

Town of Clarks Hill

December 04, 2023

Town Board Meeting

Council Present: Kevin Martin, Clark Whitley, Carla Stearns President

Other Officers: Diana Luper, CT. Andy Doke, WSS, Scott Fisher, CHPD, Bruce Luper, CB

Others: Kodi Quinlisk (Fire Department), Deanna Paris, Gene Paris, Bev Holiday, David Houchens, Carolyn Houchens, Bob Davis, Michelle Davis, Becky Wooten, Rob B and Maureen Hayden from Commonwealth, Shawn Klienpeter

Carla called the meeting to order.

Carla stated that we are going to do things a little differently tonight. Kodi needs to go first.

Kodi needs to give us some information on what's going on between the Fire Department and Township Trustee. He needs to go first because of another meeting so I am handing over the floor to him.

Kodi: We're currently in negotiations with the Township on the fire contract, typically negotiations don't go this far in the year. Essentially, they are looking to try and cut our budgets. They are looking to try to take over some of our finances and that sort of stuff. They are wanting to start splitting hairs. The money that we receive, is from contracts from the town, Township, and a contract with Washington Township in Clinton County. In the past all that money came to us. We decide and we vote on how we need to spend it. I don't know what their big picture plan is if we don't sign with the Township. We will have to figure out a way to get the insurance required for the department. Liability and all that.

We are happy to continue the contract we have with the Town.

The Township has cancelled a few meetings. They have another one on 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the Trustee's office in Stockwell. We are hoping to have more information about that.

Carla, so we will start the regular meeting. This will be the second reading for ordinance to raise the rates for Water. Starting in Jan 2024 the rates will rise. It will be shown on your February 2024 bill. The current rate is \$13.05 per first 1,000 gallons. This will go to \$18.79 per 1,000 gallons. The second 1,000 gallons will go to \$6.92 per 1,000. Remember this is just for the Water. The Sewer won't change. Anyone have any questions on this?

Deanna wants to know when was the last rate increase?

Carla told her it was 2019. They talked about it in 2021 but it was not done.

With all the increase in everything. We really need to do this.

The board has approved 3 to 0 for this to go into effect in 2024.

Carla, we can close that meeting and start the regular meeting.

Carla moved to accept and moved to suspend the reading of the minutes. Clark 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

Rob from Commonwealth: You all are next.

There are two packets, right, there's one pack and each packet have a copy of the task order and the General Services. Procedurally you'll want to approve the GSA first, once that is done you would approve the task order. I have two copies, one for you guys and one for us.

If you are in agreement with this, you sign, and we will go from there. Clark wanted to know, does this include any extras? Rob started yes there is a continent included with this. So, this is all in. It is also written into the loan. No money up front from the Town.

Carla asked if something had come up. Can Andy or Josh approve it? Clark told her no. It needs an ok from the board.

Rob: also stated that this would include training and such for Josh and Andy with the new system.

Do we have a timeline for when this would start?

Andy and Rob both stated that Peerless has been here to collect water samples to start with.

Commonwealth will be giving the board updates and monthly status reports.

Carla stated that I agree with both the General Service Agreement and the first Task order. All in favor say Aye. 3 It was agreed on. Opposed nay it was 0.

Officer reports? Diana, I have a doctor's appointment on Monday Dec 11.

Andy: I am still looking for the parts to fix the clarity at the Sewer Plant. The place where they got it before is out of business. Another company is looking for back records.

Andy also stated that he and John Barton got the Backhoe for the bobcat working. It only cost \$230.08.. So, we have it if we need it.'

Bruce: I just want to Big Thank you to Michelle for getting the Christmas decorations up.

They look Great. Thanks, from the Board also.

Scott: All Star has gotten the cameras up around the Fire Station. They work Great.

The new cameras are so good. We now have 360-degree coverage. Also, the shop with a cop will be this Sunday Dec 10,2023 We will be taking kids out to shop and feed them a meal.

Bob: wanted to know if the guy ever got back to Clark about sealing the roads. Clark stated no he hasn't. Bob said he knows someone. Clark told him to get the quote to Diana and we will vote on it.

Clark: I looked into getting information for the Park Equipment. Prices have skyrocketed. Maureen stated that there is a grant called Crowdfunding. It could help with the park. We are going to wait till we know how much money we are getting from Ruby Parks Trust. So hopefully in the spring we can get it going.

Carla stated that Santa and the sleigh need repaired. She has the lights but doesn't have time to fix them. Hopefully, we can get it fixed before next year.

Andy would like to know when someone from the fire department are in town so he can start on the Burn pile.

The Board has approved the usage of the Trecks program. This will help us recover funds where the renters who have moved out.

Shawn K. stated that it was a good program. It looks really good for the grant process. It helps you collect that lost revenue stream. In January Diana will have a resolution or ordinance to have the bills put in the Owners name first. And the renter's 2<sup>nd</sup>. Also, about raising the deposit amount.

Carolynn stated that she still hasn't gotten all the paperwork she requested. Carla will look into it. Please send to her. What you are wanting.

Carla asked if there was anything else. No?

I move that we close the meeting, Clark 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

Meeting adjourned.

X

Carla J. Stearns  
President

X

Kevin J. Martin  
Town Council

X

Clark D. Whitley  
Town Council

X

Diana L Luper  
Clerk Treasurer