

Clifton Heights Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
Telephonic Council Meeting of August 25, 2020

Council Members Attending:

Leona Papale, Council President
Mark Campbell, Council Vice President
Harris Resnick, Councilman
Mike Humphreys, Councilman
Louis Cabrelli, Councilman
Destiny Borelli, Councilwoman
Timothy O'Hara, Councilman
Karen Peterson, Councilwoman

Officials Attending:

Joseph Lombardo, Mayor
John Perfetti, Borough Manager
Timothy Rockenbach, Chief of Police
James Kneass, Fire Chief
John Gould, Code Enforcement
J.P. Kelly, Borough Engineer
Cynthia Leitzell, Borough Financial Advisor
Mike Sheridan, Planning Commission
Solicitor/Acting Borough Solicitor

Borough Council and the Clifton Heights Planning Commission held telephonic meetings one after the other.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:

Borough Council President Leona Papale presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance and then took roll which is set forth above. President Papale welcomed Bruce Fagioli to the Planning Commission.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Lombardo said that not much has been going on in the community during the pandemic. He explained that he met with the Boards of the Boys' Club and PAL and Upper Darby School District superintendent to go over the memorandums of understanding (MOUs) and fee schedules. He said that he wants to work to help the clubs financially as much as possible because they have been hit hard with their inability to fundraise. He said that he will keep Council updated as they plan to meet again in the next week or two.

Public Comment:

Sherry Rich, 82 Chester Ave., said that she just wanted to share that the owner of Penny's Family Restaurant on Springfield Rd. sadly passed away on July 31st.

President Papale said that she was sad to have heard that news.

A representative of Henderson Real Estate LP was on the line as well. They were told that they could speak at the end of the meeting.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to accept the July 2020 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilman O'Hara; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Police Report:

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

Fire Report:

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

Treasurer's Report/Bill List:

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and pay the bills; seconded by Councilman Humphreys; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 0-0. (Papale – yes, Resnick– yes, Cabrelli – yes, Humphreys – yes, O'Hara – yes, Borelli – yes, Peterson – yes, Campbell – yes.)

Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Perfetti reported that PECO's gas restoration unit had requested a permit for the areas of Austin/Sycamore/Fairview.

Borough Manager Perfetti said that he was requesting authorization to proceed with the purchase of the new international truck through COSTARS. He explained that it was a dumpster truck with a plow, trailer hitch and spreader with a cost of \$74,214.

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to approve the purchase of a new international truck through COSTARS for the amount of \$74,214 as outlined by the Borough Manager; seconded by Councilman O'Hara.

Vice President Campbell asked what they would do with the old truck.

Borough Manager Perfetti said that they would keep it for a year and then more than likely put it up for bid on Municibid.

After questions, the motion was carried by a roll call vote of 8-0. (Papale – yes, Resnick– yes, Cabrelli – yes, Humphreys – yes, O’Hara – yes, Borelli – yes, Peterson – yes, Campbell – yes.)

Borough Manager Perfetti asked the Borough Engineer to comment on the CDBG project.

JP Kelly explained that the project for the parking lot outside of the Administration Building was started on August 10, 2020 and delayed because they needed to go through the process of meeting PENNDOT project guidelines.

Borough Manager Perfetti said that the new reassessments were sent out and they would need to meet with the Financial Advisor to discuss millage.

Borough Manager Perfetti said that the project at 500 E. Broadway Ave. had commenced, the Lofts at Kent, and the entire project was probably a year out for completion.

Borough Manager Perfetti reported that because of their COVID outbreak in the office, the blood drive that was scheduled for Monday, August 24th had been cancelled. He said that all affected employees were on the road to recovery and thanked Borough Council for checking in on them.

Borough Manager Perfetti reported that a new set of plans were delivered to the Borough from the Upper Darby School District. He said that this was not a modification but an entirely new set of plans with storm management and traffic studies included. He said that he would discuss the Borough Engineer as soon as possible.

Borough Manager Perfetti reminded everyone that all tax assessment appeals had to be filed by September 1st or could not be filed until next year.

Borough Manager Perfetti reported that they received final approval for the 2020 CDBG project for playground improvement at Garchinsky Park in the amount of \$188,900. He thanked Delaware County Council for approving the project.

Borough Manager Perfetti said that concluded his report.

Council President Papale asked if the cancelled blood drive would be rescheduled.

Borough Manager Perfetti said that he would be working to reschedule for October.

Councilman Humphreys asked how many sets of drawings this was from the UDSD, 5 or 6.

Borough Manager Perfetti said that he believes it is the 5th set.

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to accept the Manager’s Report; seconded by Councilman Humphreys; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Code Enforcement Report:

John Gould presented the Code Enforcement report.

He reported that he was happy that his office was back up and running after COVID. He said that he was also happy to report that the Liberty Gas Station at Church and Baltimore was moving toward completion. He said that North Pointe Storage Facility was hopeful to have an opening in the next 30 days. He said that they were excited that the project at 500 E. Broadway had commenced and were hopeful for projects at the old Kmart property and R2K at Jackson & Baltimore as they continued to make progress.

President Papale thanked Mr. Gould and the entire department personally because she knew that she had referred a couple of concerns to him during that period that he was able to address.

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to accept the Code Enforcement report as presented; seconded by Councilman O'Hara; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Engineer's Report:

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

Mr. Kelly reported that the bid opening for the 2020 Road Program was held with 6 contractors responding to the bid and AF Damon being the lowest responsible bidder at \$81,093.75.

