A special meeting of the St. Clair Borough Council was held to review issues and finances on Thursday, November 30, 2023, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance included council members: Thomas Adamchick, Joann Brennan, Cheryl Dempsey, Thomas Dempsey, Judy Stednitz-Julian, Tony Klazas, President William Dempsey, and Mayor Richard Tomko.

Others in attendance included Borough Secretary Roland Price, Treasurer Carol Sutzko, Barbara Artz, Brandon Yeagley, David Cantwell, Vincent Alessi and Norm Diehl.

Public Comment

Vincent Alessi introduced two business partners who are interested in investing in St. Clair. Brandon Yeagley, a real estate agent who lives in the Borough mentioned all the potential he sees for this town. He is also a musician whose livelihood is entertainment and coordinating events and would like to help in any way possible. David Cantwell "Cousin Dave", from Minersville is an event coordinator who has notable experience such as 10 years running an international music band, Crobot, Schuylkill County Brewfest, and helping several businesses in Pottsville. He is also a former employee for PA Housing Finance Agency and was involved in the development of the new Minersville Apartments. He believes St. Clair has "Unlimited potential." The fact that St. Clair is so flat, it provides a great Walking Score. He has contacts with several young entrepreneurs and is willing to work with council to get businesses here, possibly through a Redevelopment Committee. Council members asked several questions and a discussion ensued. Mr. Cantwell mentioned that traditionally more grant money is awarded to regions, groups of local towns together, rather than to just one town.

President Dempsey announced this is his last meeting, he has an engagement next meeting. Since President Dempsey was not reelected, he thanked everyone and reassured council that change is good, and everything will be fine. Council also thanked him for dedicating 22 years of service to the council and appreciate the work he has done.

Mayor Tomko explained that the MMO for the police pension fund was revised by Mockenhaupt pension consultant. A copy is included in the council packet.

Mayor Tomko read a statement recognizing outgoing President William Dempsey.

Currently, it is appropriate to recognize the years of service to our Borough and its citizens by outgoing councilman William Dempsey.

Bill has served the people of our community for the past 22 years as an elected councilman and President of Borough Council.

During his tenure, he as a councilman, along with his fellow councilmen, played a significant role in the development and improvement of our electric light

department, the repaving of our streets, the rehabilitation of our playgrounds, the construction of new bridges at Russell and Lawton Streets, the initiation of a demolition program, and the pursuing of state and federal grants to enhance every aspect of our community.

At the same time, to his greater credit in my opinion, he contributed to the youth of our community as a coach of the 7th and 8th grade basketball teams during which time in addition to the teaching of the sport basketball, Bill encouraged the transition of boys to young men by instilling in them the important values for a successful life. A genuine example of giving of himself for the welfare of others.

On behalf of the elected and appointed officials of the Borough of St. Clair as well as the people of our town – I extend a heartfelt thank you for your public service and wish you and your family a happy and healthy future.

Borough Secretary Roland Price mentioned an inquiry received about an Airbnb. He contacted the Borough Engineer and Solicitor concerning this inquiry. Included are the Borough Secretary's December Notes. The tax ordinance was advertised and is ready for adoption. The electric light rate and garbage fee increase also needs to be adopted at the December council meeting. The new wage for part-time patrolman of \$25.00 needs to be formally adopted. The Planning Commission met concerning James Hale and the outcome is pending. A list of expired positions on the Boards was distributed and needs to be filled.

Borough Secretary Roland Price presented the Secretary Notes. The Tax Ordinance has been advertised and is ready for adoption, as well as the increase in Electric power rates. The 2024-Budget must be adopted.

The St. Clair Planning Commission met on November 27, 2023, to hear a subdivision request, concerning the Hale property. Conditional approval was granted pending completion of several tasks.

The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs offers a magazine "Borough News." Each Borough receives a complimentary copy for the Borough Secretary. \$10 for each subscription. Digital editions are available to subscribers at no additional cost. (10 issues) Let us know if anyone wants a copy.

Mockenhaupt Benefit Group provided a revised Police Pension fund MMO.

The non-residential garbage fees schedule is included in the council packet for review.

The Christmas and Tree Lighting Festival is this Saturday beginning at 4 p.m. The tree lighting ceremony will start at 5:00 pm upon Santa's arrival.

Regarding Boards and Authorities, the following individual's term of office will expire on December 31st.

Zoning Hearing Board – Michele Price Planning Commission – Michael McCord Recreation Commission – Deborah Davis Police Civil Service Commission – Anthony Klazas School Crossing Guard Agency – Police Chief William Dempsey Sewer Authority – William Rhoads and John Shandor Vacancy Board – Greg Stednitz

The December Issues, Review and Finance meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 28th.

The Reorganization of Borough Council and the January Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

Council discussed garbage rates for businesses and with further research will determine fees within the next several months.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Roland Price Borough Secretary The December Council Meeting of the St. Clair Borough Council was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, in Council Chambers, St. Clair Borough Municipal Building, 16 S. Third Street, St. Clair. The meeting began at 6:30 p.m.

Council Vice President Thomas Dempsey called to order the December 2023 monthly council meeting.

Answering the roll call were council persons: Thomas Adamchick, Joann Brennan, Cheryl Dempsey, Thomas Dempsey, Judy Stednitz-Julian, Tony Klazas, and Mayor Richard Tomko. Absent was Council President William Dempsey.

Also, present included Solicitor Edward Brennan, Engineer Brian Baldwin, Borough Secretary Roland Price, Treasurer Carol Sutzko, Electric Light Superintendent Bob Petrozino, Street Superintendent Kevin Dempsey, Fire Chief Frank Uhrin, Barbara Artz, Code Enforcement Officer Michelle Brestowski, Zoning Officer Greg Stednitz, Councilman-elect Norm Diehl, Vince Alessi and Ed Udit.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council member Joann Brennan read the council prayer and a moment of silence was held for the late John Houseknect, a past member of council.

