

June 2, 2010, Council Meeting
Minutes

A regular meeting of Clarion Borough Council was held on Wednesday, June 2, 2010, in the Clarion Free Library. President Vavrek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All Councilmembers were present. Also present were: Mayor Estadt, Chief Hall, Messrs. Ragon and Colosimo, and Mss. LaVan and Freenock.

On a motion by Mr. Hopkins with a second by Ms. Leonard, the minutes of the May 5, 2010, Council Meeting were approved by a vote of six yea, with Mr. Walters abstaining as he was absent from that meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Linda Skelley thanked Council for removing the proposed Ordinance concerning Weaver Place from the agenda. She also wished to confirm that the idea now is to make Madison Road one way traveling east, from Seventh to Eighth Avenues. Ms. Skelley asked why that was needed and if a traffic study was done.

President Vavrek stated that Fr. Monty raised the issue, but he is willing to withdraw it. Mr. Walters stated that making the road one way is to help with traffic flow after mass and to protect the students.

Ms. Skelley stated that there will still be drivers travelling west on Madison Road simply because they are unaware of the change; she also fears that teachers will have a false sense of security and may not watch students closely. Speed is also an issue regardless of the direction of travel.

Mr. Walters stated that Fr. Monty is also concerned with Vacation Bible School, recess, and the overall safety of the children.

Mr. Hurbert Toney, Jr. of 814 Liberty Street stated that he uses Madison Road a lot. I.C. barricades Madison to keep the students safe. He feels that making Madison one-way is not necessary. If the desire is to slow traffic, he suggested the installation of speed bumps.

Mr. Fred Cherico: Basically, you know, I've been not opposed just on the other side of Council, you know, with your decision, you know, with the South Street Project. I just had a couple questions and I'm just not sure how Council works and that's why I just want to kind of understand, you know, how this works for the next time if we ever get into a situation like this. As far as who does Council, who are they supposed to listen to? Now, I know Nancy at the last meeting that we went to, that CDBG 2010 meeting, the residents, there are 6,000 residents approximately. Or, I don't know, you gave us some kind of a number

Ms. Freenock: 6,185 as of the 2000 Census.

Mr. Cherico: And that's within the Borough?

Ms. Freenock: That's right.

Mr. Cherico: Okay. So, now, Council listens to those people, the 6,000 people, right?

President Vavrek: We never hear from 6,000 people.

Mr. Cherico: I know but that's who Council is representing, right?

President Vavrek: Right.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, now, if you live in Marianne and you work in Clarion and Council sees those people down at Wal*Mart or Bilo or wherever you see them. Do they listen to those people? Are they part of the population of that you're supposed to listen to?

President Vavrek: No, because that's not in the Borough.

Mr. Cherico: Not in the Borough.

President Vavrek: Right.

Mr. Cherico: That's what I just wanted that; now, if they live in the township, Lucinda, Sligo, North Carolina, none of those guys either, right? Okay. So, now what if they, you know, live the township, Lucinda, Sligo, North Carolina, but they own property in town? Do they listen to those people?

President Vavrek: Well I think we take their, what they say under consideration but they don't actually live in the Borough. They do not vote for these Councilmembers that are on

Mr. Cherico: Yea.

President Vavrek: right here.

Mr. Cherico: So, the Councilmembers, should they listen to those people or listen to

President Vavrek: I think that's up to the Councilmembers, if they want to listen to

Mr. Cherico: But that's what I'm just wondering. I mean do they, the people that vote for them, is those the people they need to listen to?

President Vavrek: I would, yea

Mr. Cherico: Would you say that would be a yes?

President Vavrek: Yes.

Mr. Cherico: Okay. Now as far as, these are statistics that I think I kind of heard from February on, and you can correct me if this is wrong, 71% of the taxable area in the Borough are non-taxable. Okay, now approximately 60% are CUP, CUP Foundation, is that correct?

Ms. Freenock: 60 of the 71, right.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, so that leaves 11% schools, government, churches, and non-profits. Right?

Ms. Freenock: Right.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, now 29% are the taxable properties, right?

Ms. Freenock: Right.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, now out of those 29% there's residents, landlords, and I learned a new thing absentee landlords, right, and business owners. So, that 29%, that's who each one of you guys should be listening to. Is that right?

President Vavrek: Well

Mr. Cherico: No really, if it's the 29%, these 29%, are these the people that you should be listening to?

Mr. Hopkins: No.

President Vavrek: I don't think so,

Mr. Hopkins: No.

President Vavrek: because that only represents

Mr. Hopkins: No, because you mentioned businesses, business owners. And the business owners in the Borough aren't voters in the Borough. A lot of the business owners live out of the Borough. The people who we listen to are the voters.

Mr. Cherico: Are just the

Mr. Hopkins: And it's not the 29% of the tax base. That's what you're talking about, the tax base. We're talking about the people that vote in the Borough.

Mr. Cherico: Okay.

Mr. Hopkins: So, you don't know what percentage of the tax payers, because businesses aren't, you know, we will listen to the business owners, but the business owners aren't necessarily voting.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, okay, but wait. Let's think about that for a second Ed. 29% are the taxable properties.

Mr. Hopkins: Tax base, yes.

Mr. Cherico: They're made up of the residents.

Mr. Hopkins: And the business owners.

Mr. Cherico: And landlords and business owners.

Mr. Hopkins: And landlords and business owners are not necessarily voters in Clarion Borough.

Mr. Cherico: Okay. So, now that reduces that number from 29% to even a smaller number of people that you guys as a body should be listening to. Do you agree to that?

Mr. Hopkins: Well actually, you get

Ms. Freenock: No, Fred, you can have one rental that has 5 students and all 5 students can be registered here, but the landlord isn't here. So, no.

Mr. Hopkins: If you want to narrow it down, there's 3 precincts in the Borough with 400 something voters in Clarion Borough 2nd, 1100 in Clarion Borough 1st, so the actual voters in Clarion Borough's like 2000 out of the 6,000 people who live in the Borough. Only 2,000 vote and only about 1/2 of those vote every year. So, that's basically

Mr. Cherico: That is, that is who you guys should be listening to. So, that limits that 6,000 people, I just want to bring it on board for these new members that are on board here now. There are 6,000 people that are in here and when you really reduce it down, the people that you're really representing is, well we can all say it's less than 29%. Because what Nancy brought to me is you have landlords that live outside the Borough that own 15 properties in the town, like this gentleman that just came in from North Carolina, should you guys be listening to him or should you be listening to the people that live and sleep in the Borough? That's my question?

Mr. Noto: We should represent all of the people in the Borough.

Mr. Cherico: Okay,

President Vavrek: Whether they vote, well

Mr. Noto: Right, whether they voted or not, we should be represent-, we represent them. If we're elected to that position, whether they voted or not, we still represent the needs and the interests of those people there.

Mr. Cherico: Well at the meetings that we had back in March the 3rd and April the 7th, we had to sign this piece of paper out here. And that piece of paper was only, if you signed it, that means that you verified from Linda that you lived in the Borough and that you had the right to talk to Council. Is that correct?

President Vavrek: No, that was just a paper to sign who was attending this meeting that wished to discuss whatever was on the agenda.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, well see now you kind of, you kind of got me where I don't understand (unintelligible). Just like what Jason said right now, do you represent the 6,000 people. Well, you know, there's taxable properties that are made up of residents, the landlords, absentee landlords, and business owners. Now, like our Mayor, she lives on South Street and she owns a business.

Mayor Estadt: Um huh.

Mr. Cherico: So, she double repre-, she is double hold right here plus her husband, they're double hold. You know? Like myself and Kim, we own property in the Borough other than where we live. So, you guys are representing us. Now somebody that lives, like we had the gentleman Sid Miles that was here, he lives in the township and he has maybe 10 properties in town. Are you guys supposed to represent him? That's my question? You know, what, concerning the South Street Project?

President Vavrek: Well the reason he was here

Mr. Cherico: No, no, no. No, no. I'm not asking is, are you supposed to be representing him as a body? As a functioning body? Or, you know, when you live outside the Borough, he doesn't sleep here, but he owns a property here. Now, is that the way that the rules work? I just want to know what the rules are.

President Vavrek: Well we would still be representing people that own property here.

Mr. Cherico: Because basically what I'm getting to is do you have to see the piece of the pie. The piece of the pie is 29% and you take absentee landlords out, like our gentleman from North Carolina and that owns multiple properties in town here, and the thing is now that percentage is less than 29%, we're down around to 25%, 24%, multiply 20% into 6,000, you're talking 2200 people. You take the absentee landlords out of it, that's 1200 people. You're majority of the people that we've talked to, you know, for the South Street Project is greater than 800 people. So, that that's my point is, the ones we're talking to is the people that live in the Borough by the rules, you know, that are residents of the Borough, that own businesses in the Borough, and that own, they're landlords in the Borough. Those are the people that this, that affects the South Street Project. And

that's who I'm, just wanted to make sure that maybe if I'm wrong, tell me that I'm wrong.

