

**Clifton Heights Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 18, 2013**

Present:

Anthony Casadei, Council President
Edward Martin, Council Vice President
Betsy Berry, Councilwoman
Mike Humphreys, Councilman
Leona Papale, Councilwoman
Karen Peterson, Councilwoman
Jane Tumolo, Councilwoman

Others Present:

Joseph T. Kelly, Mayor
Francis J. Catania, Solicitor
J.P. Kelly, Engineer
Timothy Rockenbach, Chief of Police
Tony Tartaglia, Borough Manager

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer Led By Mayor Kelly

Public Comment:

Karen Norris, 136 E. Broadway Ave., said that she was speaking to ask for reconsideration regarding a decision made by the Finance Committee. She thanked Leona Papale, her Council representative, for taking her concern to the Chief of Police and Finance Committee on her behalf. She said that she would like to present details, which she thinks that there may be confusion over. She said that her sister's car was parked outside of her house since her son had borrowed it and had an accident. The car had a lot of damage, but did have up to date inspection, registration and insurance. She said that one Sunday, April 7th, a police officer put a tag on the car which said to have it removed within 5 days or it would be impounded. A letter was sent to her sister dated, Saturday, April 6th. According to the Post Office, it was processed on Monday, April 8th and received by her sister on Tuesday, April 9th. The car was towed the next day, on Wednesday, April 10th, which is 3 days after the sticker was placed on the car. She said that she was charged \$165 to get the car out of Herby's on Thursday, April 11th. The Finance Committee said that it was within their right to tow the car because it was within 5 days, so Mrs. Norris was denied reimbursement for towing & storing charges. She said that she feels that she wasn't given the opportunity to remove it within the five days since it was towed 3 days after the sticker was placed on the car. She said that she had a buyer coming on Thursday morning, April 11th, 4 days after the sticker was placed on the car. She said that she was asked, "why didn't you call once you saw the sticker?" She said that the sticker did not say to call; the sticker said to remove it within 5 days or it would be impounded. It did not say it would be impounded within 5 days. The letter said to call if we wanted to get a permit for an additional 30 days if we were getting it fixed; it did not say to call if we were going to remove the vehicle within 5 days. She said that they followed the rules and have lived in the Borough for more than 20 years and have always followed the rules. She thanked Council for the opportunity to speak and said that she hoped that they would reconsider their decision.

President Casadei confirmed that the car was not registered to her and did have damage and that she spoke to the Police Department and the Finance Committee. He said that he thinks that would be a litigation issue or something that would have to be handled by the Borough's solicitor and not something that Council could decide on at the meeting.

Mr. Catania asked if the letter was sent to her or her sister.

Mrs. Norris said her sister.

Mr. Catania asked if he could see a copy of the letter. (A copy was made.)

Mr. Catania said that he would recommend a brief Executive Session at the conclusion of the meeting to discuss the issue and then he would communicate the result of that to Mrs. Norris in writing.

Mrs. Norris thanked him.

Councilwoman Berry asked how long the vehicle was sitting on Broadway Ave. before it was stickered.

Mrs. Norris said that the accident happened at the end of January.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the May meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Peterson – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Kelly thanked everyone who supported the Community Day that was held. He said that the next item on the agenda is the Fourth of July festivities. He said that the Committee is working diligently to put the funds together. He asked everyone to support the Fourth of July Committee. He said that the cost for the parade and fireworks runs between \$16-20,000. He thanked the Business Association and Committee for all of their work with the fundraisers to try and continue the tradition. He wished everyone a nice Fourth of July.

Police Report:

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

Fire Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the fire report as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Berry and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Code Enforcement Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the code enforcement report as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; 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; seconded by Councilwoman Peterson; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Peterson – yes, Tumolo –yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

Manager's Report:

Mr. Tartaglia said that he had nothing further from what he presented in Caucus.

Engineer's Report:

J.P. Kelly said that he only has one item that needs action. He said that the bid opening for the 2013 Road Program was held on June 14th, and the lowest bid was from A.F. Damon for a base bid of \$69,710. He said that he recommends Council award the contract to A.F. Damon for the base bid.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to award the bid for the 2013 Road Program to A.F. Damon in the amount of \$69,710; seconded by Councilwoman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

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

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Catania said that several items were covered in the Executive Session and the only item remaining requires an administrative action, and that would be a motion to reaffirm the Davis Ave. land development and subdivision approval as originally presented to Council, and subject to the same conditions set for therein.

Administrative Actions:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to reaffirm the Borough's Resolution on the Davis Ave. land development and subdivision approval as originally presented to Council; seconded by Councilwoman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Councilwoman Berry said that she had been looking at the website and the minutes were not up-to-date. She asked if it would be possible to upload the minutes and get everything up-to-date. She said that it also said that the work sessions

Ward Reports:

First Ward:

Councilman Papale said that she called and complained about the high grass on Baltimore Pike in front of the storage/yarn mill. She asked who was responsible for that.

Mr. Tartaglia said that they contacted the person who they thought was the owner of that property and found out that through litigation someone else was responsible, and they were eventually able to get in touch with them, and they cut the grass.

Councilwoman Papale thanked him for that because it looks much nicer now.

Second Ward:

Councilman Humphreys had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Berry had nothing to report.

Third Ward:

Councilman Martin wished everyone a good summer

Councilman Casadei had nothing to report.

Fourth Ward:

Councilwoman Peterson had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Tumolo said that Community Day was a good time and told everyone that they should try and make it next year if they missed it. She also wished everyone a happy 4th of July and summer.

Closing Public Comment:

No closing public comment.

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Duffy

Clifton Heights Borough Secretary