**Clifton Heights Borough Council**

**May 16, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes**

**Council Members Attending**: Mike Humphreys, Council President

Destiny Borrelli, Council Vice-President

Leona Papale, Councilperson

Harris Resnick, Councilperson

Bruce Fagioli, Councilperson

Karen Peterson, Councilperson

Suzanne Briddes, Councilperson

Tim O’Hara, Councilperson (late)

**Officials Attending**: Mark Campbell, Mayor

Tom Micozzie, Borough Manager

Timothy Rockenbach, Chief of Police

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. Mayor Campbell said this is National Police Week, he asked that we keep all police in our prayers.

**Roll Call:**

President Humphreys took a roll call of Council members in attendance. All council members present. Councilperson Tim O’Hara (late).

**Public Comment:** Michelle Hartel 317 Harrison, two-fold question, first the repeated offenders of high weeds/grass especially the Coban property a nuisance property for 20 years. Will the code enforcer start fining the owner for high grass/weed violations? President Humphreys said he would speak with Chief Inspector John Gould about issues. The second part, Michelle stated she read in the Clifton Quarterly that there is over $50,000.00 available for municipality and park improvements. She had asked if some of that money could be used to purchase the Coban Property. Solicitor John McBlain had been asked to investigate. Michelle also had questions about the municipal building, was escrow released to the contractor? Isn’t the contractor responsible for any punch list items? Wants to know why the money is being used for the Municipal Building. Solicitor John McBlain stated he believes we are doing a sewer line on the property. Borough Manager Micozzie stated it has nothing to do with escrow. The building has been paid for and accepted. We are not dealing with warranty issues. We are improving the property, upgrading technology. The contractor is not responsible for anything. Solicitor McBlain stated at this time he was looking into the value of the Coban property for real estate purposes.

Fred Rich, 82 Chester Ave, traffic study conducted for the Upper Darby Middle School, read part of the traffic study. Wanted to know if this was the only study done. Solicitor McBlain said this was a study dated May 2019 and was provided with the original application. Penndot and the Borough asked that they conduct a further study. Mr. Rich asked where that was? He said this was a one-day study from Aril 2019 is a one-day video, no physical study, no engineer report, no survey, no contractors and no Penndot report. He asked if any members of the administration ever saw the traffic study report he presented tonight? President Humphreys said no, it was the first time. Mr. Rich said he was a member of Borough Council in 2019, says the Planning Committee never received a traffic study. He demands a comprehensive traffic study to be done He believes the Upper Darby School District acted in bad faith and request an immediate halt on the building of the school.

**Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made by Vice-President Borrelli to accept the April 19, 2022 meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Councilperson Briddes; and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0. (Resnick – yes, Briddes – yes, Papale – yes, Humphreys – yes, Borrelli – yes, Fagioli – yes, Peterson – yes, O’Hara - yes).

**Financial Reports/Bills:**

The Financial Advisor said you have the budgets and actual reports through May 16, 2022 and the bills we ask you to approve tonight. Regarding the lending, is up to DCED for approval. All the paperwork has been prepared by Borough Manager Micozzie. The locked in rate is 3.134 for the fixed rate conversion. The rate increased the next day! Settlement is tentatively set for June 3, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilperson Peterson to pay the bills and accept the Financial Advisor report as presented; seconded by Councilperson Briddes and carried by a roll call vote of 7-1. (Resnick – yes, Briddes – yes, Papale – no, Humphreys – yes, Borrelli – yes, Fagioli – yes, Peterson – yes, O’Hara - yes). Councilperson Papale stated she did not receive the bills until tonight, she was not able to review them yet.

**Police Report:**

Written reports provided to Council. Chief Rockenbach has nothing to add.

A motion was made by Councilperson O’Hara to accept the Police Report as presented; seconded by Councilperson Fagioli; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

**Fire Report:**

Written reports provided to Council. Nothing to add (Chief not present).

A motion was made by Vice-President Borrelli to accept the Fire Company Report as presented; seconded by Councilperson Fagioli; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

**Engineer’s Report**

Borough Engineer Kelly presented the report.

Borough Engineer Kelly stated the preliminary scope of work for this year’s Road Program has been developed and forwarded to Borough Manager Micozzie. Once approved and authorized by Council we will advertise to solicit bids. The sewer cleaning contract is tentatively scheduled to start in late August. The work continues for the PECO Gas & Utility work replacement.

Survey work has begun on Madison Avenue storm water facility, within the next 3 to 4 weeks we will have a base plan developed for that improvement.

A motion was made by Councilperson O’Hara to accept the Engineers Report as presented; seconded by Councilperson Briddes; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

**Solicitor’s Report:**  No action items.

**Community Development & Code Enforcement Report:**

Chief Inspector John Gould is on vacation.

Borough Manager Micozzie stated that he and Chief Inspector Gould are working with the Solicitor reviewing the zoning codes. Some zoning codes are creating a lot if issues to what is modernized today to what was yesterday. One example, outdoor dining. Will need to review other towns/boroughs the size of Clifton Heights.