Ms. Leonard: I think you are wrong.

Mr. Cherico: Okay.

Ms. Leonard: Only because, I think it's kind of apples and oranges Fred. You're talking people but then you're talking properties. The 29% is not the people. The 29% is the property.

Mr. Cherico: Yes, I agree.

Ms. Leonard: The people is the other 6,000.

Mr. Cherico: And there could be, there could be

Ms. Leonard: And on any good day, most of those people go up and down South Street. It's the common good that we're looking at for the whole picture. Not just the small picture, but the whole picture.

Mr. Cherico: But it's the money that pays the deal. You know? So, where do you get your money from? Do you get it from all 6,000?

Ms. Sanders Dédé: (Very hard to hear due to laryngitis). Mr. Cherico, (unintelligible). I own property and pay taxes in Texas, but I do not live there.

Mr. Cherico: Um hum.

Ms. Sanders Dédé: (Unintelligible) But I do not live there.

Mr. Cherico: Yea.

Ms. Sanders Dédé: I vote and live here.

Mr. Cherico: Yea, that's right.

Ms. Sanders Dédé: I cannot go down there and talk, I cannot go to Houston and talk to the Council about the voting. I don't live there.

Mr. Cherico: You don't live there.

Ms. Sanders Dédé: But I pay taxes there, but I don't live there and I don't vote there.

Mr. Cherico: So, the representation of you sitting in that seat, who do you represent?

Ms. Sanders Dédé: The people in Clarion, the people who vote, the people who vote in Clarion.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, and the people that pay taxes

Ms. Sanders Dédé: (Unintelligible). Not everybody that votes pay taxes, for example, renters.

Mr. Cherico: the people that pay taxes in Clarion Borough and also vote.

Ms. Sanders Dédé: (Unintelligible) in Houston (unintelligible) go down there to mess with their business.

Mr. Cherico: Yea.

Ms. Sanders Dédé: I don't. I can't.

Mr. Cherico: And I agree with you. That's exactly

Ms. Sanders Dédé: I can't, I can't.

Mr. Cherico: right. And that's like the gentleman from North Carolina who's right here, too. You know, he lives down there. But you know, the thing is he doesn't, he can't say anything here because he doesn't live here. And that's all I'm trying to say is in this whole process of what I learned is that Council themselves, I just wanted to bring these numbers up because I'm just trying to figure out who you actually represent. You know, even though that we're a tight community here, you might see people at Wal*Mart, you might see people at a baseball game, or whatever, but they might live in Sligo but own properties here. You know, do they really have a say in this project. Or is it the people in this room and this 29% that pay the taxes?

President Vavrek: But the tax money in the CDBG grant is not local tax money. It is federal tax money.

Mr. Cherico: I understand that.

President Vavrek: Correct.

Mr. Cherico: And it's based on the LMI. I understand that.

President Vavrek: Right.

Mr. Cherico: But I'm talking about this governing body that we have right here. I'm not sure

President Vavrek: Well I think, I think regardless Fred of whether the landlord is here or someplace else or whatever you're stating, we are responsible in, sometimes in some way, shape or form for those properties because we're (unintelligible). There are absentee landlords that rent to students. And students can sometimes create problems. So, technically, we are responsible, the Borough is responsible, if there is an incident in one of these apartments, we don't, generally we don't call him in North Carolina to resolve that. Generally the police department here has to deal with that.

Mr. Cherico: Um hum.

President Vavrek: So, I mean we are responsible, maybe not technically on paper, but

Ms. Leonard: And the majority of those students are registered to vote in the Borough.

Mr. Cherico: Um hum.

Ms. Leonard: Vote here.

Mr. Cherico: Yea, that's right.

Ms. Leonard: That's why I'm saying it's, it's not the 29%. It's the 6, over 6,000.

Mr. Cherico: Um hum.

Ms. Leonard: It's the whole common good. It's not just the 29% that's right there. Because that, you got a landlord, as you said before, that may have 5-6 tenants, may have 4-5 buildings. I'm working with the census, and I'm finding this out now. It's a big deal. And if these students, that maybe 1 landlord somewhere else, but there may be 4-5 students, 6 or 8 in the property.

Mr. Cherico: Um hum.

Ms. Leonard: And they can register to vote in the Borough that they live in.

Mr. Cherico: Um hum.

Ms. Leonard: They have that right. So, it's not just 29%, it's the over 6,000.

Mr. Cherico: Yea. I think

Ms. Leonard: That vote.

Mr. Cherico: it's a combination of both.

Ms. Leonard: That vote.

Mr. Cherico: But the thing is you have to look at the people that

Ms. Leonard: So, we look at the common good.

Mr. Cherico: Okay. Who pays for the services in this, that the Borough supplies to the Borough themselves? Who pays for those services? Where's that money come from? Other than grants, where does that money come from?

Ms. Leonard: Taxes

Mr. Cherico: Tax revenue

Ms. Leonard: and revenue.

Mr. Cherico: Where does that,

Ms. Leonard: And revenue.

Mr. Cherico: I know, but let's talk about tax revenue. Where does that tax revenue come from? The 29%.

Ms. Leonard: It comes from the residents. It comes from

Mr. Cherico: It comes from a combination of her business uptown, to her living, paying taxes on her property, it's that. I just want to get to common ground, because it's, this whole process has been a process for me. And I'm just, and it's all new to me, but I'm just saying that I don't think that you've looked at it in the total scope of who, who this South Street Project, who's it really affecting. It's affecting everybody. But who needs

Ms. Leonard: But Fred it's for the common good.

Mr. Cherico: It's for the common good, and we agree 100%. That's where I lead on to these next things right here. Our plan is the same as your plan. There's no real difference except for maybe two items between our plans. You know, as far as the different, Sue, new curbing, we want new curbing. We actually want more curbing than what you're going to provide in your plan. You know as far as all the ADA sidewalks, you know, Mr. Miles said we're not for. We're for all that, ADA sidewalks. The crosswalk signals that you're going to add. We didn't know about that until we actually got the plans from Nancy here last week. We're for that 100%. As far as the storm water catch basins, you know, to get them equal so they can get the water, well I know where the water's, all that water gushes down Seventh Avenue and it ends up on South Street. Dude drives over it every time in the winter time, it's ice. Yea, we're for that, you know. Pedestrian safety. Andrea, she talks about pedestrian safety. We're for that. I got two little guys here that are going to be up and running around all over the place, and I'm real concerned about that. Free access to school buses to and from school. I mean Fifth Avenue to Sixth Avenue is a critical artery in this whole scope of this whole project, and

I think more talking needs to be talked about of the buses coming in and out of that area because that's where all the buses come. From Fifth Avenue down to Sixth Avenue in the morning and then in the evening, you know. And I think, you know, that there should be more constraints on that. But we agree with you guys. Do we want this to be completed by the end of the summer? Yea, we're 100%, too. We don't want going through the wagon trails that the water company left. That's just part of where we're at.

Ms. Leonard: But they only left that because we told them that we would follow through.

Mr. Cherico: And that's great. But the bottom line is, hey we're all putting up with it, right?

Ms. Leonard: Absolutely. Or you avoid it and actually go Main Street.

Mr. Cherico: Well, but, you know, I drive it every day. I mean I don't avoid it. I don't think Dude avoids it, I've seen him driving down the alleys. Now both plans have no parking on Fifth Avenue to Center Place. Center Place is that first alley Fifth Avenue, from Fifth to Sixth. We agree with that. No parking. We want to take it one step farther (unintelligible). We want to take that parking from the alley Sixth Avenue, take the parking off all together right there. I mean that's just a viable good plan, because who, what does that give us? Pedestrian safety. Those kids that live over, there's kids that have to walk to school and kids that take buses to school. If you live on Fifth Avenue on the other side, you get to take a bus to school. If you live on this side of Fifth Avenue and you have to walk, then that creates a safety issue. So, those people have to walk and then they cross down there by Sal Mazzocchi's and then they can jump on a bus there and go down. So, those are just

Ms. Leonard: The School District could help with that.

Mr. Cherico: Well

Ms. Leonard: They could. (Unintelligible)

Mr. Cherico: yea, but the kids are there now,

Ms. Leonard: But anyway.

Mr. Cherico: the kids are there now.

Ms. Leonard: Some of those residents, as I believe, don't really have off-street parking. So,

Mr. Hopkins: Well no, well no.

Ms. Leonard: some of those houses. I'm not sure

Mr. Hopkins: One house.

Ms. Leonard: One house? Okay, one house.

Mr. Cherico: That's what we're saying. No, what was brought up, what we brought up, what we brought up for that one house, that one parking, Sal Mazzocchi's a business man. He has 15 spots down there in his parking lot. Sal could go over to whatever that person was that doesn't have the parking, and he would do that and say 'I'll charge x-amount per month to give you guys parking places' so they could park there. He's all for that. We talked to a lot of people that have off-street parking there.

