

# April 7, 2025

The regular scheduled meeting of the Borough Council was called to order on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Jim O'Connor with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Prayer. Members who attended were Pat Haley, Rafael Jimenez Gomez, Robert Moyer, Tricia Springer, Matt Urban and Sam Wengert. Also attending were Mayor Larry Minnich, Solicitor Colleen Gallo and Borough Manager, Jonathan Johnson.

Minutes from March 3, 2025, meeting was emailed to Council members prior to the meeting. **Motion by Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Haley, to approve the March 3, 2025, minutes. Motion Carried.**

The Treasurer's report for March 2025 was read. **A motion was made by Mr. Haley, seconded by Mr. Moyer, to approve the Treasurer's report for March 2025. Motion carried.**

## **FIRE COMPANY REPORT, Dustin Sider(absent)**

No Report.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Farneski**

The police report is attached. Chief Farneski discussed the possibility of having high school students, as a class project, block off the garage on the southeast side and paint an appropriate mural on the wall. Council was agreeable to the ideal.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Larry Minnich**

Mayor Minnich discuss the IPMC Meeting and noted that from a code perspective, the Borough was in good shape.

## **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:**

Ms. Lissette Feliciano and Mr. Juan Rodriguez (both 13 Walnut Mill Lane) said their rental home was condemned because the landlord did not make necessary repairs. While they have found a new home, there is a gap between their eviction and the time they can move into their new home. They asked if the Borough could provide a letter stating they are being evicted because of the landlords. It was agreed that the Borough manager would provide a letter.

## **JAPANESE KNOT WEED**

Ms. Ashlea Good (223 S. Wilson St.) discussed Japanese knot weed, an invasive plant, located in the Cleona Park near the baseball fields. She highlighted the damage caused by the plant and the challenges to remove it. She suggested the area where the plant is located be roped off and that the Borough mow the area in mid-summer. In the fall, she said the plants should be injected with herbicides. She also suggested that the Borough discuss the problem with North Cornwall Township. The Borough manager was instructed to set up a meeting with the Township to discuss the problem.

**BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE**

Pay Applications

Mr. Alex Kauffman, Steckbeck Engineering, discussed the pay applications for the following building project contractor:

- Heim Construction Inc. (General Contractor) .....\$48,523.63
- BJH Electrical Inc.1<sup>st</sup> Payment (Electrical) .....\$19,649.92
- BJH Electrical Inc.2<sup>nd</sup> Payment (Electrical).....\$9,000.00
- Mann Plumbing & Heating (HVAC) .....\$1,205.91

**Ms. Springer made a motion to approve the pay applications, Mr. Moyer seconded, the motion was approved.**

Change Orders: General Contractor

Mr. Kauffman discussed the 10 different Change Orders from the general contractor. After thorough discussion, **Ms. Springer made a motion to accept the following six Change Orders. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion and the motion was approved.**

7	Purchasing & installing riot glass in vestibule with voice aperture	Not to Exceed \$1,500
12	Provide space for fridge and slop sink in squad room	n.a.
13	Provide cabinets with countertops in PD office	Included in bid
20	Install 5 pressure sensitive vent pipe boots	\$1,716.00
21	Install gridwall panels for PD vest storages	\$1,213.00
22	Supply fasteners, sealant and 8 steel lintels	\$672.00

The following four change orders were not included in the motion:

14	Fabricate and install rack for PD electronics	\$1,820.00
16	Install Corian countertop with wall mounted brackets	\$3,189.00
23	Remove and replace 90 sq. feet of ceiling in DJ courtroom	\$3,425.00
24	Painting the “old police” station	3-bids ranging from \$1,950 to \$3,425

It was agreed the Borough Council members would do the painting.

Change Order: HVAC Contractor

Mr. Kauffman discussed the change order from the HVAC contractor for eight steel angles costing a total of \$240.00. **Mr. Haley made a motion to approve the change order, Mr. Urban second, the motion was approved.**

Change Order: Plumber Contractor

Mr. Kauffman discussed the change order from the plumber to connect the sink in the police department to water and sewer for \$10,235.00. No Council member made a motion to approve this change order.

**PRESIDENT’ S REPORT/COMMENTS – Jim O’Connor**

No comment.

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### **CODE ENFORCEMENT – Rafael Jimenez Gomez**

Mr. Jimenez highlighted the IPMC meeting held on March 25<sup>th</sup> and said there is improving compliance. Mr. O'Connor asked if the Borough was using iWorQ (code reporting software). It was noted that code violations are not being updated. Mr. Johnson said that he would talk to Mr. McDermott (Codes Officer) and find out what the barriers are to using the software and offer him training. Mr. Jimenez discussed the plans of the Semiquincentennial Committee (renamed Cleona Celebrates). He also said that he has been reviewing the municipal trash ordinance. Mr. Jimenez concluded by saying that he is not running for Council next year.

