

**COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
430 WESTFIELD AVE., CLARK, NJ**

June 13, 2022

8:40 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members: Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal, Minniti

Absent: Albanese

Also Present: Salvatore Bonaccorso, Mayor; James F. Ulrich, Business Administrator; Mark Dugan, Township Attorney; Edith L. Merkel, Township Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: MOMENT OF SILE

Dispensed – Pledge of Allegiance recited at Special meeting prior to this meeting

This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L.1975) as adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mailing the Annual Schedule of meetings to the Star Ledger, Union County HAWK, Union County Local Source, and TAP into Clark, by posting such Annual Meeting Schedule on the bulletin board in Town Hall reserved for such announcements, as well as the Official Website of the Township, and the proper filing of said Notice.

The regular order of business will be suspended on June 20th for:

Police Department Awards

Police Department Promotions

PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

1. Discussion: Feeding of Wildlife

Mr. Ulrich: stated that the council approached him with concerns from citizens regarding the feeding of stray animals. The current township ordinance focuses on the feeding of deer. After review of the surrounding towns' ordinances there will be some changes to our township ordinance. It is currently under attorney review.

Councilman O'Connor: pointed out that the feeding of birds is excluded from the ordinance

Councilman Hund: inquired about waterfowl

Mr. Ulrich: stated that waterfowl will be included in the ordinance

Councilman Toal: questioned the enforcement

Mr. Ulrich: stated that the Clark Police and Clark Health Department will investigate complaints, and if founded, they will take action

Councilman O'Connor: added that the first offense is a warning and that repeat offenders will be fined

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: Toal

Second: Smith

2. **Discussion:** Rental Unit Lead Safe Certification

Mr. Ulrich: explained that the new state law reads that any rental unit, including single family rental houses, are required to be certified as leadfree

Councilman O'Connor: questioned if we have the manpower (for such inspections)

Mr. Ulrich: responded yes, because we have a small number (of rentals) and the larger apartment buildings are already certified

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Proposed Ordinance

Mover: Mazzarella Second: Smith

RESOLUTIONS:

3. Certifying to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that the members of the Governing Body have reviewed as a minimum, sections of the 2021 Annual Audit entitled General Comments and Recommendations

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Hund

4. Board of Adjustment Appointments - Christopher Tierney, Regular Member until 12/31/24 filling the unexpired term of Steven Kaminsky; Marc Hayden, Alternate I Member until 12/31/22 filling the unexpired term of Christopher Tierney; Dante Tignini, Alternate II Member until 12/31/23 filling the unexpired term of Marc Hayden

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Toal Second: Smith

5. Award of Contract for Brush and Log Grinding – Bids will be opened June 14th

Township Clerk: stated that if we receive an appropriate bid proposal there will be an award resolution at the June 20th meeting

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Mazzarella Second: Hund

- 6. Award of Contract to The Standard Insurance Company for Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance, Short-term Disability and Long-term Disability in the amount of \$42,456.32 annually beginning July 1, 2022 representing a savings of \$29,195.33 over the current provider

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: O'Connor Second: Smith

- 7. Canceling the remaining balance in the 2020 NJDOT Grant in the amount of \$846.05

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mr. Ulrich: explained that the grant was a matching grant and because the job came in less expensive, we have to cancel the remaining money

Mover: Mazarella Second: Hund

- 8. **Council as the ABC Board:** Authorizing the annual renewal of Alcoholic Beverage Licenses for the 2022-2023 term

Councilman Mazarella: asked if we have the same number of applicants as the previous year

Mr. Ulrich: stated that we have the same number of liquor licenses

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Resolution

Mover: Smith Second: Mazarella

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:

- 9. Authorizing the Tax Collector to make the proper adjustments for 100% Property Tax Exemption of Block 131 Lot 20 in accordance with a directive from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

- 10. Authorizing the Tax Collector to apply sewer account balance adjustments as credit in the amount of \$3,806.88

Council President Minniti asked for a mover and second on this Consent Agenda

Mover: Toal Second: Smith

Township Clerk: explained that she received 3 additional resolutions that will be added to the agenda to the June 20, 2022, Public Meeting

Submit Grant Applications for the 2023 NJDOT

- Valley Road Improvement Project, Section 1
- Valley Road Improvement Project, Section 2
- Authorizing submission of a strategic plan for the Clark Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of \$1,883.00

Township Clerk: explained that bids will be accepted on June 15, 2022, for the advertised Township Land Auction. Once received, the bids will be provided to Council for review and approval. Award will be at the July Public Council Meeting.

Councilman O'Connor: asked if there were minimums

Township Clerk: responded that there is a \$2,000.00 minimum

Councilman Mazzarella: asked if these (resolutions) are additions to the Consent Agenda.

Township Clerk: replied that the 3 resolutions will be on the regular agenda, not the Consent Agenda

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each person addressing the Council shall first give their name and address to the Clerk. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and shall not exceed 10 minutes in duration.

Delia Collins, 72 Georgia Street: had questions regarding the Wildlife Ordinance

Mr. Ulrich:

- explained that the proposed ordinance is drafted and is in attorney review
- said that the council will be reviewing it to decide if they want the ordinance to go forward
- added that the ordinance will be posted before the next meeting
- stated the ordinance will have two readings before adoption

Seeing no one coming forward Council President Minniti asked for a motion to close the public portion of the meeting. A motion to close was made by Councilman Toal, second by Councilman Hund

Council President directed roll call: All Ayes

Aye: Hund, Mazzarella, O'Connor, Smith, Toal, Minniti

MAYOR, COUNCIL AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Bonaccorso:

- spoke of driving with care next week because of middle school and high school graduations
- mentioned the July 4th fireworks

- stated that Townhall and Department of Public Works will be closed on Friday, June 17th, for Juneteenth.
- answered Mr. Cortazzo’s questions which were asked at the prior meeting (Special meeting) regarding a police matter
- addressed comments that were made at the prior meeting (Special meeting) about how municipal government works

Councilman Hund: spoke of the “HERO Walk” being held Saturday, June 18th, at ALJ, in memory of Michael Sot

Councilman Mazarella: no comment

Councilman O’Connor: no comment

Councilman Smith: no comment

Councilman Toal: wished Mr. Hayden a speedy recovery

Mr. Ulrich: reminded everyone that NJ American Water is flushing lines (June) 13th – 24th

Township Clerk: no comment

Mr. Dugan: no comment

Council President Minniti: Thanked everyone for coming

Council President asked for a motion to adjourn
A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Toal, seconded by Councilman O’Connor

ROLL CALL: All Ayes
Aye: Hund, Mazarella, O’Connor, Smith, Toal, Minniti

ADJOURNMENT