Copies of the minutes of the previous council meetings have been given to Mayor Tomko and borough council members, are there any errors or corrections? If not, they stand approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Udut of Pike and McCord Streets requested a Children at Play sign near that intersection. Many children play in the area and it has become a high traffic area. Street Superintendent Kevin Dempsey will take care of that situation.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tomko requested that Val Davis, former council person, be kept in everyone's prayers. In reference to the Christmas Tree Lighting and Festival, he thanked the St. Clair Women's Club and Rescue Hook & Ladder as well as the churches, organizations, the off-duty Borough policemen and other Borough officials for the meaningful community event and for bringing the spirit of Christmas to St. Clair.

1. A heartfelt thank you is extended to the Holy Apostles Episcopal Church and the Pottsville Knights of Columbus for providing free Thanksgiving

dinners to those who found themselves alone or unable to cook on Thanksgiving.

- 2. Residents are urged to not allow packages delivered to their porches to remain there too long as they become targets for "porch thieves."
- 3. Holiday revelers are advised to use designated drivers if holiday celebrations involve travel and the consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- 4. On behalf of myself, the Borough Council, Borough officials and the Borough employees we wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Historical Note

The Brass Foundry was founded in 1875 by Peter P. Quirin who immigrated from an area in what is now Germany and settled in St. Clair in1854 and lived here until his death in 1891. The foundry specialized in brass work but it also was a machine shop where machinery was made and repaired.

Mr. Quirin was also an inventor. In 1883, he patented a miners safety lamp, and in 1886 he patented a nonfreezing water hydrant that was common in this region up until the 1930's.

Mayor Tomko also read a statement concerning the Short Term and Long-Term Fiscal Position of the Borough of St. Clair.

A Statement Concerning the Short Term and Long-Term Fiscal Position of the Borough of St. Clair

On the agenda at this month's meeting of Borough Council is the 2024 fiscal budget for St. Clair which included a \$3.00 a month increase in trash collection fees, a proposed property tax ordinance which includes a 3 mill or 60% increase in property taxes and a proposed electric light increase of 1 cent per kilowatt hour. The huge budget deficits of almost ½ of a million dollars which caused the need for such a large increase in revenue are unsustainable.

The only alternative solution to the budget deficits (which has occurred 3 years in a row) would have been a reduction in the number of employees and Borough Council has not chosen that path this year.

It is my opinion that the Borough should have been more fiscally aware when determining how many full-time employees we can afford and certainly should have devoted more time and effort to the study and

analysis of existing labor contracts with employees and conducted a fiscal impact assessment of these contracts before entering into negotiations with employees for new contracts.

Salaries and fringe benefits and other employee costs make up the single largest component of our budget and that fact of course, will continue with new contractual obligations and inflation. Borough Council will find itself with the same financial shortfalls for fiscal 2025 and beyond.

I would first recommend that council work sessions be much more inciteful with research, deliberation, and debate on any public policy issue as to the short and long-term fiscal implications of the issues made for placement on the agenda of the regular meetings.

In addition – the resignation or retirement of any Borough employee does not automatically call for a replacement. Borough Council should discuss the absolute need for the position and not the "want" of one of our governmental departments in such circumstances.

The council should also discuss the relatively new practice of using parttime employees in the Street and Health and Sanitation Departments. We should endeavor to use our full-time employees in the most productive and efficient way possible.

There can be no denying that the principal cause of our ongoing budgetary deficits is personnel costs – salaries, fringe benefits, and other costs related to employees such as the continuing rise in pension obligations, social security obligations and workmen's compensation insurance.

This Council and Borough Councils in the future must endeavor to provide the municipal services that our residents and taxpayers can afford.

We know that our Borough has a population of only around 2,700 people. Just about ½ of the population of Schuylkill Haven, 38% less than Minersville, 28% less than Frackville and 20% less than Mahanoy City – and that a large percentage of our population are retired or near retirement age.

Many people in our town struggle to pay for the necessities of life – food, heat, clothing and some retired seniors are not in a financial position to afford a supplement to Medicare.

We, in Borough government, must learn the difference between the economic terms – needs and wants.

The financial cost between needs and wants has the potential, in the long run, of jeopardizing the ability of our Borough to provide the essential services of local government.

We have a legal and ethical obligation to be fair to our employees but at the same time we have a moral obligation to the residents of our Borough who have entrusted us with public office – to govern in a manner that protects the future of municipal services in an economically sustainable fashion.

We must always keep our fiduciary responsibilities to the taxpayers and residents of St. Clair so that we can be good fiscal stewards of the people's money and in doing so – protect the future of the town we all call home for generations to come.

In fiscal 2025 – our Borough will be 175 years old. My family has lived here since before we became a Borough. It is my prayer that this community will be able to last for another 175 years and beyond. The actions taken by Borough Councils over the next decade may very well determine the answer to my prayer.

On a motion made by C. Dempsey, seconded by Adamchick, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Brennan reviewed the 14 conservatorships properties which are at various stages.

- 214 S. Third Street Application for conservatorship will be filed soon.
- 21 Pike Street Settlement will be held on December 19 with Mr. Griffiths.
- 115 E. Hancock Street, settlement with Mr. Alschuler will take place December 15th
- 102-104 Cherry St, et Interested parties' names need to be given to Attorney Brennan, and the selling price needs to be discussed.
- 307 Railroad Street If more than one party is interested in, and wants to refurbish the structure, the court must be given these names.
- 212 Cherry Street The court entered a final order as the structure is beyond repair.
- 146 N. Nicholas Street On appeal, no decision has been made yet. This is my number one priority. Even though it is on appeal, doesn't mean we can't move forward with demolition.

Regarding 26 S. Front Street, 438 S. Front Street – waiting for proposals to purchase the properties.

28 N. Nicholas Street and the Hinchey property – Waiting for service to be made on the property owners.

601 Wade Road and 311 Broad Street - Waiting for an interested party.

Attorney Brennan is requesting an executive session to discuss negotiations for 438 S. Front Street and 102-104 Cherry Street.

The Customer Owned Generation Ordinances are under review.

The Planning Commission met concerning the Hale Subdivision request. Attorney Brennan would like council to consider engaging Attorney Stan Burke for special litigation hearings, for example a Heart and a Lung Hearing, and acting as Solicitor for the Zoning Hearing Board.

