

Clifton Heights Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2010

Present:

Edward Martin, Council Vice President
Betsy Berry, Councilwoman
Harris Resnick, Councilman
Jane Tumolo, Councilwoman
Leona Papale, Councilwoman
Mario Alpini, Councilman
Robert Penjuko, Councilman

Absent:

Anthony Casadei, Council President

Others Present:

Joseph Kelly, Mayor
Frank Catania, Borough Solicitor
Tony Tartaglia, Code Enforcement/Borough Manager
Chief Walt Senkow, CHPD Police Chief

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer Led By Mayor Kelly

Mayor Kelly asked for a moment of silence for the Borough's Highway Foreman, John Grace, who passed away on Monday evening and had almost 40 years of service to the Borough of Clifton Heights.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to dedicate a page of the minutes to John Grace; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Public Comment:

None.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to accept the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Kelly said that there was a nice article in the newspaper last week after their Committee Meeting on Tuesday about the redevelopment plans with the Clifton Heights Economic Development Board. He said that he just wanted to note that it wasn't mentioned in the article that Representative Micozzie obtained \$1.7 million in grants so that the project could be started. He said that without his support in obtaining those grants, he is sure that the project would still be in its infancy or perhaps not even started at all. He said that he would like to send a letter to Representative Micozzie thanking him.

Mayor Kelly complimented the Police Chief, Borough Manager, Fire Chief, all of the Borough employees and the Emergency Management Officer for their involvement in the recent wind tunnel. He noted the Ed Martin and Peg Moran manned the phones in darkness for a day and a half. He said that all of the employees were out there doing their jobs. He said that they were the only town in the nearby vicinity that had police officers out directing traffic at Baltimore Pike & Springfield Rd. & Springfield Rd. & Oak. He said that they

were all around getting trees cleaned up. He said that the only delay was on the electric company's end or power would have been restored sooner. He thinks that everyone did a super job and that the residents did a super job bearing with the emergency situation. He thanked everyone for a job well done.

Mayor Kelly complimented the 4th of July Association volunteers. He said that it was a great parade and fireworks and thanked that Committee for a job well done. He emphasized that all of the work was done by volunteers with no cost to taxpayers.

Mayor Kelly reminded residents that during this heat wave, Borough Hall is open during the day for people who need to come in and get cooled off.

Police Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Papale to approve the police report; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Fire Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tumolo to approve the fire report; seconded by Councilwoman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Code Enforcement Report:

This item was held because of a lack of a report.

Manager's Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tumolo to accept the Manager's Report as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Treasurer's Report/Bill List:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills as funds become available; seconded by Councilwoman Papale.

Councilman Alpini asked if they could hold off on approving the bill on TASK Mechanical until after the Executive Session.

The motion, including waiting on approval for the TASK Mechanical bill, was carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Alpini – yes, Berry – yes, Penjuke – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Martin – yes.)

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Kelly announced that a pre-construction meeting was scheduled for the sanitary sewer repair for Friday at 1pm. He said that the Road Program contract had been completed and advertised.

Councilman Alpini asked which sanitary sewer was being repaired.

Mr. Kelly explained that it was the three areas previously discussed on Church, Baltimore Pike and Mill St.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to accept the Engineer's Report as presented; seconded by Councilman Alpini; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Catania said that he had one action item. He said that he received a fax from Mr. Tartaglia on July 6th to appoint him for the FEMA application for the potential reimbursement of funds from the snow removal. This resolution would be Council authorizing Mr. Tartaglia as the Borough Manager to execute on behalf of the Borough any required forms and documents for the purpose of attaining financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to name Mr. Tartaglia as the authorized party to execute any forms or documents on behalf of the Borough for the purpose of attaining financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Alpini – yes, Berry – yes, Penjucke – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Martin – yes.)

Mr. Catania said that he had 4 Executive session items – 1 tax assessment appeal issue for 226 W. Baltimore Pike, the police pension plan, a police personnel matter and a pre-litigation matter.

Borough Manager:

Mr. Tartaglia asked Council for to make a motion to approve the purchase of the sign for the outside of the Borough Hall.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to approve the purchase of signs in the amount of \$2,163 to purchase the signs for the outside of the building; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Alpini – yes, Berry – yes, Penjucke – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Martin – yes.)

Mr. Tartaglia asked Council members on various committees to provide him dates when they could get together to meet.

Mr. Tartaglia announced that they received a hearing date in the Mark Kennedy case for August 23rd at 9am. He encouraged any and all Council members who could be in attendance to be there. He asked if any Council members wanted to attend, that he could try to have the time of the hearing changed.

