

September 19, 2008, Special Council Meeting  
Clarion Borough Offices

A Special Meeting of the Clarion Borough Council was held on September 19, 2008, in the Clarion Borough Offices. President Wilshire called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. All Councilmembers were present. In addition, Mayor Stroup, Chief Hall, Mr. Stutzman, and Ms. Freenock and Ms. LaVan were also present.

ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Vavrek made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Leonard, to award the contract for the HVAC work at the Clarion Free Library to JB Mechanical Inc., at a price of \$48,600. One-half of the total project cost will be paid through a Keystone Grant with the Library funding the remainder through its building fund account. The motion was carried unanimously.

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

Ms. Moore stated that three bids were received for the Main Street project. Copies of the bid proposals were distributed to all Council Members prior to this meeting. Ms. Moore made a motion that was seconded by Ms. Vavrek to award the contract to M&B Services in the amount of \$162,624.

President Wilshire stated that M& B was not the lowest bidder and asked why the proposal was not to the lowest bidder. Ms. Freenock responded that the grant requires that the contract be awarded to the "lowest responsible bidder". She stated that she requested references and was told by Delta that they were going to subcontract the stamping portion of the project, which is fine. However, when she looked at the references supplied by the subcontractor, it appeared as though they do residential work and not commercial work. They've never been involved in a stamped project of this size. Due to the time constraints involved, and the controversy that has been going on, it was Ms. Freenock's recommendation that the Borough engage a firm that has experience in this type of work. M&B Services is finishing a similar job in Bradford. They did the stamping work on that project. This is a four phase project and the general contractor in Bradford stated that he would use M&B again if given the opportunity. That is the basis for my recommendation.

President Wilshire asked if the Solicitor has reviewed this; Ms. Freenock stated yes. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

President Wilshire called for an Executive Session at 8:10 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:15 a.m. with no action being taken.

Ms. Vavrek made a motion to hire John Knight, subject to the customary and usual pre-employment certifications, as a Public Works employee at the rate of \$9.25 per hour. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zerfoss who indicated Mr. Knight would be 'Clarion Borough friendly'. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Vavrek made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Zerfoss to award the engineering contract for North Riverview Avenue to Gwin, Dobson, and Foreman. Three bids were received and were scored according to the scoring criteria contained in the RFP. Gwin, Dobson, and Foreman scored the highest at 240 points. The motion was unanimously carried.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Herman reported that the Committee met to discuss the change in polling location from the fire hall to the library. A letter was sent to Mr. Ronn Kuzmovich with several suggestions with respect to parking issues. Council will decide at its next meeting how to handle the November Council Meeting, i.e. whether to change the location or the date of that meeting.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Stroup reported that everyone was happy with the Federal Highway Administration's decision to reject the application to toll I-80. Ms. Leonard reported that this topic was discussed in an article in a local Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, newspaper.

President Wilshire stated that he and Ms. Freenock attended a meeting of the Northwest Planning Commission's Transportation Committee yesterday. They presented the Safe Routes to School Grant which was filed by the Borough in August.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Freenock noted at the October meeting, Council will be asked to approve the scope of work for Gannett Fleming for the 2006 CDBG Project. Council will also be asked to grant approval for the bidding process for a new CDBG consultant to be engaged. The current contract with GCCA expires on December 31, 2008.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on a motion made by Ms. Vavrek and seconded by Ms. Leonard, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy K. Freenock  
Secretary