A Memorandum of Understanding for the police patrolman and the Police Chief's contract are completed and ready to be adopted and signed.

Mayor Tomko asked Attorney Brennan the status of the Amusement Ordinance and the limits of operating time. Attorney Brennan is currently researching the ordinance details.

The St. Clair Redevelopment Authority is also waiting for the Department of State to officially incorporate. This process may take several months. The Redevelopment Authority will give the council flexibility, ease in applying for grants and the tool to clean up title issues.

County Reassessment is coming to St. Clair; it is a county wide progression.

Solicitor Brennan requested an executive session for personnel issues and pending litigation.

On a motion made by Klazas, seconded by Brennan, the report was approved.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

On a motion made by C. Dempsey, seconded by Adamchick, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

STREET DEPARTMENT REPORT

On a motion made by C. Dempsey, seconded by Stednitz-Julian, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT REPORT

Superintendent Bob Petrozino reported the newest 2008 Electric Light Bucket Truck has been red tagged, it did not pass its safety test, so it is out of commission.

On a motion made by Adamchick, seconded by C. Dempsey, the report was unanimously approved and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On a motion made by Klazas, seconded by Adamchick, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

Treasurer Carol Sutzko reviewed the report.

TAX REPORT

On a motion made by Brennan, seconded by Klazas, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

POLICE REPORT

On a motion made by Klazas, seconded by Adamchick, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

ZONING REPORT

On a motion made by C. Dempsey, seconded by Adamchick, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

Zoning Officer Stednitz recommended council consider raising the fee schedule and review fees for solar power generation. Solicitor Brennan suggested he discuss the issue with Borough Secretary Roland Price.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

On a motion made by Klazas, seconded by Adamchick, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

Fire Chief Uhrin added that they are making progress with STS, getting everything tied in. Underground alarm boxes in Woodland Terrace are also moving forward.

CODE DEPARTMENT REPORT

On a motion made by Klazas, seconded by Stednitz-Julian, the report was unanimously approved, and it was made part of the minutes by reference.

T. Dempsey added that Code Enforcement is doing a great job.

COMMUNICATIONS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Adamchick, seconded by Klazas to adopt the 2024 Budget. Roll Call – Adamchick – YES, Brennan – YES, C. Dempsey – YES, Julian – YES, Klazas – YES, T. Dempsey – YES. Approved.

On a motion by Adamchick, seconded by Klazas, to adopt Ordinance #449 increasing the Electric rate by 0.01 KWH effective January 1, 2024. Roll Call – Adamchick – YES, Brennan – YES, C. Dempsey – YES, Julian – YES, Klazas – YES, T. Dempsey – YES, approved.

On a motion by Brennan, seconded by C. Dempsey to adopt the 2024 Tax Ordinance setting the tax rate at 8 mills. Roll Call – Adamchick – YES, Brennan – YES, C. Dempsey – YES, Julian – YES, Klazas – YES, T. Dempsey – YES. Approved.

On a motion by Adamchick, seconded by Klazas, to raise the residential garbage fees to \$27.00 per month effective January 1, 2024. Roll Call – Adamchick – YES, Brennan – YES, C. Dempsey – YES, Julian – YES, Klazas – YES, T. Dempsey – YES. Approved.

Commercial garbage fees to be reviewed and discussed.

On a motion by Adamchick, seconded by Klazas to adopt the Employee Phone Policy, approved.

On a motion by Klazas, seconded by C. Dempsey, to approve the rate of a part time patrolman to \$25.00 per hour, approved.

On a motion by Klazas, seconded by Adamchick, to adopt the following as policy, regarding customer owned generation:

- •Following the recommendation of Norm Baron of Utility Engineers, set, as policy, the "Technical Requirements for Customer Owned Generation."
- •The applicant shall maintain homeowners, commercial or other insurance providing coverage in the amount of at least \$1,000,000 for the liability of the insured against losses or damages. A certificate of insurance shall be filed with the Borough naming the Borough as additional insured in the amount of at least \$1,000,000.
- •Fees shall include Borough costs including, but not limited to, an application fee, an inspection fee, an annual inspection fee and any other fees incurred, approved.

An explanation from Borough Secretary Roland Price and Electric Light Department Superintendent Bob Petrozino ensued concerning the "Customer Owned Generation." These guidelines will be a stop gap measure in the meantime until Ordinance #446 is amended and the next ordinance, referred to Ordinance XXXX, concerning customer owned generation and solar power is

adopted. We currently have a resident pursuing solar generation and these would help guide us through the process until the ordinances can be adopted. They also explained how customer-owned generation uses its own accounting system and some technical aspects will have made this quite complicated. Engineer Norm Baron of Utility Engineers will be invited to the next Work Session to answer questions from council.

On a motion made by C. Dempsey, seconded by Klazas, to amend the agenda, approved.

A motion made by Adamchick, seconded by Stednitz-Julian to approve the hiring of Kasandra Cookson as a substitute crossing guard, pending the passing of her physical examination, and passing all necessary clearances and training, approved.

A motion made by Adamchick seconded by Stednitz-Julian to raise the crossing guard wage to \$12.50 per hour, approved.

The executive session began at 7:53 p.m. for discussions concerning real estate prices, and personnel matters.

The executive session adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

On a motion made by Stednitz-Julian, seconded by Adamchick to adopt the contract for Street Superintendent Kevin Dempsey. Roll Call – Adamchick – YES, Brennan – YES, C. Dempsey – YES, Julian – YES, Klazas – YES, T. Dempsey – YES, approved.

On a motion by Klazas, seconded by Adamchick, to appoint Attorney Stan Burke for special legislation, approved.

On a motion made by Klazas, seconded by Brennan to pay all the bills and claims, approved.

