

**Clifton Heights Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2011**

Present:

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

Others Present:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer Led By Mayor Kelly

Public Comment:

Chris Hart, 218 Cambridge Rd., said that he had 2 questions pertaining to parking. He said that the 1st was about the owner of the Getty and the 3 cars that he has parked on the street that are illegal. He asked why they couldn't be towed because they are taking up spots on the street that everyone else needs.

President Casadei asked him if he had contacted the Police Department.

Mr. Hart said that he had.

President Casadei asked Chief Senkow if he had any information on that.

Chief Senkow asked if a sticker had been placed on the vehicles.

Mr. Hart said no.

Chief Senkow said that he would look into it tomorrow.

Mr. Hart said that his other item was the chairs in the street after it snows. He said that there are chairs sitting for almost 2 weeks. He asked if there was anything that could be done.

President Casadei said that he agrees with him that it is a problem. He said that it is an issue all across the County. He said that as far as fines go, it would be difficult to identify the offender.

Mr. Hart said that he could see something like giving them 48 hours and then having the trash trucks pick up the chairs when they go up the street.

President Casadei said that he agreed with that assessment.

Mr. Hart said that he has a neighbor who has an illegal car out back who puts a chair out front to save a spot.

Councilman Alpini said that he has issues with neighbors who dig out and save spots that aren't even in front of their houses.

Mr. Hart said that he was just seeing if there was something that could be done to allow for the pickup of the items that are saving the spots.

Councilman Alpini asked if they had the authority to authorize such a pickup.

President Casadei said that at the next meeting they would have the other side represented with people coming up and complaining that their chairs were taken.

Councilwoman Papale said that hopefully the snow is over for the most part this year, but perhaps before next year's snow season's arrival, they could send out a letter saying that they are going to be enforcing the "no saving spots" law.

President Casadei said that he thought that was a good idea.

Mayor Kelly said that usually if there are issues on the streets and problems between neighbors, they will take the chairs off the streets.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 8-0. (Resnick – yes, Alpini – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Penjoke – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Kelly commended the Police on a job well done, especially during the snow storms. He said that the roads were well cared for after a tough last storm.

Police Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to approve the police report; seconded by Councilwoman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Fire Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to approve the fire report; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo.

After looking through their packets, they found no fire report. Councilman Martin withdrew his motion to accept the fire report.

Code Enforcement Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to approve the code enforcement report; seconded by Councilman Martin; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Treasurer's Report/Bill List:

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

Councilman Alpini said that he didn't receive a copy of the bills again. He said that he has a question about the Office Basics bill for \$655.35 for chairs. He asked if they bought chairs.

Mayor Kelly confirmed that they were bought for the Police Department.

Councilman Alpini asked how many chairs they got.

Chief Senkow said 5 or 6.

Councilman Alpini said that there were 3 different checks for TD Ameritrade Trust Company for the same amount of money.

President Casadei explained that was for the DROP program.

Cindy Leitzell explained that they were for the DROP program as well.

President Casadei asked Cindy to explain the breakdown to Councilman Alpini after the meeting.

Councilman Alpini asked what PCASP was.

President Casadei told him it was the Police Chiefs' Association.

Councilman Alpini said that he would like to receive a copy of the bills. He asked about the bill for the 2008 audit and if it was normal to be 2 years behind.

Mrs. Leitzell explained that they had filed the necessary paperwork with the County.

After questions, the motion was carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 8-0. (Resnick – yes, Alpini – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Penjuke – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

Manager's Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to approve the manager's report; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Engineer's Report:

President Casadei announced that they did not have an Engineer's Report because the Engineer was sick.

Solicitor's Report:

Frank Catania said that he is working with the Borough to respond to "Oswalt Okabada" (spelling?), the Police Pension auditor, who has asked for some information.

He said that in looking over the Manager's Report, the Mark Kennedy agreement for milestones for progress has not yet been finalized. He said that there were suggested changes from both sides that have been passed along to Mr. Kennedy's lawyer. He said that they are moving forward and fixing up that property, not as quickly as they would like, but progress is still being made. He said that they are due back in Court in June on that.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to approve the solicitor's report; seconded by Councilwoman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Councilwoman Berry announced that they have an opening on the Zoning Board.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to appoint Mike Humphries to the Zoning Board; seconded by Councilman Martin.

Councilman Alpini asked who he was.

Councilwoman Berry pointed out that he was seated in the back of the room.

After questions, the motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Ward Reports:

First Ward:

Councilman Resnick said that he had noticed more residents throwing snow into the streets during the recent snowstorms.

President Casadei agreed with him.

Mayor Kelly said that he thinks that they will need to send notification out on that front as well.

Councilwoman Papale said that she had been asked by several residents about the SEPTA issue and all of the lights that were installed. She said that she would like residents to know that the trolleys are running and would like someone to get in touch with SEPTA to find out when they will be finishing the work.

Councilwoman Berry said that she has been bringing the issue up to Tony every other week. She said that they were promised that the lights would be up and in working order in November when they restarted the trolley service.

Mayor Kelly asked the reporter to really emphasize that issue in her report because it is a dangerous issue.

Second Ward:

Councilman Alpini had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Berry had nothing to report. She thanked the Police and Highway and Sanitation Departments for their work in getting the town up and running after the snow.

Third Ward:

Councilman Martin had nothing to report but also thanked everyone who was involved in the snow removal. He said that the manager did a heck of a job in locating salt because they came very close to running out of salt during the back to back to back storms. He said that he would like to add that SEPTA out and out lied to the Borough on 3 different occasions. He said that they provided a definite date and when questioned they provided another definite date and so on. He said that it is a tragedy waiting to happen.

President Casadei had nothing to report.

Fourth Ward:

Councilman Penjuka had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Tumolo had nothing to report.

Closing Public Comment:

Jim Salmon, 138 E. Broadway Ave., said that he believes that there have been 2 fatalities as the result of trolley accidents in the past and that is why he started the work on the lines, so he would hope that they would complete the work to avoid any future incidents.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to adjourn; seconded by Councilwoman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Duffy
Clifton Heights Borough Secretary