

CLARK BOROUGH  
August 4, 2020 - 6:00 P.M.

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Discuss/adopt Tap-in form – Tabled until September  
Review Sewer letters to delinquent residents – Tabled until September

**NEW BUSINESS**

Award Bid for Road paving project

**QUESTIONS FOR ATTORNEY MADDEN**

**CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

**OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES**

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

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

July 7, 2020

The meeting of Clark Borough Council was called to order by Council Vice President Doug Robbins, who led in the pledge to the flag on Tuesday July 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Others in attendance were Mayor Maryjo Harakal, Clark Eberhart, Cameron McConahy, Michael Yeatts, Jim Miller, Monica Simko, Ron Sanford and Attorney William Madden.

Visitors in attendance: Kelly Slemmer of Lakeside Acres Event Center, Sandee Winslow, and Larry McKnight

Cameron McConahy made a motion to accept the June minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Michael Yeatts and passed with all voting yes.

Doug Robbins read the Treasurer's Report for the Month of June. Clark Eberhart made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. This motion was seconded by Cameron McConahy and passed with all present voting yes.

Maryjo Harakal read a letter of resignation from Patty LaRocca, effective June 30, 2020. Doug Robbins addressed council that he wanted to thank Patty for her many years of service and friendship. Clark Eberhart made a motion to accept Patty's resignation. The motion was seconded by Cameron McConahy and passed with a roll call vote of Clark Eberhart-Yes, Cameron McConahy-Yes, Michael Yeatts-Yes, and Doug Robbins-Yes.

Clark Eberhart nominated Larry McKnight as Patty LaRocca's replacement on council. Clark addressed Larry, stating that we would like to ask if you would accept the open council seat position to which Larry McKnight accepted. Cameron McConahy asked Larry if he felt there would be any conflicts of interest since he was also working for South Pymatuning also that his spouse is the Tax Collector for Clark Borough. Per Attorney Madden, there are no conflicts of interest since the Tax Collector is a separate entity. Clark Eberhart made a motion to appoint Larry McKnight to council. The motion was seconded by Michael Yeatts and passed with all a roll call vote of Clark Eberhart-Yes, Cameron McConahy-Yes, Michael Yeatts-Yes, and Doug Robbins-Yes.

Mayor Maryjo Harakal presented the Oath of office to Larry McKnight, to which he read aloud to council and was sworn in this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020.

Kelly Slemmer and Sandee Winslow were present to provide an update to the Lakeside Acres Event Center project. Kelly Stated that the sewer module has been filed with DEP and she is just waiting on the letter of approval. The ACOE has agreed to give Lakeside Acres the easement to the manhole for sewer connectivity. The Land Development plan is with the surveyor now but has not made it to the county yet. The Highway Occupancy permit has been filed; they are waiting to hear back on that. Kelly advised that she has already lost 2 rentals. Clark Eberhart apologized for the loss of business and also thanked her for the patience while we work through this process.

Sandee Winslow provided a tap-in application for the Borough to utilize since they did not have one already. Sandee stated that per her conversation with Barb Dunlap the tap-

in fee is \$1,000.00. Sandee asked who owns the sewer system, to which Clark Eberhart advised that once the sewer authority was dissolved, everything went back to the Borough.

Regarding Stormwater, Sandee stated that Chris Winslow is working on it and once it gets to the county, they have up to 90 days to review and respond. Sandee advised that council should consider granting a land development contingency to enable Lakeside Acres to open for business.

Clark Eberhart presented one question; hasn't the borough always had an inspection before burying a pipe? To which, Larry McKnight responded that Hermitage City has to be notified. Per Attorney Madden, advised to proceed with caution on waiving a tap-in fee because if you waive it for one, you waive for all. Also that if council chose to waive the tap-in fee, make sure it has clear standards for why it is being waived, to proceed with caution. Sandee Winslow stated that she had called Tom Darby at Hermitage City and he advised that Hermitage is not involved. Sandee also advised that the Slemmer's attorney would be asking for a waiver on the tap-in fee.

Per Attorney Madden, Council can grant a temporary occupancy permit with contingencies. Council agrees that they did not have any issues with granting a temporary permit. Sandee Winslow stated that this should be resolved within a month and recommended waiting on granting a temporary occupancy permit due to access possibly being an issue. Michael Yeatts requested that council give the Mayor permission to grant access if the loose ends were resolved before the next meeting. Per Attorney Madden, Yes that can be done. Michael Yeatts made a motion to grant Mayor Maryjo Harakal authority to provide a temporary occupancy permit with contingencies to Lakeside Acres if the unresolved issues are completed before the next council meeting. The motion was seconded by Clark Eberhart and passed with all voting yes.

Doug Robbins stated that the road project bid package needs reviewed and approved for advertisement. Maryjo Harakal asked if this included the portion of Woodlawn that was discussed or not to which Jim Miller advised, yes. Doug Robbins asked Larry McKnight if he read the package over and if he had any issues, to which Larry responded that he did not see any issue and that it is that standard package used by Penn Dot. He did not think that the cold mix (FB Modified paving) would have the longevity of a good hot mix. Larry advised that we won't find too many pavers that do both hot and cold mix and is concerned that if the cold mix came in at the lowest bid, we would possibly be obligated to accept that bid. However, Doug Robbins stated that it would be our choice to pick between hot and cold mix, then choose the lowest bid accordingly. Doug Robbins asked Attorney Madden if we got two bids and we decide we want to go with the hot mix even though it is more expensive, is that permissible? Per Attorney Madden, if we asked for unit price on both then we would reserve the right to choose which one as long as it's the lowest bid. Clark Eberhart made a motion to advertise the bid package. The motion was seconded by Cameron McConahy and passed with all voting yes.