On a motion by Stednitz-Julian, seconded by Brennan to adjourn the meeting, approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Roland Price

Borough Secretary

Mayor's Report

December 2023

- 1. A heartfelt thank you is extended to the Holy Apostles Episcopal Church and the Pottsville Knights of Columbus for providing free Thanksgiving dinners to those who found themselves alone or unable to cook on Thanksgiving.
- 2. Residents are urged to not allow packages delivered to their porches to remain there too long as they become targets for "porch thieves."
- 3. Holiday revelers are advised to use designated drivers if holiday celebrations involve travel and the consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- 4. On behalf of myself, the Borough Council, Borough officials and the Borough employees — we wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Historical Note

The Brass Foundry was founded in 1875 by Peter P. Quirin who immigrated from an area in what is now Germany and settled in St. Clair in1854 and lived here until his death in 1891. The foundry specialized in brass work but it also was a machine shop where machinery was made and repaired.

Mr. Quirin was also an inventor. In 1883, he patented a miners safety lamp, and in 1886 he patented a nonfreezing water hydrant that was common in this region up until the 1930's.





December 5, 2023

Mr. William Dempsey Council President St. Clair Borough Council 16 S Third Street St. Clair, PA 17970

RE:

Consulting Engineer's Report (CER) Benesch Project No. 31433.02

Dear Mr. Dempsey:

The following is the status of engineering services performed by our firm as of this date:

ENGINEERING CONSULTATIONS & CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Grant Assistance (31433.02, Task 5)

PCCD Police Grant

We have been working with the Police Department and the Borough regarding the purchasing and grant reporting requirements. Quarterly reporting is required for the life of the grant term (until April 20, 2025), which we have been providing on behalf of the Borough. Once any of the equipment is received, the Borough can submit for reimbursement.

LSA Garbage Truck

The grant received (effective March 16, 2023) was in the amount of \$301,609.00 and expires on June 30, 2026. We have received updated price quotes from PA-COSTARS vendors for the chassis (Mack Granite 84BR) and compactor (Heil DuraPack 5000 32 CY) meeting the Borough requirements. The latest price quote has a total price of \$305,376.02 (\$3,767.02 higher than grant). The Borough will be responsible for any amounts above the grant amount. Payment to the chassis manufacturer is due prior to delivery to upfitter, which is expected to take at least 12 months. Once purchased and delivered, the Borough can submit to DCED for reimbursement of the grant funds. There have been some refinements of the chassis specifications that were provided by Mack. Once the Borough Superintendent approves the revisions, the Borough can order the truck.

LSA Electric Bucket Truck

On behalf of the Borough, on November 30, 2023, our office submitted a CFA LSA-Statewide grant application in the amount of \$285,000 for a new electric bucket truck (DLT2-60DU). The CFA announces award recipients at their board meetings; however, those meetings have not yet been scheduled for 2024. The first meeting likely will not be held until March 2024.

LSA Firehouse Addition

On behalf of the Borough and the St. Clair Fire Department, on November 30, 2023, our office submitted a CFA LSA-Statewide grant application in the amount of \$651,360 for a garage addition to the Alert Fire Company Station No. 1. The CFA announces award recipients at their board meetings; however, those meetings have not yet been scheduled for 2024. The first meeting likely will not be held until March 2024.



2023 PA DCNR Community Partnerships Program (C2P2), Small Communities (SC) Program John Siney Park

On October 25, 2023, the Borough was informed that they were awarded a grant of \$77,500 for the John Siney Park Improvements. The initial teleconference was already held; however, the Borough will have to await the grant contract documents from DCNR before proceeding, likely after the New Year.

Schuylkill County Hazard Mitigation Plan (31433.03, Task 1)

Our office has been assisting the Borough with completing the several tasks that the County has requested to facilitate their update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Projects identified in the HMP can help meet FEMA eligibility criteria for many grant programs. On December 4, 2023, our office joined the Borough Secretary on a teleconference to identify problem areas within the Borough.

St. Clair Little League Project (31226.20)

As discussed at the previous Council Meeting, Council has chose to rebid the project with a modified scope to bring the project within budget. We have been coordinating this effort with DCNR, and we anticipate receiving new bids at your February Council Meeting.

SUBDIVISIONS & LAND DEVELOPMENTS

Taco Bell LD (30567.32, Task 2)

The last major outstanding item of work to be performed by the Developer is the paving of the pathway along Mill Street to Taco Bell. This path might become a part of the Schuylkill River Trail. Nevertheless, Taco Bell has been in operation since late 2015. We have reached out to CCCC for a status update several times, but they have not provided any updates.

Coal Creek Commerce Center - Phase III LD (30839.32, Task 2)

As of early 2019, work in the area of the medical office building is essentially complete, although a majority of the remainder of Phase III – including stormwater features – has not yet been started. There are three (3) more buildings and associated infrastructure yet to be completed. We have reached out to CCCC for a status update several times, but they have not provided any updates. However, on November 21, 2023, the County Conservation District issued a PAG-02 NPDES General Permit Renewal Approval to CCCC with a new expiration date of December 7, 2024.

STS LD (31137.31, Task 1)

All sitework appears to be complete. We are awaiting the submission of record plans before closing out this project.

AutoZone LD (31137.31, Task 3)

The sitework is nearly complete. We will continue to monitor the project as construction progresses.

Hale SD (31433.30, Task 1)

The Borough received a subdivision submission for Hale property along West Carroll Street. Our office reviewed the submission and provided a comment letter in preparation for a meeting of the St. Clair Planning Commission held on November 27, 2023. At the meeting, the Planning Commission unanimously agreed to recommend Council grant Conditional Final Plan Approval. Since the meeting, the applicant has been providing our office with supplemental information to satisfy those conditions, which are still being addressed. Council has 90 days from the Planning Commission Meeting to render a decision (February 25, 2024).



POTENTIAL FUNDING/GRANT SOURCES (31433.02, Task 5)

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND VEHICLES

PA DEP: Driving PA Forward, Onroad Rebate Program – Trucks and Buses

- Current Status: OPEN (as of Nov 24, 2023) FINAL ROUND
- Application Deadline: The application period will remain open until all funds are exhausted.
- <u>Background</u>: \$6.1 million is available to fund rebates for projects that replace or repower fleets of 5 or fewer class 4-8 trucks, port drayage trucks, school buses, shuttle buses, and/or transit buses.
- <u>Uses</u>: Class 4-8 trucks with Model Years 1992-2009 with at least 3 years of remaining useful life are eligible for rebates for repower or replacement with new diesel, electric or alternative fuel. Vehicles must be scrapped.