Chief Inspector John Gould submitted a written report to Council.

A motion was made by Councilperson Papale to accept the Department of Code Enforcement report; seconded by Councilperson Vice-President Borrelli; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

**Manager’s Report:**

Borough Manager Micozzie submitted a written report to Council.

The Windsor Lane driving issue is being worked on. Manager Micozzie, Chief Inspector John Gould & Chief Rockenbach are working together to correct the driving situation in the cul de sac. Signage has been ordered which shows the correct exits to Springfield Rd.

within 3 to 4 weeks.

Borough Manager Micozzie is in the process of hiring four people for summer work. It was successful in previous years. This is to keep the major arteries clean, Springfield Rd and Baltimore Pike as well as cleaning the parks each day.

Signage has been ordered for NO SMOKING in our parks.

Borough Manager Micozzie is working with Chief Rockenbach to get a camera is installed in all the parks. Camera’s will be installed at the intersection of Springfield Rd & Baltimore Pike. They should be installed by summer. Xfinity will provide the internet platform and upgrade the server as needed to the police station.

The two houses that burnt down (25-27 S. Diamond St) have been torn down. Borough Manager Micozzie would like to thank John Gould and JP Kelly for their help, those buildings could have sat for a long time.

A motion was made by Councilperson O’Hara to accept the Borough Manager’s report; seconded by Councilperson Resnick; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

**Committee/Ward Reports:**

**Councilperson Papale**: Clifton Heights Swim Club is opening at the end of May, looking for new members. Residents near Garchinsky Park would like speed bumps installed, drivers are ignoring the stop sign and speeding. Engineer Kelly stated speed bumps are difficult to install in public right aways. Due to driveways and inter-sections, they cannot be installed within the Penndot traffic guide. Chief Rockenbach commented that nobody called the police. He could have an officer out there that day. Police can monitor the situation.

**Councilperson Resnick**: Nothing to report.

**President Humphreys:** The carnival is coming, be careful driving, there are a lot of kids playing in the area.

**Councilperson Fagioli:** His issues were taken care in this meeting.

**Vice-President Borelli:** Nothing to report.

**Councilperson O’Hara:** Nothing to report.

**Councilperson Briddes**: 4th of July – designer bag bingo. Volunteers can meet at Romarco’s on Wednesday night at 7PM.

**Councilperson Peterson:** Nothing to report.

President Humphreys asked Ed Jones if wanted to say anything about the 4th of July. He said the biggest fund raiser is the designer bag bingo. It will be at the Columbus Club on June 4th at 7PM. They will have basket raffles and a 50/50. The cost is $40.00, ten bingo tickets and open buffet. The parade will be on the fourth and the parade route will be the same as usual.

**Mayor’s Report;**

Mayor Campbell read a thank you letter that will be issued to all fire departments that assisted on the recent fire at 25-27 S. Diamond St.

Mayor Campbell read a Proclamation for Building Safety Month.

Mayor Campbell announced it is National Police Week. The Mayor and Council would provide to the Police Department.

Mayor Campbell said the Mayor’s Luncheon had about twenty-five people in attendance. He met a woman opening a Bakery on E. Broadway.

Mayor Campbell said the Clifton Heights Boy’s/Girl’s Club Carnival would be starting Monday May 23rd until May 28th.

Mayor Campbell said the Borough Office would be closed Monday May 30th for the Memorial Day Holiday.

Mayor Campbell announced the Friday May 27, 2022 the 35th Annual Child Trout Tournament would begin and that the Clifton Heights Council would donate $100.00.

Mayor Campbell announced a Blood Drive was scheduled May 19, 2022 in Borough Hall from 2pm to 7pm.

Mayor Campbell would be attending a 2-day conference in Hershey PA starting Sunday May 20, 2022.

Mayor Campbell said all residents are invited to the monthly Caucus meetings and he would like to see more people attend. Residence may not speak at these meetings.

**Old Business:** No old business.

**New Business:** No new business.

**Public Participation:**

Fred Rich 82 Chester Ave – he is asking Council to please read the traffic study he provided.

Bonnie Callahan 235 Woodbridge – Riggs Distler is leaving spray paint cans all over and tagged building, please reach out to them to advise. Bonnie picked up two cans while walking the other day. They tagged Westbrook Park School and Westbrook Park Market. They are on Borough Manager Micozzie’s target list. The house fire on Woodbridge is still boarded up. Borough Manager Micozzie said John Gould has the escrow amount coming through and he would talk with him Wednesday.

John Cannon – 132 N Glenwood – will the borough be sponsoring the Farmers Market again this year? Borough Manager Micozzie said the person who ran it last year cannot do it this year. We are looking to have Market Days in Clifton using our local businesses.

Can we paint a yellow line in the street at Garchinsky Park to have drivers slow down? Borough Manager Micozzie said he and Chief Rockenbach would go down on Wednesday to access the situation.

**Adjournment 7:53 pm:**

A motion was made by Councilperson Papale to adjourn; seconded by Vice-president Borrelli; and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Pontarelli

Clifton Heights Borough Secretary