Ms. Leonard: But that's taking away their right to actually park right there.

Mr. Cherico: Well

Ms. Leonard: Since they don't have it there, they're being penalized.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, but the thing is sometimes you have to have work-arounds. That's a work-around. But look at the numbers. So, now here's what we're saying. There's 6 parking places, I'm not sure Ed, you'll have to correct me, between Center Place and Sixth Avenue, from Mrs. Denio's over to Sal Mazzocchi's, I think there's 6 parking places. You know, and what we're saying is out of the 51, is that correct Nancy 51 parking places that you have? (Unintelligible).

Mr. Kopko: 36.

Mr. Cherico: How many total from Eighth Avenue the whole way down to Fifth?

Mr. Kopko: 36.

Mr. Cherico: 36. You take the 6 off, you take the 6 off, we're proposing to stay with the 30 parking places. Just take the 6 off that you have from Center Place to Sixth Avenue. And that would free up the (unintelligible), free and clear all the time (unintelligible). Now as far as what we're proposing is Greenville, just one-way from Greenville Avenue down to Sixth Avenue. That gives you all your parking on the side, you don't have to widen the road out. And pedestrian safety, has any one of you guys walked up from Greenville or from Eighth Avenue over to the college on Greenville? You have to look this way, that way, that way, and hope when you go that nobody pulls out real quick especially when college is (unintelligible). It's very dangerous.

President Vavrek: You have to do that on Main Street, too.

Mr. Cherico: No, no, no. Let's talk about Greenville. Let's keep our focus right here on Greenville. Greenville is a serious problem that we have in this little area. We can fix it with our proposal. Your proposal doesn't fix it. We still have, when you travel east and you come up to that intersection, you still have to make the quick decision, sharp right,

Greenville Pike, or Eighth Avenue. And our proposal, there's no more, it's a no brainer. You come in from Greenville Pike, you come in from Eighth either way, you can come one way right down the street. It eliminates the headache of the traffic for the pedestrian. It still gives you CUP parking for the off-street, for the people that come in, you know, the students that come in

Ms. Leonard: You're proposing that it be one way which direction?

Mr. Cherico: From Eighth to Sixth going west. Going down to the mall.

Ms. Leonard: You'd still have traffic coming off of Greenville and off of Eighth onto South.

Mr. Cherico: South Street.

Ms. Leonard: So, the students crossing there, it would still become a traffic (unintelligible).

Mr. Cherico: It's only one way traffic. You don't have that other traffic coming up, you know, from South Street and then you have to look behind you as you're walking across to see who's coming up South Street. Now you have to jerk this way, that way, or that way. I mean I've lived down there. I know what it's like. You know, I went to the (unintelligible) school, you know, so I know when you come across that street, if somebody came out South Street, you know, they're in a hurry to get on Greenville Avenue to get going, they're not going to slow up for you, they're going to keep on moving, you know. So, that's what ours. Now the other thing it's done is if you live on South Street, when the college has all those things going on at Tippin Gym, all the intermurals, all the kids playing basketball, volleyball and all that kind of stuff. It gives them an easier out when they leave. You know, when the buses come up Greenville Pike, they just make a left go down South Street. We have parking on the right-hand side, the road's 30 feet wide, less the parking 6'. It gives you (unintelligible) bus down there, and you go the whole way down to Fifth Avenue to the light, make a left and head out of town. You know, so that's a good exit for all those buses to go. And they can feed the kids down at Exit 9. That was their main complaint is that these buses, you know, there's no food down there at Exit 10, the old Exit 10. All the food's down at Exit 9, so we want a bus down there to go down that road. They don't want to go down Greenville Pike, go down I-80, get back off I-80, and feed the kids. They'd much rather go down Fifth Avenue, go down to Fifth Avenue and then go down there. So, that handles that problem right there. So, this, this has been our third plan that we've had. But when we've come down to it, I mean this is what it comes down to. Now, one thing that we had was we had to kind of research this PennDOT thing because at the last meeting when Coach, when Bill was talking, Nancy you brought up a point that we couldn't do anything because of PennDOT. You know, it kind of stuck in our heads and Bill asked, you know, 'okay, we can't do anything about PennDOT, why not?'. Well now we called PennDOT, and just talked to them, and they laid it straight out that PennDOT owns the light. The Borough owns South Street. Now here's what I didn't know is 1) when you

originally with your engineers, Mr. Kopko here, why he had one-way east, one-way west and then you came up with your final plan. Well the reason is if you go one-way east, one-way west, no matter what you do with the one ways when you come up to that traffic light up Fifth Avenue, it changes the programming of that light. And if you change the programming of that light, you have to go in and get a permit. And then you have to get a traffic analysis. That's what I told Joanne about, about the traffic analysis. And everybody knows that costs money for that. So, if you don't touch that light, leave it the way it is, take the traffic, you know, the way it's coming in and out, then there's no problem. That eliminates those two plans from the get go. I don't know if you ever knew that, because you proposed one-way this way, one-way that way. Well that would never happen unless you had an extra \$50,000 to start out with or \$100,000 to change that traffic light, computer, because that's basically what it was.

Mr. Zerfoss: I was going one way from Greenville all the way.

Mr. Cherico: Even if you did that, and you wanted to do that, and Council voted 'yes, we want to do that', guess what; you own South Street, but, guess what, you still have to apply for the permit at PennDOT, you still have to hire an engineer in to do the traffic analysis, now it's going to cost you \$50-100,000. So, I didn't know that. It wasn't until we made a phone call. I don't know if you knew that or any of the Councilmembers did. But that's why you don't want to mess with the traffic light. And that's been our proposal from the get go is just don't mess with it. You know? So, now we understand that. So, my question is, what is the means, why do we need two-way traffic? You know, we're always saying, in Harrisburg when you wrote the application that you needed two-way traffic on South Street. Tell me why, why do we need it? What are we losing out on this if we go one way, what are we losing out by having two-way traffic on South Street. Joanne?

President Vavrek: I was told, or I was lead to believe, that that would increase the impact of traffic on Wood Street as well as Main Street if we were to make that one way.

Mr. Cherico: And who told you that?

President Vavrek: Well I have talked with Ron Kopko about that, we have talked with PennDOT about that, the fact that if we would make that one way that it would impact the remainder of the traffic on Wood Street as well as on Main Street, because everyone would be pushing up to those two routes.

Mr. Cherico: And so that is, is that the want or is that the need? Is it the need to have two ways or is it the want? Which way is it?

President Vavrek: Thought it was the need because of traffic, because of congestion. Not the want, the need to leave it two ways.

Mr. Cherico: You know, and that's where, that gets back to our conversation that we had after I talked to the engineer from Oil City, you know, that went through this whole

traffic analysis. You know, and PennDOT set me straight that Mr. Kopko is a qualified engineer to do the analysis. Because when you put those metal boxes outside with the wire across that determines the peak time of day. And Mr. Noto knows what the peak time of day is for his buses to run down there, because I see him every morning when we go to work. You know, we just go in opposite directions. So, that determines what he came up with on that. But the question that I had is what is, is it a want or is it a need. Because does that need supercede the total dollar amount that you're going to be spending extra to widen the road as opposed to going with our suggestion where if you just go one way, you're not widening the road, you're not causing all that extra money, you don't have to use your 2010 money for this project. We can still get the project done in due time by the end of the summer and save all that money. And we can use that money for recreation that we want out there at Paul A. Weaver Park and places like that. I mean we have a lot of needs for parking out there. So, my question to you is have you really thought about it, in terms of these guys, or have you thought about it in terms of what you want. Is it your want, your need, who's need is it and who's want?

President Vavrek: I was on Council last year when this was discussed and it was presented. And I felt very strongly at the time and I still do that it is a need. Not a want, a need, because that road definitely needs to be improved. I have talked with other people, well we went

Mr. Cherico: Are they part of the 29%, the people that you've talked to

President Vavrek: Well know I'm saying I've asked other boroughs about situations such as this.

Mr. Cherico: Altoona is a good example. They have more one-way streets converted from two-way streets to one-way streets. Have you talked to Altoona?

President Vavrek: No, I have not talked

Mr. Cherico: That would be a great one to talk to, because they saved a lot of money and they made a lot of one-way streets and kept them, the right-of-way 60', like we have a 60' right-of-way on Seventh Avenue, we have a 60' right-of-way on South Street. They've kept a lot of them by just going one way. I'm just looking at, you know, what is your want, what is your need, what is the real thing? That

Ms. Leonard: We're trying to help the common good. Everybody around here, not just certain people, not just a certain section. But by improving that section, it will help the common good of the whole area is the idea that I have.

Mr. Cherico: Yes, but

Ms. Leonard: That's my thing. It's the common good.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, but

Mr. Walters: If I could ask one question, and I live down Seventh Avenue, Joanne and Bernie right across the street from you. Okay, unfortunately because of Bi-Lo closing, we have no choice except to go to Fifth Avenue to go down to get groceries, everything. I go up Seventh hit South go down hit Fifth go down and I come back I hit South and come back up and go down Seventh. Okay. That's our normal route, let's face it. We drive that route a lot.