• Funding: Max 70% up to the following Maximums per Vehicle:

Truck Class	Diesel	Alt Fuel
4-5	\$56,000	\$70,000
6-7	\$70,000	\$105,000
8	\$122,500	\$157,500

This is a rebate voucher program that reimburses for costs incurred.

USDA Rural Development: Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program

- Current Status: OPEN
- Application Deadline: Applications accepted continuously throughout the year.
- <u>Uses</u>: Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities (including police & fire stations), purchase equipment (including vehicles), and pay related expenses.
- Funding: Low interest direct loans and/or grants (max 75%). Most funding via low-interest loans.

TRANSPORTATION/INFRASTRUCTURE

USDOT: FY 2023 Bridge Investment Program (BIP)

- <u>Current Status</u>: <u>CLOSED</u> Opening TBD
- Application Deadline:
 - Planning Grants: 45 days after publication (~Dec 2023)
 - o Bridge Projects: 90 days after publication (~Jan 2024)
- <u>Uses</u>: Authorized under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), projects that replace, rehabilitate, preserve, or safeguard NBIS bridges, and for culvert replacement/rehabilitation on the NBIS to enhance flood control and aquatic habitat connectivity.
- Funding:
 - o Planning Grants: No minimum nor maximum; requires 20% match
 - Bridge Projects: \$2.5 minimum; requires 20% match (\$500,000 minimum)
- Anticipated Award Announcement: Spring/Summer 2024
- Potential Project(s): Thwing Street Bridge Replacement, Carroll Street Bridge Replacement

USDOT: FY 2024 RAISE Discretionary Grants

- Current Status: OPEN
- Application Deadline: Feb 28, 2024
- <u>Uses</u>: Highway, bridge, road projects, public transportation, intermodal, and more.
- Funding:
 - o Planning Grants: No minimum, \$25M maximum
 - Projects: \$1 minimum/\$25M maximum; typically requires 20% match but may be waived for rural areas
- Anticipated Award Announcement: Summer 2024
- Potential Project(s): Thwing Street Bridge Replacement, Carroll Street Bridge Replacement



PENDING/AWARDED GRANT APPLICATIONS

2022 PA DCED Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA): Local Share Account (LSA) – Statewide

Project

Garbage Truck

Total Project Estimate

\$301,609

Borough Portion

\$0 (0%)

Date Submitted

Mar 15 2022

Award Notification

Mar 16 2023

Application Status

AWARDED \$301,609

2022 PA DCNR Community Partnerships Program (C2P2), Small Communities (SC) Program

Project

Northward Playground Basketball Courts

Total Project Estimate

\$70,000

Borough Portion

\$20,000 (29%)

Date Submitted

Apr 6 2022

Award Notification

Sep 6 2022

Application Status

AWARDED \$50,000

PA Commission on Crime and Delinguency (PCCD): Local Law Enforcement Support (LLES) Grant Program

Project

Equipment and Technological Upgrades

Total Project Estimate

\$177,018

Borough Portion

\$0 (0%)

Date Submitted

Oct 31 2022

Award Notification

Mar 8 2023 (Second Rnd)

Application Status

AWARDED \$87,660

2023 PA DCNR Community Partnerships Program (C2P2), Small Communities (SC) Program

Project

John Siney Park

Total Project Estimate

\$125,000

Borough Portion

\$47,500 (38%)

Date Submitted

Apr 5 2023

Award Notification

Fall 2023

Application Status

AWARDED \$77,500

2023 PA DCED Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA): Greenways, Tralls, Recreation Program (GTRP)

Project

John Siney Park

Total Project Estimate

\$150,000

Borough Portion

\$22,500 (15%)

Date Submitted Award Notification May 31 2023

Jan 2024

Application Status

Under Review

2023 PA DCED Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA): Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF)

Project

Thwing St Bridge Replacement

Total Project Estimate

\$2,264,000

Borough Portion

\$0 (0%)

Date Submitted

July 30 2023

Award Notification

Jan 2024

Application Status

Under Review



2023 PA DCED Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA): Local Share Account (LSA) - Statewide

Project

Electric Bucket Truck

Total Project Estimate

\$285,000

Borough Portion

\$0 (0%)

Date Submitted

Nov 30 2023

Award Notification

Mar 2024 or later

Application Status

Under Review

2023 PA DCED Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA): Local Share Account (LSA) - Statewide

Project

Firehouse Addition

Total Project Estimate

\$651,360

Borough Portion

\$0 (0%)

Date Submitted

Nov 30 2023

Award Notification

Mar 2024 or later

Application Status

Under Review

ST. CLAIR ACTION ITEMS

1. New Potential Grant Opportunities

- a. PA DEP: Driving PA Forward, Onroad Rebate Program Trucks and Buses The Final round is now open and will close once all funds are expended. If Council wishes to pursue this opportunity, Council should consider authorizing our office to begin the application process.
- b. USDOT: FY 2024 RAISE Discretionary Grants This new opportunity is now available with a deadline of Feb 28, 2024, with a potential for no local match requirement. If Council wishes to pursue this opportunity, Council should consider authorizing our office to begin the application process.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions or comments concerning the above, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

Cc:

Brian W. Baldwin, PE Project Manager

Atty. Edward M. Brennan, Solicitor (w/ attachments)

November Street Dept.

Collected garbage, recyclables and large items for the month.

Parks and playgrounds are checked and cleaned daily.

The entire town was cleared several times of debris from leaves.

Completed coating the salt storage bin.

Concrete was completed and salt was brought back from storage at New Castle.

Installed black board & plywood to stop deterioration of garage wall.

Installed a new inlet in the 100 block of South Front Street.

Installed new balusters on Gazebo in Boone Park.

Replaced STOP sign on Oak and Ann Street.

Ann Street was cut and clean of all garbage and debris on the hill.

Completed signs and route for the Santa parade.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mike Boyer for volunteering numerous hours and all his effort to help with the Santa parade.