### **PROPERT DEPARTMENT – Bob Moyer**

Mr. Moyer said the fire company would like cameras installed on the southside of the Borough building to monitor firefighters' vehicles when they are on a call. He also said that he reviewed the bids for the Borough building landscaping.

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - Sam Wengert**

Mr. Wengert said that he reviewed the snowplow bid documents/agreements and said there should be a minimum amount of equipment for each bidder.

### **RECREATION DEPARTMENT – Pat Haley**

Mr. Haley reported that Rantz Martin will be starting the miniature golf course repairs by the end of April. Mr. Haley also discussed the amphitheater at the park and using the Borough engineer to assist in the bidding process. He is hoping that construction will begin in later summer or early fall. Mr. Haley also said that he is having difficulty finding a summer playground director. Finally, Mr. Haley said the Easter Candy Scramble will be on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

### **FIRE SAFETY/POLICE DEPARTMENT – Tricia Springer**

Ms. Springer reported that they had received the letter from the police union about contract negotiations. She said that a bargaining committee needs to be established. Mr. O'Connor appointed Ms. Springer, Mr. Urban and himself to the bargaining committee.

### **FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Matt Urban**

Mr. Urban said that finances are within 1 percent of the budget period and that the Borough has received Liquid Fuels funds from PennDOT.

### **BOROUGH MANAGER-BOROUGH AUTHORITY – Jonathan Johnson**

- Squirrel infestation in the 200 block of South Center Street
- Increase in electric cost in 2026
- DJ office and resolution of on-going disputes.
- Cleona Square update

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### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Colleen Gallo**

Solicitor's report was submitted and are attached to these minutes.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Publicized Bids**

**Mr. Moyer made a motion and Mr. Urban second, to advertise the following bids:**

- **Landscaping and snow removal for the Borough building**
- **Landscaping for the Cleona Park**
- **Snow removal from Borough streets**

**The motion carried.**

#### **2024 Borough Audit**

**Mr. Urban made a motion, and Mr. Jimenez second, to accept the 2024 Cleona Borough Audit. Motion carried.**

#### **Change in Actuarial Service Providers**

Mr. Johnson said that Mockenhaupt Company has merged with another actuarial company, Acrisure. Because of this change, a new agreement had to be approved. **Mr. Urban made a motion and Mr. Haley second, to make Acrisure the Borough's Police Pension actuarial service provider. The motion carried.**

#### **East Walnut Street Easement**

**Mr. Urban made a motion and Mr. Haley second, to approve the Cleona Borough Authority easement request for an unopened section of East Walnut Street.** The easement is part of a stormwater drainage project. The motion carried.

#### **145 Dairy Road Driveway Issues**

Mr. Gallo discussed the driveway at the southern end of property at 145 Dairy Road and how it cuts across the Borough's right-of-way. Ms. Gallo said that the driveway never received a permit. To get a permit, the owners will need to prove the driveway is on their property. It was agreed that the issues should be referred to the Zoning Officers (County Planning Commission) and Code Enforcement Officers (David McDermott). It was also agreed that the Borough should reach out to the property owners to discuss the matter. Ms. Gallo said she would coordinate with Zoning Officer.

#### **Piping Repair in the Park Pavillion**

**Mr. Haley made a motion to approve a \$3,460 bid to repair the piping in the park pavilion. Ms. Springer seconded; the motion carried.**

#### **Purchase Fortinet Switch / Firewall**

Mr. O'Connor discussed the need for an IT switch and firewall. He concluded by saying that the current switch and firewall were adequate. There was no motion to approve the purchase.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Ordinance Review – zoning and map ordinance:

No Report

Municipal Trash:

No Report

Recreational Vehicles/Trailers/Boats on Private Property:

It was agreed to remove this issue from future agendas.

Line of Sight Study.

Mayor Minnich discussed the challenges drivers have of turning on to North Cyrus Street from East Liberty Alley. It was agreed to have the Borough Engineer do a line-of-sight study and to make parking recommendations. It was also agreed that the property owners should be made aware of the issues.

East Maple Street and North Center Street

Mayor Minnich discussed the challenges drivers have turning onto North Center Street from East Maple Street. **Mr. Urban made a motion, and Mr. Haley second, to have the Borough Solicitor advertise an ordinance to prohibit parking on the eastside of North Center Street from East Liberty Alley to East Maple Street. The motion carried.**

Turing Right on Red from East Penn Avenue to North Center

Mayor Minnich discussed the need to allow vehicle to turn right on red from East Penn Avenue to North Center Street. His reasons were: improved traffic flow and decreased the potential for accidents. It was agreed to determine whether the Borough had an ordinance prohibiting right turns on red at this intersection.

**Motion by Ms. Springer, seconded by Mr. Moyer, to pay the bills for March 2025. The motion was approved.**

Council adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectively Submitted

Jonathan Johnson