The annual Clark Borough Yard Sale is approved for August 1, 2020. Doug Robbins requested that Nora and Milton Streets be open for one-way traffic again this year due to the positive feedback of the residents from last year. Doug asked Jim Miller to call City of Sharon to get the one-way and do not enter signs again. Jim Miller advised that the

sale signage is in the garage and he will put the signs out one week prior. Ron Sanford advised that the yard sale is on the agenda for their monthly meeting, however they are planning on being available that day to help guide traffic. Doug made a motion to allow and advertise the yard sale with one-way traffic south on Milton and North on Nora Streets. The motion was seconded by Michael Yeatts and passed with all voting yes.

Mayor Maryjo Harakal asked if there were any more questions for Attorney Madden. No further questions were presented. Attorney Madden was dismissed.

Doug Robbins read a letter of resignation received from Lori McKnight. Lori stated that her intention is to not run for another term as Tax Collector. Her letter is providing ample time to find a replacement prior to her end of term 12/31/2021, given the amount of training that will need to be completed.

Clark Eberhart read the Sewer bills for the Month of August. Clark Sewer committee is to pay \$1,498.65 with South Pymatuning to reimburse \$416.30. Clark Eberhart made a motion to accept the sewer bills as read. This motion was seconded by Doug Robbins and passed with all present voting yes. Clark Eberhart discussed his disappointment that there is almost \$70k in delinquencies including the 5% penalty per month on the outstanding balance. Doug Robbins asked if there was any way to offer a one-time forgiveness of 10% if the delinquent residents were to bring their account current. Clark Eberhart advised that we had done that in the past and they paid but some of the delinquencies won't pay. Cameron McConahy asked how many are straight piped vs gray water. Cameron had received feedback as, why do they need to pay a sewer bill if they have septic. Clark Eberhart stated that both straight pipe and gray water septic are still going to the public sewer system and needs to be treated, which is why everyone has a bill. Doug proposed a one-time catch-up, for example if you owe \$10k, we'll take \$6k. Residents have been concerned about the increase of the bill to which Clark advised that the City of Hermitage had raised their costs which increased our costs for treatment. Secretary Monica Simko recommended creating a letter to the residents with their outstanding balances and to provide an option to pay or set up a payment plan otherwise there will be advertisement placed in the Sharon Herald with the names and amounts of all residents that are delinquent. Clark requested that the letter states the 5% penalty to encourage them to pay. Council agrees to prepare a letter to be mailed out in an attempt to collect.

Michael Yeatts reported that the COG is still operating on limited access and had nothing new to report. He hasn't heard any information from the Boroughs Association since the January dinner at the Tara. They had cancelled their 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter meeting.

Doug Robbins advised that we will need to look into repairing the ceiling tiles in the social hall due to some leaking and sagging. Doug Robbins advised that he would look into pricing. Ron Sanford suggested removing the smoke eaters. Larry McKnight stated that the hall has a truss ceiling with insulation, but thinks there may be an undetected leak. Doug stated that it's about time to be replaced and advised to add ceiling tile quotes to the August agenda. Cameron McConahy received a phone call from a grandparent,

who is a borough resident, asked if the basketball courts are for residents only because their grandson was playing by himself and had an older resident in a black Acadia tell him he wasn't allowed there because he lives on Robertson Road, not in the Borough. Doug Robbins advised that yes it is in the park rules that the park is for exclusive use of borough residents but it has never been enforced since there hasn't been any real issues.

Cameron McConahy advised that he attended the Sharpsville school board meeting and advised that the school taxes are being raised to 1.5 mills. The safety plan was presented at the meeting, that if it was yellow, kids would be in school in person with reduced class sizes, with shorter days. If we maintain at green, it will be back to normal, with exception of masks will be required. PIAA put out their guidance that there will be no spectators for fall and winter sports.

Cameron McConahy read the Fire Report for the month of June. The Clark Volunteer Fire Department responded to five calls in June. Two for a structure fire on standby; two for trees down; and one auto accident. Clark Eberhart made a motion to accept the Fire report as read. The motion was seconded by Mike Yeatts and passed with all present voting yes.

Ron Sanford reported that the CVFD steak fry is on August 15, 2020 around 4:00 pm. Their plan is to eliminate some tables and use both the hall and the garage bays. Cameron McConahy asked Ron if they had heard any feedback on the grant they applied for to which Ron responded that Gregg received a text from the state that they were not only receiving the once a year funds of 12,500.00, that due to the Covid-19 restricting fundraisers, they would be receiving the funds twice. The grant for the turnout gear is still being reviewed.

Jim Miller stated that he has not heard on when the tar and chipping is going to start. Bids are going out for advertisement on 7/21 and 7/25. He also advised that the Class E certification classes are going good and that the test is tentatively schedules for July 15, 2020. Maryjo Harakal advised that the triangle looks great after Jim has been mowing it.

Maryjo Harakal read the Police Report for the month of May. The Hermitage Police Department conducted 44 hours of patrol and answered 12 calls for service in the Borough of Clark. Cameron McConahy made a motion to accept the report as read. The motion was seconded by Michael Yeatts and passed with all present voting yes.

Doug Robbins read the Payroll Distribution - General Fund Distribution and the State Liquid Fuels Distribution for the month of June. Clark Eberhart made a motion to pay the bills as read. The motion was seconded by Cameron McConahy and passed with all voting yes.

Michael Yeatts made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cameron McConahy with all present voting yes.

Monica M. Simko - Secretary/Treasurer

