

December 10, 2019

The meeting of Clark Borough Council was called to order by Council President – Jim Carucci - who led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Others in attendance were Maryjo Harakal - Clark Eberhart - Doug Robbins - Cameron McConahy - Russell Shaffer - Donna Lapikas - Patti LaRocca - Al Harakal - Barbara Dunlap - Ron Sanford – Attorney William Madden - Jim Miller and Monica Simko.

Mayor Mary Jo Harakal administered the Oath of Office to newly re-elected council persons, Clark Eberhart and Cameron McConahy. As well as newly elected council person, Michael Yeatts, sworn in on December 10, 2019 by Mayor Harakal.

Russ Shaffer made a motion to accept the November 2019 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Doug Robbins and passed with all voting yes.

Jim Carucci read the Treasurer's Report for the Month of November 2019. Russ Shaffer made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. This motion was seconded by Clark Eberhart and passed with all present voting yes.

Clark Eberhart read the sewer bills for the month of December 2019. Clark Borough is to pay \$1,883.16 with \$307.15 paid from South Pymatuning Township. Russ Shaffer made a motion to pay the sewer bills as read; this motion was seconded by Jim Carucci and passed with all present voting yes.

Clark Eberhart read to council the letter of resignation submitted by Barb Dunlap. Clark Eberhart thanked Barb for her many years of service. Russ Shaffer made a motion to accept the letter of resignation. The motion was seconded by Patti LaRocca and passed with all voting yes.

Clark Eberhart stated that he has never taken any pay from the borough or South Py for his work on the sewer. Mr. Eberhart asked that council approve for him to start accepting one half of his pay from South Py. Russ Shaffer made a motion to start paying Clark for the South Py portion of his duties at the rate of \$20.04. The motion was seconded by Jim Carucci and passed with all present voting yes.

Maryjo Harakal made a motion that Monica Simko expressed interest in filling in as Sewer Secretary on an interim basis with possibility of being permanent until interviews can be held after the holidays. The motion was seconded by Doug Robbins and passed with a roll call vote: Jim Carucci; yes – Doug Robbins; yes – Clark Eberhart; yes – Cameron McConahy; yes – Donna Lapikas; yes – Patti LaRocca; yes – Russ Shaffer; yes.

Clark Eberhart requested that the sewer committee sit in on the interviews for Barbs replacement, and he plans to set aside a half hour for each person.

Barb Dunlap advised that it has been 15 years since the pumps were installed at the pump station. Barb Dunlap also recommended that we reduce the current rate of \$6.90 a quarter back to the original rate but that the issue with excess flow needs addressed. Clark Eberhart advised that he will approach South Py again in the spring of 2020 regarding TV'ing their lines. Clark Eberhart also suggested that we do not decrease rates, yet.

Donna Lapikas read the Fire Report for the month of November 2019. The Clark Volunteer Fire Department responded to three (3) calls. Donna Lapikas made a motion to accept the Fire report as read. The motion was seconded by Jim Carucci and passed with all present voting yes.

Maryjo Harakal stated that Cindy Selby had requested a check in the amount of \$6,881.20 for payment of bills. Clark Eberhart made a motion to pay the bills as read from the letter. The motion was seconded by Donna Lapikas and passed with a roll call vote as follows: Jim Carucci – yes; Doug Robbins – yes; Clark Eberhart – yes; Donna Lapikas – yes; Patti LaRocca – yes; Cameron McConahy – yes and Russ Shaffer – yes.

Ron Sanford announced as a reminder that the CVFD 2019 Christmas party is on December 19<sup>th</sup> and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Gregg Sanford stated that the CVFD is working on getting a \$153,000.00 grant. He has applied for it and is just waiting to hear back.

Maryjo Harakal read the Police Report for the month of October 2019. The Hermitage Police Department conducted forty-three and a half (43.5) hours of patrol and answered sixteen (16) calls for service in the Borough of Clark. Jim Carucci made a motion to accept the report as read. The motion was seconded by Doug Robbins and passed with all present voting yes.

Jim Carucci and Maryjo Harakal signed the Teamsters Contract effective January 1, 2020.

Doug Robbins made a motion to adopt the 2020 Budget as proposed. The motion was seconded by Donna Lapikas and passed with a roll call vote of Jim Carucci – Yes; Doug Robbins – Yes; Clark Eberhart – yes; Donna Lapikas – Yes; Patti LaRocca – Yes; Cameron McConahy – Yes; Russ Shaffer – Yes.

Doug Robbins made a motion to adopt the 2020 Millage Ordinance as proposed. The motion was seconded by Clark Eberhart and passed with a roll call vote of Jim Carucci – Yes; Doug Robbins – Yes; Clark Eberhart – yes; Donna Lapikas – Yes; Patti LaRocca – Yes; Cameron McConahy – Yes; Russ Shaffer – Yes.

Mercer County Regional Council of Governments sent a letter stating that Tri-County is seeking outside council and wants Waste Management's Trash/Recycling bid thrown out



due to their lack of submitting a recycling bid, per contract request. Beth Mason from MCRCOG advised that we can decide to reject all bids and put it back out for re-bid or we can accept the current Tri-County bid. Council agreed to reject all bids and put the contract back out for re-bid with a condition that they extend pick-up service to March 2020. Doug Robbins made a motion to reject the bids and have them re-bid. The motion was seconded by Jim Carucci and passed with all present voting yes.

Mayor Harakal passed out calendars to set Council Meeting dates for 2020 as follows: January 6, February 4, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 4, September 1, October 6, November 3 and December 8. Jim Carucci made a motion to accept the 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Clark Eberhart and passed with all present voting yes.