Mr. Cherico: A hundred times a day, I do the same thing.

Mr. Walters: Okay. So, I guess my question would be now we're going to be coming up to Wood Street coming down through Wood Street down to Seventh

Mr. Cherico: That would be your alternate route.

Mr. Walters: Okay. I know there's definitely going to be a traffic impact to do that, because like you said we do that a hundred times each day. You know when the Council did this before, thought about it, I know Earl was doing one way, did we, Ron you're here, and again I wasn't on Council last year when they voted for all this. Was there a traffic impact done on Wood Street, what that would do to Wood Street because it's definitely going to effect Wood Street.

Mr. Kopko: (Unintelligible) traffic on South Street going east to Wood Street more in likely. It's not going to go to Main Street as much because Wood Street (unintelligible) traffic.

Mr. Bob Balough: I think most of it's already on Wood Street (unintelligible). I don't go that way anymore. I go up to Wood Street and home, because you're (unintelligible) all over the road.

Mr. Walters: But I'm saying that's our normal route.

Mr. Cherico: But you bring up a good point. Here's what my point is the people that made this decision, you've got three new people on the Board. These two right here and Mr. Noto. You got three new people there. Brad Stutzman is no longer, he was part of your group that made your determination, he is no longer there. You know, there was President Wilshire, he was there, he's no longer here. That made these decisions. And sure they made these decisions, but they are not longer here to back up these decisions and you've had to take on this whole argument the whole time, because you're one of these guys, but you weren't in that seat. So, I'm just saying Rich Herman was there and those guys, they're no longer here. So, this is a span from May 2009 and we're right now in June 2010, look how many people that made that decision are no longer here. And the point is we're going to be here. We're going to be here for the next 10 years, 15 years, and 20 years.

Ms. Leonard: But the point is also the people that are here agree with that decision.

Mr. Cherico: But, but

Ms. Leonard: (unintelligible). It's all be thought through (unintelligible).

Mr. Cherico: the thing is have they ever got to debate the issue? This is the first,

Ms. Leonard: No, it isn't.

Mr. Cherico: this is the first time, in Council this is the first time that I've ever heard somebody from Council even ask a question. And I've been here since February, March 3rd, April 7th, April 14th, you know, right now, May, two times in May. I was at a meeting where there were no Councilpeople there to discuss CDBG 10 Grant. There was no Council there. So, how can you think outside the box, when you're not at these meetings. I mean that's the bottom line. Sue, I'm in business every day. And the only way I get ahead is I have to think outside the box, and I've got to do that extra research and extra stuff that nobody can do except me.

Ms. Leonard: Right.

Mr. Cherico: I'm not, seeing as this, this is the first dialogue that we've ever had (unintelligible) Council Meeting. And I don't think that you're fair to the 29% that are paying the taxes. You're not. You got 29% of the people that pay the taxes, you haven't given them on iota of dignity to even discuss it. That's not fair to the people that are coming.

President Vavrek: I think that was a poor choice of word.

Ms. Leonard: I do, too.

President Vavrek: Not one iota of dignity. We are allowing all of you to speak your mind here.

Mr. Cherico: Thank God you are. But I'm just saying it's a one-way traffic. This is the only time that we've ever heard anything that's done this way.

Ms. Leonard: That's not the only time that anything's been said that way

Mr. Cherico: Yes.

Ms. Leonard: because we, up until recently we have had work sessions.

Mr. Cherico: I've been at them.

Ms. Leonard: And we have committee meetings.

Mr. Cherico: I understand that, but wait

Ms. Leonard: (unintelligible) so from that standpoint

Mr. Cherico: But this is the Board, this is the Board.

Ms. Leonard: This is the record.

Mr. Cherico: This is it. This is where it gets to the minutes right there.

Ms. Leonard: Right.

Mr. Cherico: I understand how boards work. I understand how boards work.

Ms. Leonard: (unintelligible) work it out and then we come here.

Mr. Cherico: Why isn't there any discussion?

Ms. Leonard: Because we discuss them (unintelligible) beforehand.

Mr. Cherico: No, you're not, you're not, you haven't taken anybody that had any opinion

Ms. Leonard: No, no, you're asking about the board. You're asking about us. And we have had meetings. We have committee meetings, we have had other discussion, and up until recently we had work sessions.

Mr. Cherico: So, getting back to

Ms. Leonard: So, from that standpoint, we have discussed this. All the new members are up to date, caught up. I think they can speak for themselves, but I feel that they are up to date. And they understand the whole situation.

Mr. Balough: I have a question. I could be wrong. At the last meeting, that Council voted (unintelligible) block grant money, how they are going to spend it, and then they scheduled a public hearing. The meeting that Fred went to there were no Councilmembers there.

President Vavrek: We're not required to be at those meetings.

Ms. Leonard: We're not required to be there. That was

Mr. Balough: Well I don't care whether you are or not, this system is faulty in my opinion. I would

Ms. Leonard: Then you'll have to follow up with the State.

Mr. Balough: suggest that if you want to decide on how to spend the funds, you should have public hearings and then take your vote.

Ms. Freenock: That was your second public hearing that you're talking about, the one in May. The first one was held January.

Mr. Cherico: January, but that's before we even got involved. So, that's why you never had us there.

Ms. Freenock: But we followed the guidelines.

Mr. Cherico: But that's, okay,

Ms. Leonard: But, but, but, but, but, but

Mr. Cherico: No, I know Sue

Ms. Leonard: we have (unintelligible).

Mr. Cherico: But, but, but, because I stutter.

Ms. Leonard: No, no.

Mr. Cherico: Now let me just tell you, no, no, no I stutter sometimes, I just want to tell you something

Ms. Leonard: That's no problem.

Mr. Cherico: Here's what I'm trying to tell you is the end result is, you know, with these meetings, you know, we came to these meetings and we found out a lot of stuff on the meetings

Ms. Leonard: Right.

Mr. Cherico: but it's just like what he's saying right here, if we were at that meeting, then the horse would have been in front of the cart. You would have taken suggestions first, and then you wouldn't have hurried up and spent the money. But we read the minutes, the minutes are that you thought that this South Street Project was going to cost more money than what it cost, so you wanted to hurry up because it's a multi-year contract, grab those funds, and allocate them to the rest of your project.

President Vavrek: Which was a responsible thing to do, because we would have lost those earlier monies had we not tried to do

Mr. Cherico: That is a false statement, Joanne.

President Vavrek: No,

Mr. Cherico: That is a false statement, Joanne.

President Vavrek: No, it is not.

Mr. Cherico: Come on. You're telling these new Boardmembers wrong information and

President Vavrek: No, I am not.

Mr. Cherico: If I could have Beverly Hutzel here from DCED, that is a false statement.

Ms. Freenock: We have until August 2011.

Mr. Cherico: That is a, exactly right. Not, she's making it sound like you're going to lose them this year, and that, these new members

President Vavrek: No, we had to

Mr. Cherico: don't need to hear that.

President Vavrek: accommodate the change. We were making a change in how that money was going to be used from those previous years. And that had to go public. That had to be, at a public meeting.

Mr. Cherico: That's right. And that's called an amendment.

President Vavrek: An amendment.

Mr. Cherico: You make an amendment. And that's all I'm asking you guys to do is to make one amendment. Not delay the project, make one amendment that will make, that will work for everybody. Because let's get down to the common factor of why we're here. Was there a mistake made, because 200 people on South Street didn't get a letter.

Mr. Hopkins: No.

Mr. Cherico: You guys honestly don't believe that?

Ms. Leonard: No, because it was not required, it was not required.

Mr. Cherico: Yea. Listen, the whole argument Sue common sense. You must not have common sense then. Because I would never do that unless, I have common sense, I would never send out, if I was going to affect somebody, Mrs. Denio, that it has no power to do anything. And, you know, Mrs. Denio, take her trees away, do whatever I mean what ever happened to her? She has nobody. She is looking for somebody to back up, and nobody's here to do that, you know, for her. The bottom line about common sense is

you let those people know. If you were to let those people know, then it'd get back to Bob's comment of hey, you know, public meetings, we would have known when the public meetings are. We know, because you're sending letters out now and we're getting this stuff. We would have been at these meetings, we could have participated in these meetings. But the people that you had that made these decisions, three of them are out of Council, we got three new people in Council, you know? It's been the same old story, you know, same old story.

Ms. Leonard: As I said before, we followed things by the book.

Mr. Cherico: Yea.

Mr. Miller: Well we believe that you were beautiful.

Ms. Leonard: We did not write the book, we did not write the book.

Mr. Miller: Legally you were beautiful, Sue. I'm with you. Legally, you're beautiful. We live in a small town.

Ms. Leonard: Exactly.

