

**Clifton Heights Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2016**

Present:

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

Others Present:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer Led by Apostle Derek A. Rimson, Sr. Pastor – Kingdom Dominion Cathedral

Commendation:

Mayor Kelly, along with Chief Rockenbach, presented a commendation to Officer Thomas Gallo for his diligence in assisting while off-duty in the arrest and apprehension of a suspect who was attempting to open unlocked vehicles.

Public Comment:

Claudia Fagioli, 132 E. Berkley Ave., expressed her public appreciation for Officer Thomas Gallo. She said that she would have been a victim of this perpetrator if not for the work of Officer Gallo. She said that she has always felt safe as a resident of the Borough because of the dedicated officers of the Police Department. She also thanked the Fire Department for serving the community in the same passionate way.

Bill Razzano, 2609 S. 66th St., Philadelphia, as a representative of the Greater Overbrook String Band, thanked everyone in the community for welcoming them with open arms. He said that the Greater Overbrook String Band has been looking for a home since 2009, and they found a home in this community. He thanked Council members and business owners like Tony Blanche, who is offering the Greater Overbrook String Band a 10 year lease at \$1/month to offer them a clubhouse and home base for their Mummers team. He said that they do the Clifton Heights 4th of July parade every year, and he is happy to say that they will be performing pro bono this year. He thanked the Borough for opening their arms to them and becoming part of an organization started in 1931. He said that the parade this year will be 117 years old this year, one of the oldest parades in the country. He said that the welcome that they received this year on New Year's Day was just phenomenal.

Councilwoman Papale said that she is very excited for this new relationship and looks forward a successful future that involves the Greater Overbrook String Band.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the March 2016 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilman Berry; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 8-0. (Resnick – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Peterson – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Kelly said that he received a letter thanking the Police Department for their assistance in their time of emergency in January and February of this past year from Michael & Susan Wilson.

Mayor Kelly announced that there would be a Pet Expo and Rescue Day at Williams-Lombardo Funeral home on Sunday, May 1st from 11am to 3pm. He said that there will discounted vaccinations and micro-chipping. He said that he was going to talk to them about having a representative from the County to work on dog licensing at the event because the animal wardens have been going door to door and fining residents who do not have their animals properly licensed.

Mayor Kelly said that he hoped to have Memorial Day information at next month's meeting.

Police Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the Police Report as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Fire Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Papale to accept the Fire Report as presented; seconded by Councilman Martin; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Treasurer's Report/Bill List:

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills; seconded by Councilman Berry; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 8-0. (Resnick – yes, 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 Caucus.

Engineer's Report:

J.P. Kelly presented the Engineer's report.

Mr. Kelly said that he had received the bids for the 2016 Road Program and the lowest responsible bidder was Gessler Construction for the base bid in the amount of \$84,360.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to award the 2016 Road Program contract to Gessler Construction a base bid in the amount of \$84,360; seconded by Councilman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Mr. Kelly announced that the slip-lining on Broadway Ave. was scheduled to commence on Monday, April 25th and would take approximately 3 weeks to complete. He said that they would have flaggers for a small portion of the construction, and they would work with the Chief on that front.

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

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Catania requested an Executive Session for the end of the meeting for personnel matters. He said that there would be no action taken after the Executive Session.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Papale to make a donation to the Boy Scouts for their camp in the amount of \$900; seconded by Councilman Humphreys; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Ward Reports:

Councilman Resnick had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Papale said that the Clifton Heights Swim Club would be hosting a flea market on Saturday, April 30th from 9am to 2pm in the pool parking lot and that spaces could be secured for \$20.

Councilman Humphreys had nothing to report.

Councilman Berry let Claudia Fagioli know that the treasurer's software had been approved.

Councilman Martin had nothing to report.

President Casadei had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Peterson had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Tumolo had nothing to report.

Closing Public Comment:

Fran Smith, thanked Council for all of the work that they did on the playground project and for listening to the citizens' concerns and allowing for them to be a part of the process.

Fred Rich, 82 Chester Ave., said that he's sorry to put a damper on all of the positive things being said about the town, but he has questions about the demolition at 207 S. Springfield Rd. He read from a copy of the August 15, 2015 Council minutes, which Mr. Kelly attended and asked about the status of the demolition. He said that they were told that they were informed that Allstate denied the claim because it was a rental property and not a single family property.

Mr. Rich continued to read from the minutes claiming that Mr. Tartaglia should have been aware of the status of the property and its insurance.

President Casadei said that it was not Mr. Tartaglia's job to know the status of every house's insurance status.

Mr. Rich said that everyone knew or should have known that it was a troublesome property and should have done something about the property before it burnt down. He said that it is an absolute disgrace that that house has been left in that state for a year and a half.

President Casadei reiterated that it was not part of Mr. Tartaglia's job description to know of the status of all of the insurance policies in the Borough.

Mayor Kelly announced that the 30th Annual Children's Trout Tournament would take place on Saturday, May 21st at Kent Park. He said that awards would be presented to all children who catch fish and awards based on age groups as well. He said that parents who accompanied minors must have a fishing license, but the children do not have to have a license of their own.

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Duffy
Clifton Heights Borough Secretary