deeper. Lee stated he will construct a catch basin in this area in the Spring of 2017.

Lee reported Winslow and Associates is applying for the MS4 Exemption and will advise the fees for this application as soon as they are available.

Mayor Harakal read Patricia Haggerty's letter of resignation effective December 31, 2016. Pat indicated her willingness to work with the new Secretary/Treasurer to ensure a smooth transition. Clark Eberhart made a motion to regretfully accept Pat's resignation. Jim Carucci seconded the motion and passed with all voting yes.

James Carucci read a letter from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor regarding the Uniform Construction Code regarding their recent audit. There were no new commercial building projects in 2016.

James Carucci read the Payroll Distribution, General Fund Distribution, State Liquid Fuels Distribution and DCNR Henderson Park Distribution for the month of September, 2016. Clark Eberhart made a motion to pay the bills as read. The motion was seconded by Donna Lapikas and passed with all present voting yes.

James Carucci made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Lee Loutzenhiser and passed.



Patricia L. Haggerty, Secretary/Treasurer