Mr. Miller: And a small town, when you do things like that

Ms. Leonard: Right.

Mr. Miller: Sue Leonard doesn't do things like that. You know in your heart it is better to have a letter sent to those people. And one more thing. You talk about the common good. I'm with you. The common good. What is the common good then to spend \$150,000 on it and have \$150,000 more for the common good? Common good is a subjective thing. Not objective. And you're sitting there saying it like common good. Common good, everybody here has an opinion about the common good.

Ms. Leonard: Exactly.

Mr. Miller: Now I wasn't going to come here tonight, excuse me a second, I wasn't going to come here tonight and talk to you guys. I read in the papers today that this is a done deal. So, obviously my disappointment is going to last a long time. I'm hoping that my grandkids somebody will come and go to Michelle's and see an old picture. You know, like you go to Deb's and you see an old picture. Maybe that'd be good. It was so refreshing tonight coming here and hear you talk about this (unintelligible) one-way street. I will never, ever get over my first meeting back here since I was on this Council, Borough Council and no one, friends alike, would talk to me. That happened, Sue, you were here. In fact you were the only one that said 'well Bill we (unintelligible) something or other'. I learned so much in the last 3 or 4 months. And I think the citizens of this Borough learned a whole lot. They learned to be vigilant. They learned to be vigilant. I will read that paper

Ms. Leonard: I hope you

Mr. Miller: like a hawk from now on. And I'll check and check and check because you know what? People aren't real happy with this. Now I know what you're saying that the people are for this, and I really, I really have to really disagree. The only way we'll know that will be in the next few elections. But you know what? I think the people are not for this. I've had (unintelligible). And you vote, you (unintelligible), you voted it, this is the way it's going to be. I want to thank Earl Zerfoss for standing up for another, other plans. You said you had meetings; sure you did. And you talked to each other. Talk to other folks. You talked to each other, hey I (unintelligible) I understand. You talk to your fellow committee members, which is good. But let's get some outside, and this is the future, I understand, (unintelligible)

Mr. Cherico: I don't think you networked the community.

Unidentified Lady: Yea, well,

Mr. Miller: Hey, I apologize for taking so long.

Ms. Leonard: Bill,

President Vavrek: Okay, could I interrupt for one minute

Ms. Leonard: (unintelligible) vigilant and it is time for the public to be vigilant and be responsible.

Mayor Estadt: Well I think the question is because if they ask

Ms. Leonard: Because if they see that in the paper to begin with and checked on it, if your people had seen that, then we wouldn't be where we are today necessarily because it was there. You need, the community needs to be responsible, too.

Mayor Estadt: I think the question that needs to be asked though is now that we see, we're dealing with the generation that doesn't read the paper. I mean we're dealing with people that don't read the paper. What can we do now in the future to inform you? Other than the papers?

Mr. Cherico: Well I think

Mayor Estadt: What else can we do?

Mr. Cherico: majority

Mr. Miller: A letter would have been nice.

Mayor Estadt: Well letter, I understand that. I mean you don't want to use taxpayer dollars and send them to all 6,000

Mr. Cherico: (unintelligible-speaking while Mayor is speaking) website.

Mr. Miller: You wouldn't have to. You wouldn't have had to.

Mr. Cherico: He's doing a fantastic job on the website.

Mayor Estadt: Okay.

Mr. Cherico: We are citizen aware. We rely on his website.

Mayor Estadt: Okay, so the website. Okay, whatelse?

Mr. Cherico: But I'm just saying, I mean for us to get our information, that website is, you can't ask for, keep putting stuff on there in a timely manner.

Mayor Estadt: Um hum.

Mr. Cherico: I mean that gives you what we need. We don't have to call the office and bug Linda every 5 minutes to get something, it's already there.

Mayor Estadt: Well had you looked at the website prior to all this that was going on.

Mr. Cherico: Yes, if you would have taken a look at it, it was never, it had old information on it. And asked Nancy about that.

Ms. Freenock: Well the minutes were always posted.

Mr. Cherico: Yea, pretty delayed, you know. I mean when, but the point, to sum everything up, listen all it came down to is just, I'm not finding fault, I mean with the letter, but I tell you what if you would have done a letter, then we wouldn't be here today, because we'd have been part of the process. And you guys, you have to agree with that, right Jason? So, we would be part of that process.

Mr. Noto: I agree a letter would have been a good idea, but I understand why the letter wasn't sent in the first place. There didn't seem to be a huge amount of interest in the ideas, you know with posting the paper, didn't seem like a huge amount of interest. I don't think there was a thought that we needed a letter. We are obviously aware now and wish we would have done that but can't go back and change that.

Ms. Vinson: Correct, but we can't go back and read the articles or get, at that time. I think that needs to be (unintelligible) it's getting to be a real obnoxious thing all around, causing a lot of bad feelings, 'well too bad for you, you didn't read it, (unintelligible) do what we wanted'. Because I think it's a real shame

Mr. Cherico: (unintelligible)

Ms. Vinson: in a small town like this, Fred, (unintelligible)

Mr. Cherico: Sorry.

Ms. Vinson: in a small town like this where you have good friends and neighbors that live right down the street from you and you can't say 'oh, hey by the way, we're having a meeting about what's going to happen on South Street and so you might want to, I'd love your input'. We get the feeling that maybe our input really wasn't wanted. (Unintelligible) assume, 'well nobody came, nobody cares'. We care, we're here now. We're trying to figure out a way to work some amendments into this. You know the thing about the one way for the 2 blocks; 'oh that's just going to make it so much busier on Wood Street'. You know what, it actually makes sense when you look at the back ups that happen (unintelligible) both ways and turning and waiting for the buses and trying to get out at the light. As it is now, it will actually be (unintelligible). I mean not to compare Clarion Borough, but I'm going to, to a big city, Downtown Denver is all one-way alternating streets and it is so much easier to get around because of that. So, to say that it's going to make things worse to try to lighten the load and direct traffic (unintelligible) logical way. It needs some thought, instead of just saying 'no, no, no it'd make Wood Street too busy'. Is a few more cars on Wood Street that horrible? I'm not really sure that it is, because with this (unintelligible). And that intersection at Greenville is horrible. It is just absolutely horrible. And if that, even if it were in one direction, is it something that we could talk about making an amendment to the current plans and making an improvement?

Mr. Cherico: Is that possible Joanne? To make an amendment? Are you listening to her?

President Vavrek: I can't speak for

Mr. Cherico: No, no, but

Ms. Vinson: Yea.

Mr. Cherico: you're the one that guides this Council. Is that possible?

President Vavrek: I don't tell them, I don't tell them how to vote.

Mr. Cherico: I know, but is that possible? Is that possible what she's asking for?

President Vavrek: I still feel strongly that the plans we have is a good

Mr. Cherico: That's not what the question is. The question is is it

President Vavrek: I can't answer that.

Mr. Cherico: possible at this point in time to make an amendment to follow through with this and have the construction done by the end of the summer? That's really what, why we're here. We're not here to say 'okay Joanne, this is your (unintelligible) and we can't do nothing about it'. But is it possible, if we had a valid suggestion and it makes sense for the whole community, not just for the people on South Street, is it possible?

President Vavrek: It would only be possible if Council had another vote and changed the whole decision.

Ms. Vinson: I'd like to point out to Council that part of the problem you're sitting around discussing the fact that you guys have committees and (unintelligible) on yourselves. Unfortunately a lot of this information that is getting around in Council that when you have an open meeting can be corrected. Things that are being told to Council and a lot of this is not true and that they are now taken as truth. I believe one Councilmember was told that a letter was recently sent to Mrs. Cherico regarding the hitching post. One Councilmember is under the assumption that she was offered \$500 in reimbursement for having that moved. That is not the case. But one Councilmember believes that to be the case. I don't know where that came from,

President Vavrek: I don't know.

Ms. Vinson: I don't, I know, you're confused, too. But what I'm saying is by some of this going on behind the scenes and not enough public discussion, there is misinformation going around and that's becoming to be thought of as truth.

President Vavrek: But there's also misinformation going around about the project itself. There are a lot of thoughts that are out there.

Ms. Vinson: (Unintelligible).

Mr. Cherico: (Unintelligible) R-1, R1.

Ms. Vinson: Fred, I want

President Vavrek: (Unintelligible) said to me, they asked about the trees.

Ms. Vinson: Um hum.

President Vavrek: They didn't know that the trees would be replaced if they were going to be taken out. And they said 'oh well if that's the case, we thought you were just cutting down all the trees and not taking, not putting them back'.

Ms. Vinson: Nobody's ever said

Mr. Cherico: No, we have a letter, you have a letter from Pamela Reilly that says conditional no adverse affects. What's that mean? It says you have to move the hitching post, you have to move it, the contractor has to move it with utmost care, in a safe area. You sent me a letter back saying 'hey, you know what, we don't want it on our Borough right-of-way anymore; you work with the engineer and the contractor and move it to a safe location'. But what you said is 'if we break it, it's not our fault'. What Pamela Reilly says, conditional no adverse affects. She stated that you have to take utmost care in moving the hitching post and tell, you have to

Ms. Leonard: Yea, that's no problem.

