

Clifton Heights Borough Council
July 21, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes

**ATTENDEES PHYSICALLY PRESENT
AT BOROUGH BLDG.:**

Council Members Attending:

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

Absent:

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

**ATTENDEES PARTICIPATING
BY TELEPHONE:**

Francis J. Catania, Borough Solicitor

I-II. 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.

III. Resignations and Swearing In

Borough Manager Perfetti read the resignation letter of Fred Rich of the 3rd Ward with the effective date of June 17, 2020 into the record.

A motion was made by Councilman Resnick to accept the resignation of Councilman Rich; seconded by Councilman Cabrelli; and motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of 6-0. (Papale – yes, Resnick– yes, Cabrelli – yes, Humphreys – yes, Campbell – yes, O’Hara - yes)

President Papale asked if there were any nominations in form of a Motion to fill the position of Councilperson in Ward 3.

A motion was made by Councilman Cabrelli to appoint Destiny Borelli to fill the position of Councilperson in Ward 3; seconded by Councilman Humphreys.

A motion was made by Councilman Campbell to close the nominations to fill the position of Councilperson in Ward 3; seconded by Councilman Humphreys.

After questions and closing the nominations, the motion to appoint Destiny Borelli to fill the position of Councilperson in Ward 3 passed by a roll call vote of 5-1. (Papale – yes, Resnick– no, Cabrelli – yes, Humphreys – yes, Campbell – yes, O’Hara - yes).

Borough Manager Perfetti introduced Destiny Borelli, a 13 year resident of the Borough and graduate of Strayer University. He read through her resume.

Mayor Lombardo swore in Destiny Borelli.

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to accept Sherry Rich’s resignation from the Planning Commission; seconded by Councilman O’Hara; and the motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Papale – yes, Resnick– yes, Cabrelli – yes, Humphreys – yes, Borelli -- yes, Campbell – yes)

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to appoint Bruce Fagioli to fill in the position of member of Planning Commission; seconded by Councilman O’Hara.

A motion was made by Vice President Campbell to close the nominations for the position of member of Planning Commission; seconded by Councilman O’Hara.

After questions and closing the nominations, the motion to appoint Bruce Fagioli to the vacated Planning Commission seat passed unanimously by a roll call vote of 7-0. (Papale – yes, Resnick– yes, Cabrelli – yes, Humphreys – yes, Borelli – yes, Campbell – yes)

IV. Public Comment:

No opening public comment.

V. Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to accept the June 2020 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilman O’Hara; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

VI. Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Lombardo said that he didn’t have much to say but he knew that the now-retired, longtime President of the Boys’ Club, Steve Goetz, wanted to address Council. He personally wanted to thank him for his time and effort that he put into the Boys’ Club. He thanked him for his 30 years of service to the community. He also introduced the new President of the Boys’

Club, Frank Zampitella and wished him the best in his new position and offered any assistance he or the Borough might be able to provide.

The Mayor noted how they haven't really been able to have any events in the summer, and while the 4th of July Association had hoped to try and do something in the fall, that seemed less likely as they continued through the summer. He asked everyone to support the local businesses as they can. He noted that the new restrictions imposed on bars and restaurants would make it difficult for businesses and just asked residents to support them as they could.

VII. Police Report:

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

VIII. Fire Report:

A motion was made by Councilman O'Hara to accept the Fire Report as presented; seconded by Vice President Campbell; and the motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

IX. Treasurer's Report/Bill List:

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

X. Manager's Report:

A motion was made by Councilman O'Hara to accept and file the Manager's Report; seconded by Vice President Campbell; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

XI. Code Enforcement Report:

John Gould presented the Code Enforcement report.

He reported that they once again are fully staffed and he thanked his staff for their efforts. He said that they are working in a time with the Courts not being opened, so they are working with some unorthodox methods and trying to lean on phone calls and emails to get things done. He noted that their income as of June 1st is \$152,533 and that they still have several of their development projects in the planning stages, the largest being the redevelopment of the former Kmart. He said that would probably be an early 2021 project and they were excited about that.

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 Vice President Campbell to accept the Code Enforcement report as presented; seconded by Councilman O'Hara; and carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

XII. Engineer's Report:

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

Mr. Kelly reported that the pre-con meeting for the 2019 CDBG project, the municipal parking lot project, was held last Friday, July 17th and the contractor is expected to mobilize and start work next week. He said that they have requested that Comcast remove their lines from the poles in order to rearrange the lighting poles and provide an opportunity to install new lighting during construction. He said that they have met with Comcast and they hope to coordinate that effort at some value to the Borough. He said that they are attempting to keep the cost down.

Mr. Kelly said that they did receive approval on July 16th from Delaware County Council that their 2020 CDBG application was approved for \$188,900. This project is for park improvements at Union & Edgmont Aves. He said that there was a pre-application meeting scheduled with OHCD on August 24th-25th.