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to award the 2020 Road Program bid to AF Damon in the amount of \$81,093.75 for the scope outlined by the Borough Engineer; seconded by Councilman Humphreys; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 8-0. (Papale – yes, Resnick– yes, Cabrelli – yes, Humphreys – yes, O'Hara – yes, Borelli – yes, Peterson – yes, Campbell – yes.)

JP Kelly reported that the parking lot project started but PENNDOT required more information before issuing the permit, which they should have shortly. He explained that the project would require a couple of change orders for lighting. He would like to order 10 light poles with mast arms through COSTARS for a cost not to exceed \$12,000 to allow for them to move forward with the project without delay once it proceeded with PENNDOT's approval.

President Papale asked if this was something they needed to do tonight.

JP Kelly explained that there is a lead time on the equipment needed and if they didn't do this, they would have to cut in the light poles after the fact.

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to approve the purchase of 10 light poles with mast arms through COSTARS for a cost not to exceed \$12,000; seconded by Vice President Campbell.

Vice President Campbell asked if this included running conduit and such.

JP Kelly explained that that would be part of the change order: the price to put electric to the poles. He said that it is time sensitive, so they could always cancel the order if the change order isn't approved.

Vice President Campbell said that he thinks that they could do better price wise, but that he understands that it is time sensitive.

President Papale said that she would agree with that assessment and asked to confirm if that was the best price.

JP Kelly said that he may be able to beat the price, which is why he requested an amount not to exceed \$12,000.

After questions, the motion to approve the purchase of the light poles with mast arms was approved by a roll call vote of 8-0. (Papale – yes, Resnick– yes, Cabrelli – yes, Humphreys – yes, O'Hara – yes, Borelli – yes, Peterson – yes, Campbell – yes.)

JP Kelly said that his office did receive an electronic copy of the UDSD plans and they would start their review.

JP Kelly reported that North Pointe had requested an escrow release. He said that his office did field work and will follow up with a recommendation at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to accept the Engineer's Report as presented; seconded by Councilman Cabrelli; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Solicitor's Report:

No Solicitor's Report.

Old Business:

No old business.

XV: New Business:

Councilman Humphreys said that he thinks that they are going to need to make a plan to reopen the playgrounds sooner or later. He said that he has heard from some residents on this point.

Vice President Campbell said that he concurs with Mike's assessment and thinks that they should plan for this for next meeting.

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to dedicate a page of the minutes to the memory of Nick Micozzie; seconded by Councilman Humphreys; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

President Papale announced that she had put together new Committee assignments for members of Council. She announced them as follows:

Finance: Mark Campbell, chair & Leona Papale, co-chair
Recreation/Historical: Leona Papale, chair & Harris Resnick, co-chair
Public Health & Safety: Mike Humphreys, chair & Destiny Borelli, co-chair
Economic Development: Karen Peterson, chair & Mike Humphreys, co-chair
Infrastructure/Public Works: Harris Resnick, chair & Louis Cabrelli, co-chair
Laws & Ordinances: Destiny Borelli, chair & Timothy O'Hara, co-chair
Environment: Lou Cabrelli, chair & Karen Peterson, co-chair
Communications: Timothy O'Hara, chair & Mark Campbell, co-chair

President Papale said that she would have the information forwarded to Councilmembers and would just ask for a verbal report at meetings for each Committee.

XVI: Ward Reports:

Councilman Resnick had nothing to report.

President Papale said that the Clifton Heights Swim Club did suffer some damage in the early August storm. She said that there was some flooding a tree fell on a fence. She said that they were back up and running quickly though.

President Papale also announced that they would be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the slinky on August 30th. She said that the Clifton Heights Historical Society would be hosting a scavenger hunt with 75 slinkies hidden through the Borough. She said that they would also be hosting a jingle contest, which would be posted online.

Councilman Humphreys said that he knew Aldan Borough would be hosting a COVID check this week August 25th, 26th & 27th. He said perhaps they could post that information on the Quarterly page.

Councilman Cabrelli had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Borelli had nothing to report.

Councilman O'Hara had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Peterson had nothing to report.

Vice President Campbell said they had been working on some issues with light poles on David & Christian streets and he would continue to work with the Borough Manager on that. He said that he was looking forward to Liberty to be up & running in the 4th ward.

Closing Public Comment:

Sherry Rich, 82 Chester Ave., said that the Aldan COVID testing is at the John McBlain Community Center at Shisler Ave. She asked JP Kelly about the fire hydrant that was moved on Chester Ave and the resulting ponding that has yet to be corrected.

JP Kelly said that he would follow up with Aqua.

Jackie at 69 N. Penn Street reminded residents that this would be the last opportunity to fight reassessment for free as next year there would be a fee associated with filing an appeal.

Jack Henderson, 415 S. Penn St, said that he had come in front to Council last July about their sewer tax bill. They were charged over 900% in overage. They were forced to get an attorney and now they have no communication. He said that they have fixed up their building and been good neighbors and he thinks they are not being treated properly.

Mayor Lombardo said that this matter is in Court and was not discussed at the meeting, so he does not think it is appropriate to discuss this matter.

Acting Solicitor Sheridan said that if the matter is in Court, then that is where it would need to be discussed.

Steve Henderson, 415 S. Penn St, said that they have been in business for 31 years and just want to find a resolution for this.

President Papale said that she doesn't think that they should discuss this in a public forum.

Jack Henderson said that they were not in litigation.

President Papale said that they would not discuss it and follow up with their attorney.

XVIII. Adjournment:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Duffy
Clifton Heights Borough Secretary

THIS PAGE OF THE MINUTES IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THE
HONORABLE NICHOLAS MICOZZIE, A TIRELESS CHAMPION OF THE BOROUGH OF
CLIFTON HEIGHTS.