President Vavrek: Yea.

Mr. Cherico: Okay, so that

Ms. Leonard: But accidents can happen.

Ms. Freenock: We can't guarantee the condition of that hitching post until it's dug up. We have no idea about the sub surface. But I will point out another issue. Mrs. Rose called me, or actually sent a letter, and when I called her back and when (unintelligible) talking, she said that's completely contrary to the information that was given to me by the individual that came to my door. I will rethink my letter and, in fact she signed a letter another

Mr. Cherico: Who was that now?

Ms. Freenock: Linda Rose.

Mr. Cherico: We never, we never, we never gave them

Ms. Freenock: Well I don't know, I'm not saying

Mr. Cherico: handouts.

Ms. Freenock: that she, she didn't say handouts. She said someone came to her door to discuss it.

Mr. Cherico: Okay.

Ms. Freenock: So, as far as there being misinformation, once she understood the project, she said I'm all in favor of that.

Mr. Cherico: Well what we did, okay

Ms. Freenock: So, that's misinformation as Joanne pointed out.

Mr. Cherico: what we did, we had our three options, you know, and we let you guys tell us why the options are worthless. We stayed with our three options from the get go and we're on our third option, which makes sense. And it works for PennDOT, it works for the traffic pattern, it works for everything, and guess what, it works for the people that

Mr. Hopkins: How can you, how can you

Mr. Cherico: have invested in their property

Mr. Hopkins: say it works for the traffic patterns? Have you done a traffic study? You're going to take the busiest road in Clarion County, Fifth Avenue, and you're going to take every car that wants to go east and put them down Wood Street. For 20 years,

Mr. Cherico: (Unintelligible) Wood Street.

Mr. Hopkins: for 20 years

Mr. Cherico: (Unintelligible) every car where?

Mr. Hopkins: Coming up Fifth Avenue and take them on to Wood Street. Every car that's going that way, they, that's their

Mr. Cherico: No, no, no, no

Mr. Hopkins: only choice.

Mr. Cherico: No, from Fifth Avenue to Sixth Avenue, it's two ways.

Mr. Hopkins: Okay, so if they want to go to the college, they go what? They go down to Sixth and then up a block, you're still putting

Mr. Cherico: Or they could go up Fifth Avenue, make a right

Mr. Hopkins: So, I don't know that you can say, you've taken care of traffic problems. That's the problem. For 20 years, we've looked at one way. Council after council after Council has looked at South Street one way and every single Council has rejected it because you only have one road left in Clarion Borough that goes both ways. Main Street will be

Mr. Cherico: Boundary Street, Boundary Street does. Now, I talked to an old gentleman

Mr. Hopkins: No, Boundary Street's one way. Boundary Street's one way. Yes, yes. Boundary Street's one way. So, you're left with

A bunch of people talking at one time—cannot understand.

Mr. Hopkins: you're left with, you're left with Main Street being the only road in Clarion that's two way.

Mr. Cherico: People that come from Sligo

Mr. Hopkins: Now I'm not saying you're wrong, I'm just saying you're saying we fixed the traffic problem. How can you say that?

Mr. Cherico: Okay, but let me just, I had an old gentleman tell me the people that come up from Union, Rimersburg, Sligo don't (unintelligible) I-80. They make their decision and spend it on the road. The old gentleman paints his barn all the time down there, he goes 'Fred, people make more traffic on that Stony Lonesome Road; if they're going to go to the right side of town and go out, they came that way'. So, people are

Mr. Hopkins: From the mall up to the traffic light, it's still one of the busiest roads in the County. You're going to take all that traffic onto Wood Street

Mr. Cherico: And Main Street.

Mr. Hopkins: and Main Street. All that traffic. Wood Street right now without doing that sometimes is bumper-to-bumper. Main Street gets backed up the whole way from the light at the Courthouse to Second Avenue. Traffic is already really backed up in town. And before, and I don't want you guys to think,

Mr. Cherico: How many people, how many people are going to make a right-hand turn up Fifth Avenue onto South Street, and they might make a right-hand turn down Sixth Avenue.

Mr. Hopkins: I don't

Mr. Cherico: And go out that way.

Mr. Hopkins: want anyone here to think we haven't thought about this. That we haven't considered the proposal. That we were, we had our mind made up and we ignored you. But you can't say we fixed the traffic problem. You can't say that. Before we would even think about doing this, we would have to look long and hard because you're talking about a ton of traffic going on Main Street and Wood Street. You're eliminating an option. And this is something that 20 years of Council has

Ms. Vinson: But 20 years of Councils have had to keep looking at it, because

Mr. Hopkins: Because one person still brings it up again. One person still brings it up again, and every time six other members investigate it and say it's not going to work. It's going to make the traffic patterns worse.

Mr. Cherico: And I know what I can say about our solution. It's going to cost less money.

Mr. Hopkins: Well, yea, that's true.

Mr. Cherico: And you know what we're saying

Mr. Hopkins: But you just said

Mr. Cherico: we want more curbing, we're asking for more curbing. You only have 1600 square foot of curbing.

Mr. Hopkins: your solution fixes the traffic problem. And you don't know that that's true.

Mr. Cherico: Okay.

Mr. Hopkins: Your solution does a lot of what you do, but one thing you don't know is if it fixes the traffic problem.

Mr. Miller: You don't either.

Mr. Hopkins: No, no, no.

Mr. Miller: Okay, then we're even.

Mr. Hopkins: No, no, actually it's not

Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Miller both talking at same time—couldn't hear.

Mr. Hopkins: I have 20 years of Council looking at the problem.

President Vavrek: One more comment.

Mr. Walters: Can I, I say one thing.

Mr. Hopkins: No, there's 20 years of Council looking at it. Yea, go ahead.

Mr. Walters: Here's my comment. I was not on last year's Council when they made, Earl wanted one-way. Which never put in the paper because, you know, whatever. I never got to vote on this. Okay? We know South Street's an issue. It became an issue when they put the red light there. And now we got to adjust to that. So, I think everybody's in agreement something has to be done. I like a lot of your plans of doing that. But ever since I've been on Council, I've, I tell you what it's a tremendous learning experience and (unintelligible) to do it. Everything we do affects another group of people. And you have really good intentions. I got on here with really good intentions. People can say

what they want to, but I got on here with really good intentions. And I want to try to be nice and be fair. But every time you do one thing it affects another group of people. I've learned that really quick. And you try to be nice to everybody and try to take it all in mind, but again, as you discuss stuff with people, you change your mind. I mean you have to. You know, somebody comes to you and say 'let's make this one way; let's do this' and it sounds great and then all of a sudden the Wood Street people are going to say 'I got all this traffic and you guys, why didn't you think of that'. So, I'm saying every time you do one thing it affects another group. That is a given. Again, I would like to know, and I asked Ron earlier if we did a traffic study because I'd like to know how many that would affect. How many go up South Street a day and stuff. It's good when you have information.

Mr. Cherico: And this is healthy. This is what we came here for was for get some time to argue it, not argue it, comments back and forth. This is,

Ms. Vinson: Because and the thing is true of new people when you come on something like this and its already been decided by other people, it's very easy to already have that idea in your head 'well it must be okay because they already liked the idea'. So, without, until now to have any going back and forth discussions about it, it's really too late for us because you've already had the seed planted from the rest of the Councilmembers that, you know, they already like it, they already want to do it. How bad can, it can't be that bad or it should be okay. Instead of coming in and having the sense to form your own opinion privately. So, we're sort of fighting an uphill battle.

Mr. Cherico: But the thing is, there is a word called compromise. (Unintelligible) and then to find out everything. That's all we're asking for from the get go. Sure, all this, I'll tell you what now you have to look at it from our first point of view, you have to look at it from (unintelligible).

President Vavrek: Okay, 5 minutes with your point.

Mr. Cherico: Okay. And how you have to look at it is, it's an onion. Every time we unravel a piece of that onion, we had to find the research. I didn't just call her up every 5 minutes to bug her to find out what was going on. We tried to do our homework ahead of time so we would be legitimate and come across the right way and do this on an up to up scale thing. I said the wrong thing today that I should never had said. You know, when I got up here, but that was emotion. You know because there was no response, you know, from this group here at all. But if you look at what we had to do, it's an uphill battle. It was peeling an onion. We saw what was submitted to Harrisburg, we saw that. It's not, if you look at what you submitted and what we're talking about now, there's some things that are just not 100% correct. And I (unintelligible), and I can show you guys what it is. But PennDOT, we would have never known how this PennDOT issue works. You know, oh yea, let's go 100% one way or let's go one way. Well guess what PennDOT's not going to let you. No matter how you thought it was a great plan, Ron thought it was a great plan

Mr. Kopko: No, I disagree with that. I did not

Mr. Cherico: (Unintelligible).

