

**Clifton Heights Borough Council**  
**November 16, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes**

**Council Members Attending:**

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

**Council Members Absent:**

Karen Peterson, Councilwoman

**Officials Attending:**

Tom Micozzie, Borough Manager  
Timothy Rockenbach, Chief of Police  
Nick DePompeo, Fire Chief  
John Gould, Code Enforcement  
John McBlain, Borough Solicitor  
J.P. Kelly, Borough Engineer  
Cynthia Leitzell, Borough Financial Advisor

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:**

Borough Council President Mike Humphreys presided over the meeting; called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mayor Lombardo offered an opening prayer.

**Roll Call:**

President Humphreys took a roll call of Council members in attendance. Councilwoman Peterson was absent.

**Public Comment:**

No opening public comment.

**Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to accept the October 2021 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilman Cabrelli; and carried by a roll call vote of 6-1. (Resnick – yes, Borelli – yes, Papale – yes, O'Hara – yes, Humphreys – yes, Campbell – yes, Cabrelli – yes).

Solicitor McBlain announced that Council did meet in Executive Session prior to the workshop for one litigation matter and one personnel matter.

**Financial Reports/Bills:**

Financial Advisor Leitzell presented the report and expenses.

Financial Advisor presented the preliminary budget for review. It included no tax increase and no sewer fee increase but did include a sanitation fee increase, which is an increase that was passed onto the Borough from the County, a \$20/ton increase.

The preliminary budget was adopted by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Borelli – yes, Papale – yes, O’Hara – yes, Humphreys – yes, Campbell – yes, Cabrelli – yes).

A motion was made by Councilman O’Hara to approve the treasurer’s report and pay the bills as presented; seconded by Vice President Campbell; and carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Resnick – yes, Borelli – yes, Papale – yes, O’Hara – yes, Humphreys – yes, Campbell – yes, Cabrelli – yes).

**Police Report:**

Written reports provided to Council.

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

**Fire Report:**

Written reports provided to Council.

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

**Engineer’s Report**

Borough Engineer Kelly presented the report.

Mr. Kelly reported that the contractor has agreed to the change order and will complete the parking lot work only. Weather permitting, the work should be completed in 3-4 weeks.

The Garchinsky Park playground equipment arrived and, weather permitting, they expect that project to be completed within 5 weeks.

The contractor and the engineer have completed the pre-construction meeting for the sewer cleaning contract and that work is expected to be started in the early part of December.

New CDBG applications for calendar year 2022 will be due January 7<sup>th</sup>, so he will have some ideas at the December meeting and they will be required to open the floor for public comment.

A motion was made by Councilman Resnick to approve the Engineer’s Report as presented; seconded by Vice President Campbell; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

### **Solicitor's Report:**

John McBlain presented the Solicitor's Report.

He reported that the School District and Borough do have an agreement in principal in place. They are working on drafting the various documents that will be required for settlement and continue to work through the language of those documents.

Solicitor McBlain explained the budget preparation and adoption process.

Councilwoman Papale asked to note that next month's meeting would be occurring earlier than normal and be on Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> as opposed to Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.

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

### **Community Development & Code Enforcement Report:**

John Gould submitted a written report to Council.

Councilman Cabrelli asked if Code Enforcement had any success with the oil patches on Walnut Street.

Mr. Gould said that he would be circling back on that again.

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to accept the Code Enforcement report; seconded by Councilwoman Papale; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

### **Manager's Report:**

Borough Manager Micozzie noted that they had the preliminary budget.

Borough Manager Micozzie reported that they would be looking at the spring and fall for Farmer's Market and would work on dates.

Borough Manager Micozzie asked about the calendar for next year and having meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays and ensuring proper advertising.

Solicitor McBlain suggested having that on the agenda for the December meeting to authorize the dates for 2022 meetings.

Borough Manager Micozzie said that they are reviewing possibilities for capital improvements in the Borough.

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to accept the Borough Manager's report as presented; seconded by Councilman Resnick; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

### **Committee/Ward Reports**

**Councilwoman Papale:** The Sacred Heart Church is in their 2<sup>nd</sup> week of making pierogis and are accepting orders.

**Councilman Resnick:** The Boy Scouts will be hosting their annual Food Drive on Saturday. They will be doing a drive through drop off at Borough Hall and picking up and sorting food at Today's Child on East Berkley. He invited any and all volunteers to join them from 8:30am-4pm. They need boxes and volunteers to sort through the food.

**Councilman Cabrelli:** Nothing to report.

**President Humphreys:** Reported that any issues in the 3<sup>rd</sup> ward could be reported to himself or Councilman Cabrelli up until December 31<sup>st</sup> when Bruce Fagioli would be taking over.

**Councilwoman Borelli:** Nothing to report.

**Councilman O'Hara:** Nothing to report.

**Vice President Campbell:** Noted that he enjoyed speaking to residents of the 4<sup>th</sup> ward during his recent walking tour of the 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Lombardo noted that he had the privilege of attending the Clifton Heights' Fire Company's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banquet. He thanked the Fire Chief for a wonderful evening.

Mayor Lombardo announced that they would be hosting the Tree Lighting ceremony on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, and it would be an outdoor only event.

### **Citizen's Award:**

Mayor Lombardo presented a Citizen's Award to Robin Williams who assisted an elderly resident in need of assistance on West Broadway Ave on 2 separate occasions.

### **Old Business**

President Humphreys thanked the Fire Company for a great 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event.

### **New Business**

No new business.

### **Closing Public Comment:**

Fred Rich, 82 Chester Ave., asked about the School District and the plans for building. He asked if the School District ever completed a thorough traffic study.

Solicitor McBlain said that there was an extensive traffic study completed by the applicant. He said that as part of the settlement, the School District will have to come back and address the issues that were brought up by Council. He said that the Borough has their own traffic engineer who will also be engaged throughout the process. He said that traffic will have to be redesigned and addressed.

Mr. Rich said that they may be gaining a ball field but they're losing their green space.

Mary Dougherty, 324 Prospect Ave., said that she wasn't sure what the real threat was from the fake Clifton Heights Borough webpage.

Solicitor McBlain said that it was his understanding that the fake webpage did have a button to accept payments before that was removed and it is possible that a payment was processed through that website. He said that there is a button to submit a complaint to the website and residents think that they are submitting issues to Borough officials, but those complaints are going to someone else who created the fake webpage.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Papale to adjourn; seconded by Vice President Campbell; and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Duffy  
Clifton Heights Borough Secretary