Mr. Kelly announced that the scope of the 2020 Road Program has been developed and is ready for contract preparations. He said that he is requesting authority to advertise for and solicit bids for the scope of work.

A motion was made by Councilman Resnick to authorize the Engineer to solicit bids for the 2020 Road Program; seconded by Vice President Campbell; and the motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Mr. Kelly said that he would proceed with that work and would hope to have the contract prepared to be awarded at the August meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman O'Hara to accept the Engineer's Report as presented; seconded by Councilman Humphreys; and the motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Mayor's Report Note:

The Mayor had to excuse himself to return to work, but said that he wanted to note that Lynn Amey also retired as Vice President of the Boys' Club after her own 30 years of service, and he did not want to overlook that and wanted to ensure it was noted as well.

XIII. Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Catania presented the Solicitor's Report and noted that he had 2 Action Items.

He said that last month Council approved a temporary parking regulation in front of Westbrook Park Market, and that seems to have been successful. He said that if it would be Council's desire

to make that permanent, he would request that they take a vote tonight to authorize the Solicitor to advertise an ordinance to make those changes permanent.

A motion was made by Councilman Humphreys to authorize the Solicitor to advertise an ordinance to make the temporary parking restrictions in the area of the Westbrook Park Market permanent; seconded by Vice President Campbell; and the motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Solicitor Catania said that his next action item was to request Council's approval to formally adopt the recent codification that the Borough Manager and Code Enforcement Officer put a great deal of work into. He said that it would be scheduled for consideration and adoption at the September meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman O'Hara to introduce the updated Borough codification and to authorize the Solicitor to arrange to have the codification prepared for formal adoption at the September meeting; seconded by Vice President Campbell; and the motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Solicitor Catania said that his last item was just to remind all residents and business owners that they should have received their updated assessments, which would be used to calculate their tax liability in 2021 for County, Borough and School District taxes. Anyone who has questions or who thinks their assessment is too high has to file an appeal on or before September 1, 2020.

He said that the forms can be downloaded online at the County's website, and he is unsure of the filing fees, but noted that there is probably a fee associated with the appeal filing. He just wanted to note that any and all appeals for the 2020 calendar year had to be filed by September 1st.

XIV. Old Business:

No old business.

XV. New Business:

No new business.

XVI. Ward Reports:

Councilman Resnick had nothing to report.

President Papale said that the Clifton Heights Swim Club is open and available for memberships.

Councilman Humphreys said that he was happy to see some kids up at the field playing an organized game.

Councilman Cabrelli had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Borelli had nothing to report.

Vice President Campbell asked Mr. Gould if he could update on the new ATM in the 4th ward.

Mr. Gould said that there was a property maintenance issue with that property at Baltimore & Church, with abandoned cars being stored there and old structures that needed to be taken down. He said that the owner of the property had the property up for lease for about a year and half and got a client, which is Chase Bank for a remote drive up ATM. He said it passed zoning by a use by right and they are using the existing structure after cleaning the site up. He said that it is open 24-7 and can be used by anyone but does have a fee attached to its use.

XVII: Closing Public Comment:

Steve Goetz, 109 Academy Rd., said that he is not sure how much longer he'll be there, but he has been involved with the Boys' Club for 30 years and registered as a Republican for 30 years. He said that Pat Caputo got him involved when he was 19 years old. He said that he resigned as President of the Boys' Club on July 2nd, and he didn't want to sneak out without coming and thanking those who have helped him through the years. He said that Lynn Amey resigned on July 1st of this year, and he wouldn't have been able to have accomplished what he has through the years without her. He also thanked those who are continuing on with the organization. He said that it has obviously been a tough year, and they just received word that the entire Bert Bell football organization would be shut down for the year. He said that it just wouldn't be safe to put kids on the field. He said that they'd really taken a hit financially as they just can't go out to the businesses that always support them and ask for money in this current climate. He said that the Boys' Club and PAL lost \$15,000 each by not being able to host the carnival. He said that he just wanted to say that they are walking away on good terms with the Boys' Club and its members after many years of service and have left it in a soluble place despite the financial setbacks of the last year. He said that he didn't want to walk away without noting that he is walking away on his own terms and any rumors of impropriety or financial troubles being the case are untrue and would be unfounded. He noted that the checking account had \$7,133.65 and \$2,740 in the savings account, so they do have a cushion as the next crew takes the reins of the organization. He thanked the community for the assistance that they provided throughout the years. He thanked all the kids he coached through the years.

President Papale thanked Steve and Lynn for their years of service and said that it has been a pleasure working with them and they would be missed and that she looked forward to working with Mr. Zampitella as they move forward.

XVIII. Adjournment:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Duffy
Clifton Heights Borough Secretary