

**Clifton Heights Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2014**

Present:

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

Absent:

Anthony Casadei, Council President

Others Present:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer Led Mayor Kelly

Mayor Kelly extended a special prayer to the family of Dante DeSimone and wishes for a full recovery to the other young men who were injured in the accident.

Councilman Martin and Mayor Kelly wished Council President, Anthony Casadei a speedy recovery from his illness.

Councilman Martin thanked James Salmon for the exemplary job that he has done with the recent snowstorms and keeping the town safe. He also thanked the snow removal company for their work on behalf of the Borough.

Public Comment:

No opening public comment.

Meeting Minutes:

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

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Kelly thanked the Clifton Heights Police and Fire Departments and the Upper Darby Police Department and Township and the Upper Darby School Board for their efforts during the recent memorial service after the tragic accident that occurred in the Borough.

Police Report:

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

Fire Report:

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

Code Enforcement Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to approve the code enforcement report as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; 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. (McElhenney – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Peterson – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Martin – yes.)

Manager's Report:

The manager presented his Administrative Actions:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to approve Resolution 14-01, setting and amending the 2014 fee schedule and collection fees as outlined; seconded by Councilman Humphreys; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (McElhenney – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Peterson – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Martin – yes.)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to approve Resolution 14-02, authorizing the Borough Accountant and Borough Solicitor to work on the 2014 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN), with the formal resolution authorizing the Borough to borrow \$300,000 in the form of a tax anticipation note, with the interest rate of prime +1, with repayment details outlined; seconded by Councilwoman Peterson; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (McElhenney – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Peterson – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Martin – yes.)

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to approve Resolution 14-03 supporting the appointment of Ronald Berry to the Upper Darby School District vacancy; seconded by Councilman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0. (Councilwoman Berry abstained for personal reasons.)

Mayor Kelly asked to include a letter supporting Mr. Berry's appointment for the betterment of the children of Clifton Heights.

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

Engineer's Report:

J.P. Kelly said that he would keep Council updated on the CDBG application.

Mr. Kelly noted that they would continue to work on the MS4 program.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Berry to approve a plan titled "Lot Line Change" for John F. Traboscia, prepared by Gilroy Damon & Associates and dated October 28, 2013; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (McElhenney – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Peterson – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Martin – yes.)

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Catania explained that the 4 Rockbourne Road had been listed for Sheriff's sale on January 17, 2014 and before going to sale, the mortgage was sold to a New Jersey enterprise. He said that a tax assessment appeal is still pending and it seems the current owner still owns the property. He said that the property may still go to foreclosure in February, so he would keep everyone updated.

Mr. Catania noted that only 4 properties had filed tax assessment appeals, the lowest total in a very long time. He noted that the properties were owned by Carol Puirfield (401 Cherry & 38 Maple) and the Polish American Citizens Association (Marple Avenue properties).

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

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Councilman Martin congratulated and welcomed Councilman McElhenney to the table.

Ward Reports:

First Ward:

Councilman McElhenney said that he liked to hear the news of the possible pavement of Broadway Ave.

Councilwoman Papale commended the Borough staff on their work on the snow removal. She said that she was still disappointed in some businesses and individuals who were not taking care of their snow removal in a timely manner. She recommended sending out a reminder next year prior to snow season with the ordinance about the timely removal of snow.

Councilman Martin said that the Code Enforcement was out taking pictures and issuing citations.

Second Ward:

Councilwoman Berry had nothing to report.

Councilman Humphreys had nothing to report.

Third Ward:

Councilman Martin had nothing to report.

Fourth Ward:

Councilwoman Peterson had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Tumolo had nothing to report.

Closing Public Comment:

Claudia Fagioli, East Berkley Ave., said that she received the audit report and wanted to discuss the report and her issues with it with Borough Council.

Councilwoman Papale informed Mrs. Fagioli that they too just received the report and that they voted in Executive Session to table this until the next meeting so that everyone could have a chance to thoroughly review the report and recommendations and decide how to proceed.

Mrs. Fagioli said that she was under the understanding that she was being audited for financial reasons and not for recommendations on how she should operate in a job that she has been doing for 28 years and is continually elected to.

Councilwoman Berry said that an auditor looks at the monies collected and at procedures and offers recommendations.

Councilman Martin said that no action would be taken tonight. He said that they could extend the caucus time for next month's meeting to an hour so that they could discuss the report with the Tax Collector.

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Duffy
Clifton Heights Borough Secretary