<u>Maintenance</u>

The following vehicles were checked and serviced for inspection:

150A; 150C; 150D and S-10

The backhoe was serviced and greased for the winter.

All borough trucks serviced and installed spreaders. Plows were reviewed and any necessary parts were replaced for proper working order for winter.

New transmission lines were installed on both pickup trucks.

S-S pickup was put back in service and ready for winter.

Winterize all lawn care equipment and stored away for winter.

Electric Light Department Report

November 2023

October's Energy cost = \$124,784.47 / 1,503,150 KWH

To date 18 poles have been replaced in Borough's distribution area.

Meeting with Utility Engineers, Borough Zoning Officer Roland and myself to review Solar Ordinances and Borough technical requirements.

Sent list to Service Electric and Verizon of comm. Wires needing to be transferred to new poles section 4.

Posted 68 – 48 hour disconnect notices for non-payment.

Terminated Electric Service to 4 for non-payment.

Placed order for 4 LED light fixtures to replace existing HPS fixtures in Woodland Terrace.

Meeting with Wright's Electric Foreman, Verizon and Cable Services in regards to Com Cast Project.

Hung Christmas Lights on all trees in Boone Park and 2 temp electric services for Christmas Festival.

Electric Bills taken to Pottsville Post Office Tuesday 11/14.

Meeting here with Harry Phillips from AMP, Roland and myself discussed energy, transmission, capacity costs.

Removed piles of dirt around a few new poles that were replaced for Com cast Project.

Scheduled yearly ANSI and Dielectric safety tests for both Bucket trucks, tests done on 11/29/23. 2008 GMC Bucket truck failed and tagged unsafe for use!! Taken to Mobile Lift on Monday 12/4/23 for repairs.

2 days - Traffic control on Wade Road for Electrical Contractor / Com Cast Project.

Performed numerous other jobs, responded to multiple PA ONE calls, answered and returned numerous phone calls and emails throughout month.

Respectfully Submitted;

Robert Petrozino Superintendent Saint Clair Borough Electric Light Dept.

12/05/2023

Borough of St. Clair Treasurer's Report - General Fund October 2023

	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
301.10 · Real Estate Tax, Current	560.82
301.30 · Real Estate Tax, Delinquent	1,288.05
310.01 · Per Capita Tax, Current	38.50
310.03 · Per Capita Tax, Delinquent	209.03
310.10 · Real Estate Transfer Tax	1,351.91
310.20 · Earned Income Tax	12,429.69
310.30 - Business Privilege Tax	4,402.29
310.41 · Occupation Tax, Current	9.24
310.43 · Occupation Tax, Delinquent	80.85
310.50 · Local Service Tax	1,556.35
331.12 · Police Fines	2,458.08
342.20 - Rental Income - Boro Property	12,500.00
355.01 - Public Utility Realty Tax	639.67
359 - Intergovernmental Revenue	4,488.41
361.33 Variance/Zoning Permits	425.00
362.10 - Police Protection Services	9,806.50
362.20 Special Fire Protection Service	2,767.16
364.30 - Solid Waste Collection Fees	31,758.07
392.18 Transfers from Electric Light	300,000.00
395.500 · Workers Com Reimburseme	22,693.02
Total Income	409,462.64
Expense	
Administration Department	34,248.91
Health & Sanitation Department	34,889.88
Miscellaneous Department	1,411.55
Planning & Zoning Department	1,545.00
Police Protection Department	261,488.35
403.00 Tax Collection Department	576.78
409.00 · Borough Buildings Department	13,811.17
411.00 · Fire Department	16,164.83

Borough of St. Clair Treasurer's Report - General Fund October 2023

	TOTAL
419.00 · Educational Services 419.30 · Salaries	8,094.00
Total 419.00 Educational Services	8,094.00
430.00 · Streets & Bridges Department	38,268.44
452.00 Recreation Department	8,087.94
481.00 · Payroll Tax Expense 487.00 · Employer Benefits & W/H	4,839.89 82,466.24
Total Expense	505,892.98
Net Ordinary Income	-96,430.34
Other Income/Expense Other Income 341.000 Interest, Dividend Income	2,382.73
Total Other Income	2,382.73
Other Expense 492.00 · Transfers Department 492.130 · Transfer to Sinking Fund 492.305 · Transfer to Gen Fund Cap Total 492.00 · Transfers Department	25,000.00 3,000.00 28,000.00
Total Other Expense	28,000.00
mer mit ente	

ENDING BALANCE: \$120,042.75

Borough of St. Clair Treasurer's Report - Electric Light Fund October 2023

	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense	
7372,40 · Electric Energy Sales	381,958.26
7372.50 · Sales Tax Discounts	25.00
7372.55 · Processing Fees	1,100.00
7372.56 · Miscellaneous Receipts	5,882,46
7372.57 · Service Fees	300.00
Total Income	389,265.72
Expense	
7401.00 - Electric Light	
7401120 · Superintendent	5,212.04
7402114 · Treasurer	1,288.36
7405300 · Secretary	2,230.20
7409300 · Rental Expense	12,098.62
7442141 · Office Manager	3,892.80
7442142 · Administrative Assistant	1,835.15
7442143 · Lineman	4,679.26
7442144 · Assistant Lineman	4,021.36
7442210 · Office Supplies	1,071.91
7442220 · Electrical Materials & Supplies	1,685.05
7442231 · Gasoline & Oil	203.53
7442260 · Minor Equipment	231.84
7442321 · Telephone	420.80
7442361 - AMP - Ohio	146,773.08
7442370 · Maintenance & Repairs	16,514.27
7442372 · Technology/Computer Expenses	1,125.00
7442450 · Refunds - Electric	375.67
Total 7401.00 · Electric Light	203,658.94
Total Expense	203,658.94
Net Ordinary Income	185,606.78
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income 341.000 · Interest, Dividend Income	2,263.61
Total Other Income	2,263.61
V	
Other Expense	
492.00 · Transfers Department	
492.130 · Transfer to Sinking Fund	11,500.00
492.80 · Transfer to General Fund	300,000.00
Total 492,00 · Transfers Department	311,500.00
Total Other Expense	311,500.00

