

July 7, 2010, 2010, Council Meeting  
Minutes

A regular meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on Wednesday, July 7, 2010, in the Assembly Room at the Clarion Free Library. President Vavrek called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Councilmembers present were Messrs. Zerfoss and Walters, Dr. Sanders Dédé and Ms. Leonard, Messrs. Noto and Hopkins, and President Vavrek. Mayor Estadt, Chief Hall, Solicitor French, Messrs. Ragon and Thompson, and Ms. LaVan were also present.

On a motion by Mr. Walters with a second by Mr. Hopkins, the minutes of the June 2, 2010, Council Meeting, were approved by a vote of seven yea.

On a motion by Ms. Leonard with a second by Mr. Noto, the minutes of the June 11, 2010, Special Council Meeting were approved by a vote of six yea, with Dr. Sanders Dédé abstaining as she was absent from that meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

On a motion by Mr. Walters with a second by Ms. Leonard to approve the appropriations for the month of July. The motion carried by a vote of six yea, with Mr. Zerfoss voting no due to the invoices from Campbell Durrant.

On a motion by Mr. Walters with a second by Mr. Hopkins to approve the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry's special event requests for the Christmas Parade to be held November 22, 2010, at 6 p.m. and the carriage rides to be held November 22, 2010, from 6:30-8 p.m. Mr. Zerfoss asked if the Chamber handles these requests or the Conservancy. Mayor Estadt commented the only thing the Conservancy will handle is the free parking for the Christmas season. Motion carried with a vote of seven yea.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Hopkins, approving the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry's banner request for the Farmers National Bank Autumn Leaf Festival banners to be put up August 30, 2010, through October 4, 2010, was carried with a vote of seven yea.

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

Mayor Estadt commented Mr. Walters attended the meeting this morning to discuss parking issues at the intersections. To comply with the law, parking spaces must be 25' from the intersections. Currently, they are 18-21'. Adjustments will be made.

Mayor Estadt reported the Conservancy should have the holiday free parking request ready for Council to handle at the August Council Meeting. The Public Safety Committee may want to review it first to make sure everyone is in agreement.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Zerfoss informed Council the 2010 Paving Project will include the following: milling and paving on South Seventh Avenue from Barber Street to South Street (once the storm sewer project is completed) and Wood Street from Fifth Avenue to Eighth Avenue; paving on South Sheridan Road from Main Street to Veterans Drive and Sixth Avenue from Wood Street to Elss Street with wedge curb installed for parking area on west side of Sixth Avenue; intersection work at Sixth Avenue and Boundary Street and Eighth Avenue and Church Road; and patching of South Street from Fifth Avenue to Second Avenue, Leatherwood Drive, and Park Circle. Since the condition of Park Circle is caused by the transit bus, Mr. Zerfoss doesn't feel the Borough should be patching this area. Mr. Thompson informed Council it isn't a high traffic area and can be eliminated later on. It will require a lot of work by the Borough's Public Works Department before being patched.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Hopkins, giving permission to advertise the 2010 Paving Project as stated except eliminating Park Circle, was carried with a vote of seven yea.

Mr. Zerfoss stated Clean-Up Day will be discussed next month.

On a motion by Mr. Zerfoss with a second by Mr. Walters to sell the 1973 Huber roller. Mr. Zerfoss added the Borough recently purchased a newer used roller and this one is not needed. The motion carried with a vote of seven yea.

Mr. Zerfoss announced 47 applications were received for the two, temporary, full-time laborer positions. The Committee is scheduled to meet to review them and decide what process that will be followed.

Mr. Zerfoss stated the leaf/brush location was reopened last Wednesday. Extra expenses will be incurred to transport the waste due to the County's closure of the composting site at the County Park. It is being hauled to Gardenscape in Emlenton. Mr. Zerfoss thanked Mr. Walters for being instrumental with this arrangement. The Borough requests that Borough residents only use this service. This service is provided to Borough residents and is funded with Borough taxpayer dollars.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Walters made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Zerfoss to adopt Ordinance #2010-773, amending Chapter 205 of Clarion Borough's Code of Ordinances titled "Vehicles and Traffic" making Madison Road one-way going east from Seventh Avenue to Eighth Avenue. As a reminder, this was requested by Fr. Monty Sayers. Motion was defeated after the following roll call vote: Mr. Zerfoss, yes; Mr. Walters, yes; Dr. Sanders Dédé, no; Ms. Leonard, no; Mr. Noto, no; Mr. Hopkins, no; and President Vavrek, no.