Doug Robbins made a motion to purchase a chair mover for the custodian at the cost of \$130.00. The motion was seconded by Donna Lapikas and passed with all present voting yes.

Maryjo Harakal made the following announcements to council in preparation for the January 6, 2020 meeting: 2020 is the reorganization meeting and will take place on the first Monday in January, the 6<sup>th</sup>; If the newly elected or re-elected officials aren't sworn in prior to January 6, 2020, they must be sworn in at the reorganization meeting; start thinking of who we want to fill the vacancy board officer seat and who we want to appoint for the 2-year term seat since Clark Eberhart won both the 4-year term and the 2-year term seat and chose the 4-year term seat for his election.

Jeff Richardson sent a letter regarding the Occupancy Permit for Lakeside Event Center stating that the permit was issued in error and has been revoked. Also adding that he issued a temporary permit until Jason and Kelly Slemmer provide the approvals for site development and PA DEP Sewage facilities Planning Module.

Michael Yeatts attended the meeting to be sworn in as a newly elected council official.

Tony Giordano attended the meeting to present his issue of waiting 3 weeks to have his septic tank pumped. Jim Miller advised Mr. Giordano that Homer and himself were at his house on Friday, December 6 to pump the tank and Homer advised that it didn't need pumped. Mr. Giordano advised at that point that he wanted it pumped for maintenance purposes. Homer was out to pump it that same week.

Jim Scott attended the meeting to discuss the new light post that was installed and the second shipping container that was added on the Joseph property. Council advised Mr. Scott that if Mr. Joseph were to get a building permit, he can legally keep the containers on the property for as long as he wants. Al Harakal advised that if a subpanel does not exist, then it is likely not required to need a permit. Al Harakal advised Jim Scott that he would need to ask Jeff Richardson about this as that is something Mr. Richardson would have taken care of. Maryjo Harakal mentioned to council that the International Property Maintenance Code book would be beneficial in this situation since it would cover issues

like this that we don't have ordinances for. The only issue that would present itself if adopted is that anything that is already present on the property would be grandfathered in but no more could be added. Doug Robbins requested that we consider adopting the code book and to move forward.

Attorney Madden advised council that they would need to go through International Property Maintenance Code book section by section and add/change/remove as needed since some sections may not pertain to what our Borough has or needs. Also, that council would have to adopt the International Property Maintenance Code and to repeal all ordinances that conflict with it.

Russ Shaffer requested to schedule a meeting to go over the International Property Maintenance Code before anyone votes on adopting it. Council agreed to meet on January 2, 2020 at 6:00pm with Al Harakal, Jim Carucci and Russ Shaffer to attend.

Patti LaRocca advised that she received a complaint from a resident regarding the flood lights installed on the Joseph property.

Jim Scott asked if the neighbors can get a petition signed for council to do anything about the issue. Mr. Scott also mentioned that there are vehicles being left on the property that are waiting to be worked on by the garage across the street. All of council as well as Mayor Maryjo Harakal agree that our hands are tied at this point.

Attorney Madden was dismissed with no further questions.

Maryjo Harakal read the letter of intent and fee from Maher Duessel to be presented at the January meeting. Mrs. Harakal advised council to think about whether we want to keep or change the Auditor in January.

Maryjo Harakal stated to council that there will be a retirement dinner at Muscarella's for Barb Dunlap on December 17, 2019 at 6:00pm for anyone that would like to attend. All of council said they are able to attend except Doug Robbins and possibly Cameron McConahy, who had prior plans.

Russ Shaffer attended the Mercer County Regional Cog meeting where they discussed Mercer County Transit Authority and how they are moving to be fueled by natural gas. There has been a station installed at the Hermitage maintenance garage. Michael Yeatts added that the Courthouse has new flyers that he can give us to post.

Doug Robbins advised that the LED lights have been installed and wanted to thank Bill Buckley and Jim Miller for helping him install them. Doug Robbins also stated that there is grant money available for updating the parking lot and restrooms in the park to be handicap accessible, plus could possibly include repairing Woodlawn Street at the same time. Russ Shaffer added that the parking lot and street will be included in the bids.



Maryjo Harakal announced that the Boroughs Association Meeting will be held at the Tara on January 23, 2020 with Mark Longietti as the speaker. All of council and employees are invited to attend and will be paid for. Spouses will need to be paid for.

Al Harakal stated that he has one building permit from Mr. Silas for a garage and driveway build on Neshannock road to be started in the spring of 2020 and that this is a state highway, so Penn Dot will need to provide the approval.

Russ Shaffer stated that Jim Miller or Monica Simko will need to order salt before the end of the year due to the lack of salt left for the year. Morton Salt is charging approximately \$1400.00 or more per load. Michael Yeatts asked why we couldn't reach out to hermitage to buy from them. Council agreed to look into and discuss purchasing salt from somewhere other than Morton.

Patti LaRocca stated that the road at her driveway is wearing away and requested that Jim Miller take a look at it and maybe repair.

Doug Robbins announced to council and attendees that our custodian, Al Ruth, had his house burn down and asked if anyone had anything to donate, he would be greatly appreciative.

Patti LaRocca stated that COG has a lift truck to change the light on Route 18, just something to consider.

Jim Carucci read the Payroll Distribution - General Fund Distribution and the State Liquid Fuels Distribution for the month of December 2019. Doug Robbins made a motion to pay the bills as read. The motion was seconded by Patti LaRocca and passed with all voting yes.

Doug Robbins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Donna Lapikas with all present voting yes.



Monica M. Simko - Secretary/Treasurer