ENDING BALANCE: \$600,108.97

Borough of St. Clair Balance Sheet As of October 31, 2023

	Oct 31, 23
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
100.10 · Elec. Lgt. Sales Tax- Mid Penn	-8,282.56
100.12 PLGIT - Elec Light Deposit Acct	1,590.57
100.121 · PLGIT PRIME - Elec. Light Dep.	22,303.55
100.13 · PLGIT - Elect Lgt Capital Rsrv	6,026.77
100.131 · PLGIT PRIME-Elec.Light Cap Res	271,038.38
100.14 · PLGIT - Electric Light Fund	577,429.24
100.15 · PLGIT - FIRE INS ESCROW ACCT	36,335.54
100.16 · PLGIT - General Fund	95,448.92
100.17 · PLGIT - General Fund Cap Reserv	6,026.77
100.171 · PLGIT PRIME-Gen. Fund Cap. Res.	267,432.25
100.18 · PLGIT - HD Land Devel Escrow	20,546.38
100.191 PLGIT PRIME - Highway Aid Fund	100,463.62
100.20 · Elec. Light Chk. (Mid Penn)	22,679.73
100.21 · PLGIT - Home Program	798.74
100.22 · PLGIT - Recreation Grant Fund	40,834.78
100.221 · PLGIT PRIME - Recreation Grant	175.84
100.23 PLGIT - Sinking Fund	73,485.97
100.231 · PLGIT PRIME - Sinking Fund	297,854.05
100.24 · PLGIT - Street Opening Permit	24,673 <i>.</i> 41
100.241 · PLGIT PRIME - Street Opening	46,572.12
100.30 · Gen. Fund Chk. (Mid Penn)	24,593.83
100.40 PLGIT-Bridge Construction Fund	9.91
100.401 · PLGIT PRIME - Bridge Cons. Fund	120,192.03
100.50 · PLGIT - Demolition Fund	12,110.91
100.501 - PLGIT PRIME - Demolition Fund	239,289.48
100.90 - PLGIT - Building Permit Fund	66,933.25
105.10 · PLGIT - Payroll Fund	328.33
105.20 PLGIT - Withholding Account	303.09
110 · Petty Cash	500.00
110.10 · Petty Cash - General Fund	200.00
110.20 · Petty Cash - Swimming Pool - GF	300.00
Total Checking/Savings	2,368,194.90

Tax Collector's Remittance to Taxing Districts

WILLIAM UMBENHAUR - 2023 - SAINT CLAIR BOROUGH

For <u>10/01/2023</u> thru <u>10/31/2023</u>

Date Created <u>11/09/2023</u>

SAINT CLAIR BOROUGH Taxing District

	Municipality	Borough Per Capita	Borough Occupation	Other
A. Collections				
1. Balance Collectable - Beginning of Month	29693.26	3570.00	1499.40	
2A. Additions: During the Month (*)				
2B. Deductions: Credits During the Month - (from line 17)				
3. Total Collectable	29693.26	3570.00	1499,40	
4. Less: Face Collections for the Month	970.53	20.00	4.20	
5. Less: Deletions/Exemptions from the List (*)			4.20	
6. Less: Exonerations (*)				
7. Less; Liens/Non-Lienable/Installments (*)				
8. Balance collectable - End of Month	28722.73	3550.00	1491.00	
B. Reconcilliation of Cash Collected				
9. Face Amount of Collections - (must agree with line 4+7)	970,53	20.00	4.20	
10. Plus: Penalties	97.07	2.00	0.42	
11. Less: Discounts				
12. Total Cash Collected per Column	1067.60	22.00	4.62	
13. Total Cash Collected - (12A + 12B + 12C + 12D)				1094.22

(*) ATTACH ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED BY YOUR TAXING DISTRICT

C. Payment of Taxes			
14. Amount Remitted During t	he Month (*)		
Date		Transaction # Amount	TOTAL ALL TAXES
,			
		Total	0.00
15. Amount Paid with this Rep	ort Appilcable to t	this Reporting Month Transaction #	1094.22
16. Total Remitted This Month	·		1094.22
17. List, Other Credit Adjustr	nents (*)		
Parcel / PerCapita#		Name Amount	
		Total 0.00	
18. Interest Earnings (if applic	able) \$_	1 10 1	
TAXING DISTRICT USE (OPT	ΠΟΝΑL)	Welliam Um Week aur 11-9-2 Tax Collector Dat	023
Carryover from Previous Month	5	I verify this is a complete and accurate reporting of the balance collectable, taxes collected and remitted for the month.	
Amount Collected This Month	S	Received by (taxing district):	
Less Amount Paid this Month \$			
Ending Balance \$)	Title: Date:	
		I acknowledge the receipt of this report.	

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SAINT CLAIR POLICE DEPARTMENT

24 NORTH SECOND STREET SAINT CLAIR, PA 17970

DISPATCH: 570-429-2240 FAX: 570-429-3050

POLICE REPORT: 11/01/23 - 12/01/23

TOTAL CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE	347
TOTAL TRAFFIC STOPS	72
TOTAL TRAFFIC CITATIONS	48
TOTAL CRIMINAL ARRESTS	11
TOTAL PARKING TICKETS	4

Respectfully submitted, William M. Dempsey Chief of Police

Borough of St. Clair

Zoning Officer's Report

November 2023

Application	Application Date	Description	Status	Special Notes
Zoning Permit	11/2/2023	Solar Panel	Zoning Permit Complete	324 S. Nicholas
Zoning Permit	11/7/2023	Shed at Cell Tower	Permit Issued	100 Oak
Zoning Request	11/8/2023	Garage	Requires Variance	315 S. Mill
Zoning Investigation	11/14/2023	Enclosure Replacement	No Permit Required	148 N. 3rd
Zoning Request	11-17-2023	Home Construction	Pending	62-03-0258.125 Fernwood Ave.
Zoning Request	11-20-2023	Home Construction	Pending	200 S. Nicholas

Greg Stednitz

Zoning Officer

11-27-2023

Saint Clair Fire Department Fire Alarm Report November 2023

<u>November-01 CHIEF CALL</u> 12:08 hours 71 Caroline Avenue East Norwegian Township for a utility's investigation. Asst. Johns and Skrobak responded and found a tree down on power lines with power out in the area. PPL were given the pole number and fire police secured the area. (**TD08**) In service 35 minutes.