Mr. Walters stated the holding cell should be completed next week.

Mr. Walters commented Mayor Estadt already touched base on making the necessary adjustments to the distance of parking spaces to the intersections. This will be done throughout the entire Borough.

Mr. Walters stressed citizens should contact 9-1-1 whenever there is an emergency or to reach a police officer. If someone leaves a message at the office, his/her call may not be returned until the next day.

On a motion by Mr. Walters with a second by Mr. Zerfoss to approve to hire a meter enforcement officer, pending the background check. Motion carried with a vote of seven yea.

#### HOUSING AND ZONING

Mr. Hopkins stated at this month's meeting the Committee discussed several issues. One is the possible pro-rating of rental licenses for new rentals that are created mid-year. Also, the ordinance on when utility repairs are made throughout the Borough is not clear on the clean up process, which needs addressed.

On a motion by Mr. Hopkins with a second by Ms. Leonard to approve to extend the closure of Merle Road from June 28, 2010, through August 7, 2010, due to the demolition of the smoke stack. Council permission is necessary, because Mr. Ragon only has the authority to approve road closures for up to 30 days. Motion carried unanimously.

Infra Source has completed the project of laying cable throughout the Borough and did a good job cleaning up their mess.

On a motion by Mr. Hopkins with a second by Ms. Leonard, approving to hire a part-time temporary rental inspector at \$12.50 per hour, pending the background check, was carried with a vote of seven yea.

Mr. Zerfoss asked what the Committee is thinking as far as pro-rating rentals. Mr. Hopkins commented Mr. Ragon suggested it would be easiest to make the landlord responsible for the whole year or half the year. President Vavrek added this is for new rental units only.

#### RECREATION

Ms. Leonard noted there was not a meeting this month. However, the pool is operating although there have been some issues due to the fact that the former YMCA employee that managed the pool has left for another position. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Preston met with Mr. Mike Ebert and the co-managers and things are moving forward. The picnic pavilion at the park has seen a lot of use. People are required to provide a security deposit, which is returned as long as no damage is done.

Ms. Leonard announced there will not be CUP clinics at Paul A. Weaver Community Park this summer due to lack of interest.

Ms. Leonard commented the Toby Project cannot proceed until DCNR approves site plan drawings, which will be prepared by Mr. Ron Kopko. In order for Mr. Kopko to proceed, Council must approve a Service Authorization. Per the grant guidelines, the engineering fees cannot exceed 15% of the construction cost; total grant \$111,400; construction costs equal \$96,870. Ms. Leonard made a motion to hire Mr. Ron Kopko as the project engineer at a cost not to exceed \$14,530, which will be paid for by the grant. The motion was seconded by Dr. Sanders Dédé and carried unanimously.

Ms. Leonard stated the next Study Committee Meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. at the Borough Office. Mackin Engineering has a direct link set up to the Borough's website. The Recreation Committee will meet on July 26, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. at the Borough Office.

Mr. Zerfoss was approached by a resident that noted when you enter Paul A. Weaver Community Park on the upper side that is what the sign says. However, if you enter it by Emerson Way, it says Clarion Community Park. Ms. Leonard reported the Committee will look into this and see what can be done to correct it.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Estadt will check with Ms. Freenock on the Main Street Project. Handicap accessible poles were placed in the middle of the sidewalk, which creates problems. It was questioned if they could be moved. No answer has been provided at this time.

Mayor Estadt reported the second meeting of the Neighborhood Watch was well attended. The next meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Street Center. A chairperson needs selected as well as block captains and people interested in taking patrols of the neighborhood.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Vavrek announced the South Street Project is moving along. Preparatory work may start later this week. According to Mr. Ron Kopko, one block at a time will be completed beginning at Fifth Avenue. When the road is being reconstructed, residents will be notified. If construction goes well, it should be completed by the end of September rather than October 26, 2010.

If anyone notices any potholes that need patched, Mr. Zerfoss reminded residents to contact the Public Works Department or the Borough Office to report them.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Sanders Dédé commented the work on Main Street where the crosswalks are being replaced is not being done in a good way. The asphalt doesn't meet, leaving holes. This

will create a big liability. The poles are not in a good location either. The areas by the Captain Loomis Restaurant and the Post Office are really bad.

Mayor Estadt repeated Ms. Freenock attended a meeting where this was supposed to be discussed. When Ms. Freenock returns to the office, Mayor Estadt will see what was reported.

On a motion by Ms. Leonard with a second by Mr. Hopkins, the Council Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. LaVan  
Assistant Borough Secretary