Councilman Alpini asked if he had a chance to look at the trees in Diamond Street Park. He said that Mother Nature took care of the one tree that was a concern.

Mr. Tartaglia said that they were working on figuring out the cost of the storm and the emergency services before they would be able to turn their attention to the trees.

Councilman Penjucke asked about the progress on the Liquid Fuels work.

Mr. Tartaglia let him know that we were making progress still going back to 2006.

Councilwoman Berry asked about the letter from the SPCA that said that they would not be taking animals after summer 2011. She asked what other alternatives there were for that.

Mr. Tartaglia said that he wasn't sure and that it was an issue for all local municipalities.

Old Business:

Councilwoman Papale said that she would like to set up a date to move forward with the interviews on the Borough Manager's resumes that they received. She said that they had a couple of candidates that they would like to interview.

They set the date for Thursday, July 29th at 7pm at Borough Hall.

New Business:

Councilwoman Berry brought up the one way signs on Diamond Street when you come out of the Rite Aid parking lot. She said that the signs were only on the opposite side of the street. She wanted to put signs on both sides of the street. She said there were also 2 signs on Diamond Street at Baltimore Pike that say One Way – Do Not Enter and that they're totally faded. She asked if they could be replaced.

Ward Reports:

First Ward:

Councilman Resnick reported that the First Ward was in good shape.

Councilwoman Papale said that the banging metal across the street from 500 E. Broadway Ave. had been taken care of. She said that the metal actually broke and pulled off. She said that they actually showed that they are repairing the roof there as well.

Second Ward:

Councilman Alpini said that they owned the alley between Walnut St. & Diamond St. He asked if they could address the hedges in the alley that are overgrown.

Councilman Martin asked the Engineer if he could confirm that the Borough owned the alley before they addressed it.

Councilwoman Berry had nothing to report.

Third Ward:

Councilman Martin had nothing to report.

Fourth Ward:

Councilman Penjuka thanked everyone who helped clean up after the big storm.

Councilwoman Tumolo said that a great job was done on the sidewalks on Wynncliffe Ave. around the field.

Mayor Kelly asked if he could add something. He received a letter from 'The Spayed Club,' a 501 non-profit asking if Clifton Heights was interested in setting up free transport from Borough Hall to their building for residents to sign up and drop off their cats to be spayed. He said that residents would be able to drop their cats off between 8 & 8:30am, have them transported, and then pick them up later that evening between 7 & 7:30pm. He said that there would be a charge to residents for the services, but the transportation would be free.

Closing Public Comment:

Rich DePompeo, 224 E. Broadway Ave., said that he was in the process of trapping feral cats and that he had found two places that were no kill rescues that were helping him in trying to place the cats after he catches them. He said that he thought it was important to get the word out so that they avoid a stray cat problem in Clifton Heights. He said that he knew a man who was feeding a cat last year who gave birth to a litter of kittens and now those kittens are having litters of their own this year. He said that he was also going to get in touch with 'The Spayed Club' about getting the cats spayed. He also said that he wanted to thank the

Borough for their timely response to concerns as well. He said that twice he came up to report potholes on Broadway Ave., and that he thinks that they were fixed before he even walked back out the door.

Polina Pavliogoo, 77 E. Broadway Ave., said that she put up a block wall on front of her property and afterwards she found out that part of the wall overlaps a little bit onto Borough property. She said that she was told by Mr. Tartaglia that she needed to come up to get Council approval.

Mr. Tartaglia explained that the surveyor found that there was a 3 ½ foot overlap onto Borough property and that Council would have to okay the use of the land.

Councilman Martin explained that she would probably get more attention if she met with Mr. Tartaglia privately and that this wasn't an item which was discussed this evening, which is what this time is generally reserved for.

Mrs. Pavliogoo explained that she had already met with Mr. Tartaglia on multiple occasions.

Councilman Martin said that any information that she has or that she provided to Mr. Tartaglia needs to be passed along to their Solicitor so that he can produce the necessary documentation to allow for the wall.

Mrs. Pavliogoo said that she was just trying to do her part to beautify Clifton Heights.

Council commended her on the work that she had done and said that it looked very nice. They assured her that it would be a simple process and that it would be best for all parties to have it in writing.

POST EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No action items from the Executive Session.

A motion was made by Councilman Alpini to approve the payment to TASK Mechanical that had been held when the other bills were approved; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to reappoint Tony Tartaglia for another 30 days as Borough Manager; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to adjourn; seconded by Councilwoman Papale and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Duffy
Clifton Heights Borough Secretary

This page of the July 2010 meeting minutes is respectfully dedicated to the memory of John "Jack" Grace.