Mr. Kopko: I knew right away the thing about PennDOT and that was a well known fact in talking with them that there would have to be a traffic study done. And if you can't

Mr. Cherico: I read that in the minutes, I did. I read that, and I agree with you. I was just only saying that if I had to use you as a traffic analysis. We didn't know that. We had to unravel the onion. Every time we unraveled another piece of that onion it was finding more information. The biggest thing was when I was working with Ed earlier in this game, somebody talked about we're going to lose the money. You had everybody scared that they were going to lose the money. It wasn't until we did that research, now we know exactly that you had to know the whole time. But your Councilmembers didn't know. You know, they thought they were losing the money. Anybody that has the fear of losing money, especially in these times right now, (unintelligible) that's our fear, that's a big fear. So, it's not a fear that we're going to lose the project. We still do this project. All we're asking for is one simple thing, if you would please just look into a compromise, an amendment, to look into see how long an amendment would take. How long it would take Ron to make an amendment to his drawing? What it would take to send them back to Donna Enrico

Ms. Freenock: Donna doesn't look at the drawings.

Mr. Cherico: No, no, no. I understand. Donna's the head lady.

Ms. Freenock She does not look at the drawings.

Mr. Cherico: Chris Howe, it goes to, I know all the people that they go. But I'm just saying, I'm not an expert. Listen I'm unraveling that onion. You know it, I don't know it.

Ms. Freenock: Then Fred pick up the phone and call me and ask me.

Mr. Cherico: Okay.

Ms. Freenock: I could have told you about PennDOT and saved you all that time. I could have explained the project to you. Instead you went and called everybody you could get a name of or a phone number for instead of coming to the source.

Mr. Cherico: Because, can I tell you why? Because the very first meeting you guys went into Executive Session and wouldn't even talk to us. You know, what am I (unintelligible) citizen, I did my homework, I thought I did my homework.

Ms. Freenock: Fred, I'm in the office 5 days a week, 8-4.

Mr. Cherico: But the thing is, it wasn't

Ms. Freenock: Pick up the phone.

Mr. Cherico: it wasn't, it was information that would be used against us, you know.

President Vavrek: Okay, let's not go back

Mr. Cherico: Okay, but the point is I'm just trying to tell you one point or summarize it is what can you do, what can you do Joanne to look at our concerns and to actually look into making an amendment, if you could make an amendment, how long would that process take and the real picture is could we do it with a modification that he would have to do in engineering, submit it, get it in, and let's save \$100,000 out of this whole deal. And use that money so we don't even have to use the 2010 money that you guys want to talk about later on tonight, that we can use that for other CDBG things like Bob talked about. You know, instead of using all towards one thing here. Now one last thing, the curbing, 1600 lineal square feet that you have in your proposal in your project. Your 3200 lineal feet of curbing that needs replaced, the storm water going down from Seventh Avenue to Sixth Avenue needs to keep that water inside there. My own gut feeling and I'm not, the thing is I can look at your plans and I can see wouldn't it be nice to put a few more drains in there and keep the curbs up high and keep the water in so it goes down the storm water and doesn't sit down and go down into Sal Mazzocchi's yard and all those other places. I would have spent a little extra money for that. But those are the concerns that all we're saying. Listen, you guys sit behind these seats here, you guys have, this is what you guys can do. You listened to us in February. We're not making any crazy, crazy proposals. We're asking the President of Council to look into and see what it would take to make an amendment to change, to make one common little change, you know, that would make everybody 100% happy. Would you rather see 100% people happy or would you want to have this dividing line between us. Tell me, tell me your true feelings.

President Vavrek: Well we're not talking about 100% of people in the Borough, we're talking about 100% people who live on your street.

Mr. Miller: No.

Mr. Cherico: No.

Mr. Miller: That's not true.

Mr. Cherico: I'm talking about. I'm talking about if you want to make the 6,000 residents of the Borough 100% happy or do you want to be

President Vavrek: I haven't talked to 6,000 residents

Mr. Cherico: or do you want to be, have a little (unintelligible). I'm just saying that's who we represent. We represent the 6,000

President Vavrek: No, you represent

Mr. Cherico: I represent the 6,000 people that live in the Borough.

President Vavrek: No, you do not.

Ms. Vinson: You know what, that (unintelligible)

Mr. Cherico: I do.

Ms. Vinson: What we represent are the people who want to feel that they can be heard at Council, that they can have good (unintelligible), have good ideas that would be put under consideration and not be told 'it doesn't matter, this is our meeting and too bad go home'. Because that's what, I think that's more what you represent to feel that we can come to you guys and say 'yes we live on the street, we live in the neighborhood, and we drive on the road (unintelligible) times a day'. (Unintelligible) value to what happens to that. And we are told, I've had people tell me 'oh there's a lot of people out there that agree with Council and they're just afraid to say something'. I, that to me shocked me that anybody would be afraid, because I tell you, it takes more courage to stand up here tonight and every time that we have said to you guys because we all are afraid of what could happen to us for speaking out. There's people who are rude to my friends and neighbors because they have strong feelings about this. There's not a single person in the citizens group that's a scary person, threatening person and to be treated that we are scary and threatening is really disheartening.

Mr. Miller: That's not our intention. It's never been

Mr. Cherico: You had some other people that come in here that weren't really part of our group. That wasn't us. We came in here that first meeting, it was just three of us. And there were 20 other people that came in here; and, by the time the meeting was done and that's when you called that Executive Session, you had 20 people shaking their head, you know what's wrong with that part, you know? Joanne, all we're asking you have the power to actually look into making an amendment to just modify the plan just a tiny little bit, that's all we're asking. We did all that parking, we're not going to lose the parking. We're only going to lose 6 parking places. And we're going to make more safety on the Greenville Pike area that will be better for the University than what it is now for those students that have to walk across there. Look at all those students that have to walk across there. Let's think of them. Let's make a safety issue for them. I mean think about our kids that have to go across and then eliminate these ball abouts. I mean sure, that's a nice (unintelligible) but that's in another place, that's not Clarion. That's, where else on your list are you looking to put ball abouts, you know, to match up these streets, you know, these traditional streetscapes. Is that in your long-range plan? If it is, then I'm all for you. But if you don't have a long-range plans to have these ball abouts on other

CDBG monies that's coming down in the next 5 years to make that street ball abouts, make that street ball about, then you don't need to make one street out of the whole community ball abouts. You know, that's a nice concept, but keep it where the communities need ball abouts. We're going to, in our plans, we're, you know, we did out, if we motivate our 200 citizens that are on that South Street to get them to get that off-street parking to really fix this problem, hey we're all in power to get these landlords and all the people that we talked to to stick up for what they said when they're going to do off-site parking. That will eliminate that need right there. And we'll take it upon ourselves to do. I mean we can,

President Vavrek: But you said earlier that they would charge for parking.

Mr. Cherico: No, no, no, no, no. We're just, I said that because there was a businessman. It's, Sal Mazzocchi's a businessman. Tim Scott said that he would not charge. I talked to Tim's wife, Jody, about her parking right across from your house.

Mayor Estadt: Wait a second, now we're back to removing parking completely?

Mr. Cherico: No, no, no, no, no, no.

Mayor Estadt: Okay.

Mr. Cherico: No, no, no. Just from Center Place to Sixth Avenue.

President Vavrek: Fred, I don't mean to cut you short, but we have a long meeting ahead

Mr. Cherico: But will you look into the amendment?

President Vavrek: I will promise that we'll look into it.

Mr. Cherico: No, no, I'm asking you. Will you look into to see what it would take to make an amendment to see what it would cost to

President Vavrek: I'm not saying that I will agree with it.

Mr. Cherico: You only said, but will you look into it?

President Vavrek: I will look into it.

Mr. Cherico: And will you follow back with me so we know

President Vavrek: I will call you, yes, yes.

Mr. Cherico: Because it's only fair. It's what they call a compromise. I mean we're trying to make things work for everybody. You know, I know a lot of you people on here. You guys all work hard in all the different organizations that you guys volunteer

your time in. I mean I know you guys do a lot of work like that. And everybody needs to get along. I mean that's the common thing. And all we're asking for, this is the last chance for you, Joanne, to really work with us and compromise. I know you've been

Ms. Leonard: She already said yes.

Mr. Cherico: I know, but I'm just saying the thing is this is something that we can actually move forward with and make everybody move in the right direction. Well anyhow out of this whole ordeal, I understand a lot more and I thank you for your time.

President Vavrek: Okay.

Ms. Leonard: Thank you for coming.

Mr. Bob Balough stated that the only work that needs to be done on Emerson way is to fix the paving and curb the east side. He never had a problem there; just ask the residents of Hemlock Ridge. The Borough would be spending money to help Clarion Township.

Mr. Balough also asked about the brush pile. Contractors use the site as does residents from Strattanville.