<u>November-01 STILL ALARM</u> 13:03 hours 1000 St. Clair / Frackville Grade North Blythe Township for a tree blocking the roadway. Alert/Columbia, West End, and Asst. Johns responded. Members cleared the roadway. (**TD02**) In service 30 minutes.

<u>November-02 STILL ALARM</u> 10:05 hours 200 East Arch St. Pottsville for an electrical fire inside a commercial building. Alert/Columbia, Asst. Johns responded with the tower ladder. Members were cancelled before arriving. (CSF68) In service 15 minutes.

<u>November-06 STILL ALARM</u> 15:12 hours 1 East Darkwater Rd. New Castle Township for an offroad rescue. Alert/Columbia, West End, Asst. Johns and Skrobak responded. Members assisted EMS with patient care. (ORR17) In service 25 minutes.

November-06 STILL ALARM 15:32 hours 298 East Sherman St. for a landing zone. Alert/Columbia responded from the scene, members secured the landing zone and assisted EMS with loading the patient into the helicopter. (LZ62) In service 30 minutes.

<u>November-08 STILL ALARM</u> 08:34 hours 1469 SR.61 Highway New Castle Township for a vehicle accident rollover. Alert/Columbia, Rescue, Asst. Johns and Skrobak responded. Members controlled fluids and traffic. (MVA17) In service 1 hour.

<u>November-10 STILL ALARM</u> 21:51 hours 130 South Third St. for a carbon monoxide activation. Alert/Columbia, Chief Uhrin and Skrobak responded. Members found high levels of carbon monoxide in the residence. Members shut off the propane heating unit and ventilated the residence. (**CO62**) In service 40 minutes.

November-11 STILL ALARM 08:57 hours Joseph H Long Blvd. and Terry Rich Blvd. for a vehicle accident reported to be a rollover. Alert/Columbia, Rescue, West End, Chief Uhrin and Skrobak responded. Members removed one person who was trapped in the vehicle to EMS. **(EMVA62)** In service 50 minutes.

<u>November-11 STILL ALARM</u> 09:09 hours 298 East Sherman St. for a landing zone. Phoenix, West End, and Asst. Johns responded. Members secured the landing zone and assisted EMS with loading the patient into the helicopter. (LZ62) In service 35 minutes.

November-17 STILL ALARM 23:18 hours 498 North St. Pottsville for a brush fire. West End responded with both brush trucks and assisted city companies. (BF68) In service 1 hour.

November-17 STILL ALARM 13:14 hours 56 Washington St. Middleport for a reported chimney fire. Alert/Columbia, Chief Uhrin and Skrobak responded with the towerladder. Members were placed available while still enroute. (CF51) In service 20 minutes.

November-17 CHIEF CALL 19:47 hours 48 Tunnel Rd. East Norwegian Township for an unknown type of alarm. All chiefs responded and found the alarm to be from a faulty air compressor for the attic sprinklers. Chiefs contacted the property manager who contacted maintenance. (CHF08) In service 2 hours.

November-20 STILL ALARM 07:47 hours 325 South Centre St. Pottsville for a reported building fire. Alert/Columbia, Chief Uhrin along with other Schuylkill County Fire Units responded. Members were cancelled while enroute. **(CSF68)** In service 15 minutes.

November-21 STILL ALARM 21:45 hours 1550 Burma Rd. Blythe Township for a vehicle accident w/entrapment. Alert/Columbia, Rescue, Deputy Skrobak, Schuylkill EMS, Schuylkill County Corner, and Blythe Township Police responded. Members provided lighting and traffic control. (FMVA02) in service 1 hour.

<u>November-27 STILL ALARM</u> 09:18 hours 822 Burma Rd. Blythe Township for a tree down on the roadway. Phoenix, West End, Chief Uhrin responded, The Schuylkill Municipal Authority removed the tree from the roadway. Units placed available. (**TD02**) In service 15 minutes.

November-27 CHIEF CALL 10:07 hours Ann St. & Oak St. assist police with a car into a pole. Phoenix, and Chief Uhrin responded. Chief contacted the St. Clair Borough Street Dept for a down Stop Sign. (CHF62) In service 25 minutes.

<u>November-27 STILL ALARM</u> 11:13 hours 408 Rt. 209 Highway East Norwegian Township for a tree down blocking the roadway. Alert/Columbia, Chief Uhrin responded. Members cut up and removed trees from the roadway. (TD08) In service 30 minutes.

November-28 STILL ALARM 08:11 hours 119 Industrial Park Rd. East Norwegian Township for a vehicle accident w/injury. Alert/Columbia, Rescue, Deputy Skrobak, and SCPD responded. Members assisted EMS with patient care and provided traffic control. (MVA08) In service 1 hour.

<u>November-30 STIŁL ALARM</u> 22:41 hours 419 South Claude A Blvd. (*Kentucky Fried Chicken*) for smoke in a structure. Alert/Columbia, Deputy Skrobak for the tower ladder. City command held out of town units in station while the incident was investigated. Units were cleared a short time later. (**CSF68**) In service 25 minutes.

Comments:

The following alarm boxes were tested 33,41,23,12.

On November 17^{th} , 2023, met on site at STS with NRC Alarm Company about tying in the Master Box.

The Schuylkill County Municipal Authority installed the risers on the 2 hydrants on Louisa Avenue in East Norwegian Township.

General Alarms	0
Still Alarms	16
False Alarms	0
Chief Calls/Public Service	3

Total Calls 19

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Uhrin Fire Chief

BOROUGH OF ST. CLAIR - CODE ENFORCEMENT - PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

16 South Third Street St Clair, PA 17970

> PHONE: 570-429-0640 Fax: 570-429-2829

December 4, 2023
TOTAL COMPLAINTS – 11
RENTAL INSPECTIONS – 2
Respectfully,
Michelle D. Brestowski

Code Enforcement Officer