

**Clifton Heights Borough Council  
Meeting Minutes  
December 19, 2017**

**Present:**

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

**Absent:**

Karen Peterson, 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 Mayor Joseph T. Kelly**

**Swearing in of Full-Time Police Officer**

Mayor Kelly swore in Officer Daniel Ford as a full-time Borough patrolman.

**Public Comment:**

No opening public comment.

**Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the November 2017 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Kelly wished everyone happy holidays, Chanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and New Year's. He thanked all of his colleagues, the Police and Fire Departments and all of the local organizations for their support through the years.

**Police Report:**

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

**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 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

**Manager's Report:**

The manager's report was covered in the caucus session.

**Engineer's Report:**

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Papale to authorize the 11<sup>th</sup> payment to GM Mechanical in the amount of \$165,470.79; seconded by Councilman Berry; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

Mr. Kelly said that they were continuing to work on the punch list to present to the contractor for follow-up.

Mr. Kelly said that the CDBG applications would be due by January 11, 2018. He suggested requesting funds to pave the roads to allow them to repave the entire width of the street in coordination with Aqua's infrastructure program.

Mayor Kelly asked where they stood with the 2017 CDBG funds.

Mr. Kelly said that the 2017 project had just been approved by the County and that they would be moving forward with the project in the spring.

A motion was made by Councilman Berry to authorize the engineer to prepare a 2018 CDBG application for road paving funds; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Mr. Kelly said that it was a pleasure to work with Mayor Kelly through the years and thanked him for his commitment to the community.

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

## **Solicitor's Report:**

Solicitor Catania presented the Solicitor's report.

### **Administrative Actions:**

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to adopt the 2018 budget as proposed and advertised; seconded by Councilman Martin; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to adopt Ordinance #856, fixing the tax rate for the fiscal year 2018 (14.5010 mills); fixing the time for payments, discounts and penalties; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to adopt Ordinance #857, imposing a sewer rental/usage rate of \$314 for the fiscal year 2018; seconded by Councilman Humphreys; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to adopt Ordinance #858, fixing the fee for the collection and disposal of refuse within the borough for calendar year 2018 at \$210; seconded by Councilman Berry; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Humphreys – yes, Berry – yes, Martin – yes, Tumolo – yes, Papale – yes, Casadei – yes.)

Solicitor Catania announced that they received a request to refund trash fees that were paid in error.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to authorize the trash fee refund to 320 E. Berkley Ave. in the amount of \$1,260; seconded by Councilman Berry; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Solicitor Catania noted that they discussed the purchase of recycling cans.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to authorize the purchase of 2,000 recycling containers; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Solicitor Catania announced that he would advertise the Borough's reorganization meeting for Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7pm.

Solicitor Catania announced that the Borough had received tax assessment appeal resolutions from the Upper Darby School District.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to accept the tax assessment appeal resolutions for the 2 properties at 500 E. Broadway Ave., property at 500 E. Broadway assessment adjusted from \$348,500 to \$248,500, and the adjoining property for E. Broadway from \$550,000 to \$162,500; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Solicitor Catania thanked Mayor Kelly and President Casadei for their years of service and told them it was a pleasure working with them through the years.

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

### **Old Business:**

Councilwoman Papale announced that the Clifton Quarterly would be going to print very soon and asked for any submissions ASAP.

### **New Business:**

Councilman Berry asked the solicitor if they could look into preparing an ordinance banning the sale of marijuana in the Borough.

Solicitor Catania said that he could do some research and prepare something for Council for the January meeting.

Councilman Resnick asked how that would work with the State applications.

Solicitor Catania said that he believes that the municipalities would be operating and passing their ordinances in the hopes that the State would take those ordinances into account when reviewing their applications. He said that the State could certainly argue that they have the right to regulate and make decisions without taking local ordinances into account, but the Borough can still prepare something.

Mayor Kelly announced that the Greater Overbrook String Band would be marching down East Broadway Ave. again on New Year's Day around 4pm.

A motion was made by Councilman Martin to authorize the New Year's Day event on East Broadway Ave.; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Chief Rockenbach presented Mayor Kelly with a plaque thanking him for his years of service to the Borough of Clifton Heights.

State Representative Jamie Santora presented Mayor Kelly with a resolution prepared for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives recognizing his 50+ years of public service to the Borough of Clifton Heights.

Mayor Kelly thanked everyone for their recognition. He thanked Borough Council for allowing him to interact with Council the way that he does. He said that many Mayors don't have a seat at the table and don't get to provide input on the business before Council, but he has been blessed with a Council that supports him and allows him to provide feedback.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Papale to dedicate the minutes to recognize the service of Mayor Kelly; seconded by Councilwoman Tumolo; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

### **Ward Reports:**

Councilman Resnick had nothing to report

Councilwoman Papale announced that they would be out for the holiday house decorating judging on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> and that winners would be announced on Facebook on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. She said that any nominations could be submitted via the Clifton Quarterly Facebook page. She wished everyone happy holidays.

Councilman Humphreys announced that Santa would start his travels with the Clifton Heights Fire Department on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> around 1pm and that all residents should be on the lookout for him.

Councilman Berry thanked Chief Kneass for allowing Council to use the Fire House for their meetings during the reconstruction of the Borough facilities.

Councilman Martin asked if they could prepare a letter of gratitude for the Fire Department.

Councilman Casadei thanked everyone for their support through their years while he served on Borough Council.

Councilwoman Tumolo wished everyone happy holidays.

**Closing Public Comment:**

Fred Rich, 82 Chester Ave., said that they announced that the tax millage rate had stayed the same, but did not announce if the trash or sewer fees had increased. He asked if there was an increase in either of those rates.

Mr. Tartaglia announced that the sewer fee reflected an increase.

Mr. Rich said that there were businesses that were dying to get into Clifton and it was time to work on getting new businesses in. He said that they shouldn't be discussing a storage business at the old Clifton Yarn Mill, but should be looking at malls or restaurants. He also said that Tony Casadei is owed a debt of gratitude for his years of service to the Borough. He said that he was committed to the Clifton Lions' Club and all of his commitments in the Borough. He said that no one has done more for the town than Tony Casadei.

Steve Goetz, Clifton Heights Boys' Club president, presented Mayor Kelly with some Boys' Club apparel as a thank you for his support of the Boys' Club through the years.

A resident announced that he had been researching routes for a 5K through Clifton and thought it could be a great community event.

Jon Dougherty and Jen Batchelder of Hillside Nursery announced that they would be moving the dirt after Christmas.

Mr. Tartaglia explained to her that there wouldn't be an issue if they had a truck there every day moving the dirt, but that they couldn't go days without any action and let the dirt sit. He said no action would end up with them in the same situation.

**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

This page of the minutes is respectfully dedicated to outgoing Mayor Joseph T. Kelly Jr. and his dedication to Clifton Heights through his years of service.