

March 3, 2009, Council Meeting

A regular meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, at the Clarion Free Library. President Wilshire called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. All Councilmembers were present as were Chief Hall, Messrs. Ragon and Stutzman, Solicitor French, and Mss. Freenock and LaVan.

President Wilshire immediately called for an Executive Session to discuss the possible sale of property, beginning at 7:03 p.m., including all Councilmembers, Ms. Freenock, and Solicitor French. The meeting reconvened at 7:46 p.m. No action was taken. Solicitor French left the meeting at this point.

On a motion by Ms. Vavrek with a second by Mr. Hopkins, the minutes of the February 3, 2009, Council Meeting, were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Ms. Leonard with a second by Ms. Vavrek, the minutes of the February 23, 2009, Council Meeting, were approved by a vote of six yea with Mr. Hopkins abstaining as he was absent from that meeting.

ADMINISTRATION

The appropriations for the month of March were approved by a vote of six yea following a motion by Mr. Herman and a second by Mr. Hopkins. Mr. Zerfoss voted no.

Ms. Vavrek made a motion to advertise Ordinance No. 2009-760, regarding the 15-year funding stream. The motion was seconded by Ms. Leonard and carried unanimously.

The special event request of CUP's Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils, for a 5K race on April 19, 2009, was approved unanimously following a motion by Mr. Herman and a second by Mr. Hopkins.

The special event request of United Way of Clarion County for a 5/10K race to be held on September 26th was unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. Herman and a second by Ms. Vavrek. Ms. Vavrek explained that the date of the race could not be changed and that she would discuss the overtime generated by this event with the United Way. It was noted that the Chamber is planning a 5K during Spring Fling but that it will not sponsor the 5K during Autumn Leaf Festival.

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

Ms. Moore noted that Sage Meadow is relocating and that the Borough permitting process ran smoothly. Also, the first meeting for Autumn Leaf Festival was held.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Ms. Vavrek informed Council that the street sweeper is not available as it is being repaired. Ms. Zerfoss commended the Public Works employees on the snow removal operation. He suggested that some of the stimulus money be spent on paving. President

Wilshire stated that he recently spoke with Bob Skarada of the Northwest Planning Commission who stated that there will be no funds available for local roads.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ms. Moore commented on the snow removal tickets that were issued by the police. She feels that people that tried to keep their sidewalks cleared were issued tickets in error. Ms. Moore stated that she and her husband purchased property on Greenville Avenue in 1965. All of the properties on that road at that time were owner-occupied; now, most are college rentals. In 1965, there was 24' from the sidewalk to the road. Contrary to reports in the Clarion News, the speed of the plow does matter. The plows at night move faster than those in the daytime; at night, the snow has been thrown by plows onto the front windows of homes on the route. Such does not occur during the daytime. Ms. Moore made several suggestions about how this problem can be addressed and requested that this matter be put before the Public Safety Committee.

HOUSING & ZONING

Ms. Moore asked if chimineas was being addressed. Mr. Ragon stated that the Committee is working on a proposed ordinance.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Leonard noted that she and Ms. Freenock recently attended a seminar on the 2009 DCNR grant fund round. She also stated that the Recreation Plan is underway and that input is being sought via participation in either the study committee or as a key person to be interviewed. Anyone with an interest to this project should contact the Borough Office.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon a motion by Mr. Herman with a second by Mr. Hopkins, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy K. Freenock
Borough Secretary