

December 2, 2024

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

Minutes from November 4, 2024, meeting were e-mailed to Council prior to the meeting. Motion by Mr. Wengert, seconded by Mr. Haley, to approve November 4, 2024, minutes. Motion Carried.

The Treasurer's report for November 2024 was read. A motion was made by Ms. Springer, seconded by Mr. Urban, to approve the Treasurer's report for November 2024. Motion carried.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT – Dustin Sider

Mr. Sider said the November report would be available by the end of the week. He also said that the Fire Company will soon be voting for new officers, which may result in some leadership changes. Mr. Sider said that an Annville-Cleona School teacher is teaching a class on life skills. As part of the curriculum, students come to the fire station once a month to do different projects. Mr. Sider said that the experience has been beneficial for the students and the fire company. Mr. Sider concluded by saying that Santa Claus will be riding through the Borough on fire truck on December 23rd starting at 6:00 pm.

POLICE DEPARTMENT - Mayor Minnich and Chief Farneski

The police report was submitted and attached to these minutes. Chief Farneski said that they are in the process of hiring a new part-time officer.

Mayor Minnich discussed the issue of trailers and construction vehicles parked on Borough streets. He was concerned that these vehicles block the line of sight for drivers pulling out on the roadway. He specifically cited Liberty Alley and Cyrus Street intersection. The mayor stressed that it was safety issues for both drivers and pedestrians. Council members discussed various options on how to address this issue. It was agreed that the Borough engineer should do a study to identify streets with limited line of sight. With this information, the Borough could paint additional no parking areas or enact ordinances to limit on street parking of trailers and construction vehicles.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

No Comments

PRESIDENT'S REPORT/COMMENTS – Jim O'Connor

No report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Rafael Jimenez Gomez

Absent

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PROPERTY DEPARTMENT – Doug Hartman

Mr. Hartman discussed the repairs to the building furnace. Over Thanksgiving, the furnace stopped working. Mr. Hartman said that the installer of the units on the roof did not do a very good job.

Mr. Johnson supplemented Mr. Hartman's report with an overview of the building project. He said that building bids were posted on November 18th and approximately 52 vendors downloaded the bid. He continued to say that there was a vendor meeting scheduled for December 5 and bids will be open on December 13th. Council members will meet on December 16 to award the bid.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - Sam Wengert

Mr. Wengert discussed the repaving estimates provided by the Borough Engineer. Excluding curb cuts that were double counted, he estimated the cost to repave the Borough's most distressed streets would be \$650,00. Mr. Wengert continued, it was his goal to do a paving project every two to four years, which would cost between \$200,000 to \$400,000 depending on the street. He concluded by saying the one factor driving the cost of street paving is the price of oil since oil is used to make asphalt. Mr. Wengert stressed that it was important to have a plan for street paving, otherwise the streets would continue to deteriorate. He proposed putting together a 10-year plan and prioritizing which streets would be paved. He continued by saying that this plan should be more than preventive maintenance. He suggested that every year the Borough put aside \$100,000 for paving. Mr. Wengert said that he was going to work with the Borough Manager to develop a financial plan for street paving.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT – Pat Haley

Mr. Haley said that next event at the playground will be a meet and greet with Santa on December 15th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

FIRE SAFETY/POLICE DEPARTMENT – Tricia Springer

No report

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Matt Urban

No report

BOROUGH MANAGER-BOROUGH AUTHORITY –Jonathan Johnson

- Sewer Authority are planning two major stormwater projects. The first is on Dairy Road and second on South Christian Street.
- Mr. Johnson said that Local Share Account grant applications were sent on November 21st.
- The last day for leaf collection will be December 13, 2024
- Comcast is increasing its cable rates. For the limited basic service, the rate is increasing 7 percent.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Colleen Gallo

Ms. Gallo's report submitted and attached to these minutes.

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NEW BUSINESS

2025 Meeting Dates: Mr. Urban made a motion to approve the following Borough Council meeting dates in 2025, Ms. Springer second. The motion was approved.

Cleona Borough Council Meetings in 2025

All meetings start at 7:00 pm

January 6, 2025	August 4, 2025
February 3, 2025	August 25, 2025 (Budget)
March 3, 2025	September 8, 2025
April 7, 2025	September 22, 2025 (Budget)
May 5, 2025	October 6, 2025
June 2, 2025	November 3, 2025
July 2, 2025	December 1, 2025

Repairs to the Intersection of East Chestnut and Dairy Road: Mr. Haley made a motion authorizing the Cleona Borough Sewer Authority to repair the intersection of East Chestnut and Dairy Road and to spend up to \$4,000 for the repairs. Ms. Springer second. Motion carried

Traffic Light Inspection: Mr. Haley made a motion to approve the \$750.00 quote from C.M. High for inspection and repair of the Borough's two traffic lights. Mr. Haley second. The Motion was approved.

2024 Borough Audit: Mr. Urban made a motion to approve the \$9,400 quote from Stanilla, Siegel and Master LLC for the 2024 Borough Audit. Mr. Springer second. The motion was approved.

Second Reading of the 2025 Budget: Mr. Johnson reviewed the 2025 budget. Mr. Urban made a motion to approve the second reading of the 2025 budget, Mr. Wengert second. The motion was approved.

Council Member Resignation: The resignation of Doug Hartman was tabled until January 2025 Council meeting.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance Review: Zoning and Map Ordinance: Ms. Gallo reported that she received the information needed to revise the ordinance and will provide Council with information in the new year.

Municipal Trash: No Report.

Recreational Vehicle/Trailers/Boats on Private Property: See discuss under Mayor's Report.

MDJ Office Lease: Mr. Urban made a motion to provide a one-year office lease to Lebanon County's Magisterial District Judge at the rate of \$1,100.00 per month. In 2025 Cleona Borough will renegotiate the lease. Mr. Wengert second. The motion was approved.

Crosswalk Penn Avenue and Grant Street: Mr. Johnson discussed the outcome of the November 14th meeting with Brad Bowman and staff at G.F. Bowman. Mr. Bowman said the company was willing to negotiate the cost of installing flashing pedestrian warning lights. In addition, Mr. Johnson said that he would like to install a standard pedestrian crossing sign at the intersection. Ms. Springer made a motion to purchase and install the signs at a cost of no more than \$500.00 each. Mr. Haley second the motion.

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The motion was approved. Council members also discussed repainting the pedestrian crossing lines. Mr. Johnson was instructed to get quotes on the cost of the paint for the crossing lines.

Pay the November 2024 bills: Motion by Mr. Haley and second by Mr. Urban, to pay the bills for November 2024 and was approved.

Council adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectively Submitted

Jonathan Johnson