Mr. Zerfoss stated that the County Commissioners caused this problem by closing the County drop-off site. The Borough paid for the chipper and sent workers every year to help with the mulching. The Borough carried the largest share of expenses for the site.

Mr. Balough stated that this problem must be solved before Mr. Ragon sends notification letters out.

It was noted that the Borough received a DEP grant for the purchase of leaf vacuum equipment. That grant is in jeopardy due to the County's action. The Borough is working with DEP, private landowners, and CUP to find a solution. It was suggested that Veolia might have an approved site.

Mr. Bud Bender stated that the storm sewer pipe planned for South Seventh Avenue is not large enough. He stated that a band-aid is being used, and Council should look at the whole picture. The illegal laterals are what are causing the I & I problems.

He has been paying taxes in Clarion since 1967, and no one loves Clarion more than he does. He also suggested that parking be removed from South Street from Seventh to Fifth Avenues and leave the road two ways. Then, a straight curb could be installed. Send a letter to the residents to explain what is being done.

Mrs. Elizabeth Fulmer stated that the South Street issue is about community. The Borough followed the letter rather than the spirit of the law. There are 6,000 residents and seven Councilmembers. The residents should have heard from Council. Get rid of the Vince Lombardi model of government. Winning is not the only thing.

It is important in a community that people listen to each other. There was not a lot of listening and not a lot of talking before it got to this point.

ADMINISTRATION

The appropriations for the month of June were approved by a vote of seven yeas, following a motion by Mr. Walters and a second by Ms. Leonard.

Council unanimously approved the MBE/WBE Plan for the CDBG Program, following a motion by Mr. Walters and a second by Mr. Hopkins.

Mr. Walters made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2010-301 approving the 2010 CDBG Application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hopkins and was approved unanimously.

Next, Mr. Walters made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, to approve the Resolution No. 2010-302, the Fair Housing Resolution; the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Sanders Dédé made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hopkins to engage Waltz and Associates as the Borough's CDBG consultant for 2010-2012. President Vavrek stated that Mr. Colosimo would remain employed by the Borough until the outstanding monitoring issues are resolved. The motion carried unanimously.

RECREATION

Mr. Ron Kopko did a slide show presentation for Council illustrating proposed improvements to the Toby Boat Launch area. He suggested organizing parking, signage, ADA, and guiderail improvements.

Ms. Leonard stated that older fishermen use the area and that it has been neglected for years. The CDBG-R funding was used to make improvements at the Park. Now it is time to improve Toby. The Borough was awarded a \$55,000 grant from DCNR for Toby improvements. There is a 50% match needed.

Ms. Freenock stated that Brookfield Power has thus far contributed \$5,200 for the dock improvements and that can be part of the match. In-kind services are also acceptable. Brookfield can contribute between \$5,000 and \$10,000 in 2011, depending on how much it expends at Millcreek in 2011. The CDBG funds allocated for Emerson Way can be reallocated to Toby to meet the match. Mr. Zerfoss asked if that would exhaust the CDBG funding to Emerson Way. Ms. Freenock stated yes.

Ms. Leonard made a motion to approve the matching expense for Toby as outlined above. Mr. Hopkins seconded saying that the Borough does not want to lose \$55,000, and we get more bang for our buck by matching. Mayor Estadt stated that revitalizing Toby would draw more people to town and would help with tourism. The motion carried by a vote of six yeas with Mr. Zerfoss voting no as he does not use Toby.

Ms. Leonard stated that the pool is scheduled to open on Saturday.

DOWNTOWN

Mayor Estadt thanked Council for approving the Memorial Day parade. She stated that both the parade and concert were a success. Girl Scout Troop 20339 kept the kids entertained, and she thanked the troop for its efforts. The Mayor also thanked the fire companies that participated and the Borough police.

The Mayor is stepping down as the President of the Conservancy. The new president is Pat McFarland. The Mayor also thanked Bob Nulph at the University for the virtual tours that he and his students have completed of the downtown establishments. Visit www.clarionguide.com for more information about what the downtown has to offer.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Walters made a motion to advertise Ordinance No. 2010-773, making Madison Road one-way traveling east from Seventh to Eighth Avenues. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zerfoss. Mr. Hopkins stated that this issue began with Fr. Monty concerned with traffic turning out of McDonalds onto Madison Road and making a right onto Weaver Place to get back to Main Street. Now, Madison is being changed but people can still do that; the kids will be safer with barricades. It makes no sense to do this or to make Weaver one way. President Vavrek agrees and asked for a roll call vote as follows: Mr. Zerfoss, yes; Mr. Walters, yes; Dr. Sanders Dédé, no; Ms. Leonard, yes to advertise only; Mr. Noto, yes to advertise only; Mr. Hopkins, no; and President Vavrek, no. Motion carried.

Mr. Walters made a motion to advertise for a third part-time Meter Enforcement Officer (MEO), at \$8.50 per hour, to assist with weekly collections and to fill-in as needed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hopkins. Mr. Hopkins stated that the position would receive a minimum of four hours/week. There have been problems recently with the current MEOs calling in sick and there is no back-up. In the past, there was a third MEO and that worked out well. The motion carried unanimously.

Next, Mr. Walters made a motion to expend up to \$2,000 to construct a holding cell for prisoners; this will allow the officers to complete reports safely. Now, they do so with the prisoner handcuffed to the bench in the patrol room. Ms. Leonard seconded the motion. Mr. Hopkins stated that there must be a camera near the cell. Mayor Estadt asked if there would be policies and procedures in place to avoid liability. Chief Hall responded yes. President Vavrek confirmed that the County will not take responsibility for the prisoner until he has been charged and arraigned. The motion carried by a vote of seven yea.

Mr. Walters expressed Council's thanks to the American Legion and the VFW for their recent donations, which were used to purchase police equipment. He also thanked PAWS for the donation of a dog kennel which, Ms. Leonard noted, has seen use recently. Finally, Mr. Walters thanked Wal*Mart for donating DARE t-shirts.

HOUSING AND ZONING

Mr. Hopkins noted that the application period for a part-time temporary employee to help Mr. Ragon, ends on Friday. The Committee will work on the Signage Ordinance once recommendations from the Downtown Merchants and the Planning Commission are received.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor stated that the first Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 9th at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Clarion Free Library. She asked that all interested make an effort to attend. Block captains will be chosen. The response from the community will determine the extent of the program.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Freenock offered the condolences of the Borough to Tom Thompson on the recent death of his father. She also stated that the issues discussed at the last Council meeting concerning Comcast have been sent to the Borough's telecommunications counsel for review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Vavrek called for an Executive Session, beginning at 9:35 p.m., including all Councilmembers, the Borough Manager, and the Solicitor to discuss Public Works personnel.

President Vavrek called the meeting back to order at 10:08 p.m. and stated that no action was taken.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Zerfoss made a motion, seconded by Mr. Noto, to promote Tom Thompson to PW Supervisor, effective May 15, 2010, at \$19.15/hour, a salary commensurate with that of Mr. Stutzman in the current contract. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Zerfoss made a motion to hire Craig Hibell as a part-time summer worker at \$8.50/hour, commencing June 3, 2010. The position has no benefits. Mr. Hibell may work several hours per week after school commences in the fall, depending on need. The motion was seconded by Mr. Noto and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Zerfoss then asked Council to ratify the expenditure of \$7,500 for the painting of crosswalks. This work has commenced and will be completed by the end of the week. It could not be done in-house this year as we lack experienced staff. If it was to be done in-house, there would be no Public Works day shift for several weeks. Bids were solicited and Hager Paving was the lowest bidder. Mr. Walters seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of seven yeas.

Mr. Zerfoss stated that at the July meeting he would request permission to advertise the 2010 Paving Project. The Public Works Committee will be discussing this at its June 21st meeting.

Mr. Zerfoss lamented the fact that the County again closed the composting site at the County Park. That, again, resulted in the Borough having to close the brush pile. The Borough cannot allow materials to accumulate at the site as they create a health hazard. The brush draws vermin and creates noxious fumes. Mayor Estadt asked that this be posted on the Borough's website.

Lastly, Mr. Zerfoss stated that the reimbursement grant for the leaf truck may be in jeopardy. The truck has been ordered. However, the Borough must have a DEP approved site for leaf drop off. With the County site now closed, the Borough no longer has a site. The Borough is working with DEP to find a solution.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hopkins stated that Mr. Cherico is interested in helping with CDBG decisions. He stated that Mr. Cherico can offer suggestions for what is needed at the park. Ms. Leonard indicated that he can do that by being a "key person" interviewed as part of the Recreation Plan development process.

Mayor Estadt asked that the flags on Main Street be put up for July 3rd as the fireworks will be held that night. Mr. Walters said that should not be a problem, but a letter requesting same should be sent to the fire company.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. LaVan read a letter from Clarion Fire & Hose Company, thanking Council for their pledge.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on a motion by Ms. Leonard, with a second by Mr. Noto, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy K. Freenock
Borough Secretary