

Palmyra Borough Council Meeting
 Tuesday January 22, 2019
 7:00 PM

Borough Council President Beth Shearer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Palmyra Municipal Center, located at 325 S. Railroad St. Other Council members in attendance included Don Barry, Josh Holl, Carissa Mellinger, Tom Miller (via teleconference), Jane Quairoli, and Joe Templin. Also, in attendance were Borough Manager Roger Powl, Assistant Borough Manager Brenda Pera, Mayor Carpenter, and Acting Chief Pete Mathews.

Announcements

President Shearer announced that Borough Council held an executive session on Saturday January 12th from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM to observe Police Chief Candidate testing.

An executive session was also held prior to the January 22nd, meeting to discuss a personnel issue as permitted by the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. Any official action resulting from these Executive Sessions will occur at a future public meeting.

Special Visitors

- Representative Frank Ryan presented former Police Chief Stanley J. Jasinski, Jr. with a House Citation recognizing his 40 years of service to the Borough of Palmyra.
- Mayor Carpenter presented a plaque to former Police Chief Stanley J. Jasinski, Jr. to recognize his retirement after 40-years of service.
- Former Police Chief Stanley J. Jasinski, Jr. presented the Officer of the Year Award to Officer Jennifer Shoemaker.
- Acting Chief Peter J. Mathews presented a gift to former Police Chief Stanley J. Jasinski, Jr. that included his police patches, rank insignia, badges, and service weapon mounted in a shadow box.

Public Comment Period #1

There were no public comments.

Consent Calendar

The following agenda items were acted upon by a single motion:

- a. Approve the minutes of the January 8, 2019 Borough Council meeting.
- b. Approve payment of all bills listed on the December 2018 Bill's List.
- c. Approve the Treasurer's Report for the period December 1 through December 31, 2018:

	General Fund	Sewer Fund	Refuse Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Special Sewer Fund	Liquid Fuels Fund
YTD Revenue	\$3,606,892	\$1,754,142	\$904,184	\$1,116,825	\$26,229	\$235,318
YTD Expenses	\$4,012,017	\$1,278,455	\$764,824	\$594,154	\$1,078,021	\$28,196
Difference	\$(405,125) \$ 643,243	\$475,687	\$139,360	\$569,772	\$(1,051,792)	\$207,122
Fund Balance	\$1,433,551	\$696,590	\$407,124	\$1,549,288	\$1,238,352	\$734,437

	Library Fund	Police Health Care Fund	Town Square Reserve Fund	Joint Fire Apparatus Fund	Cemetery Fund	Employee Benefits Fund
YTD Revenue	\$28,759	\$40,701	\$55	\$54,521	\$1,211	\$107,344
YTD Expenses	\$28,500	\$31,717	\$940	\$0	\$473	\$78,112
Difference	\$338	\$8,984	\$(885)	\$54521	\$738	\$29,232
Fund Balance	\$2,733	\$198,547	\$3,861	\$378,299	\$41,790	\$29,232

Motion: To approve the consent calendar. Motion by Jane Quairoli, second by Carissa Mellinger. Motion passed.

Action & Discussion Items

- a. Single-Bag Trash Program – Mr. Powl informed Council that staff is working towards offering the single-bag trash program beginning April 1st. However, the question of how to offer the program to tenants is raising an issue because the Borough does not recognize tenants as customers. The Borough only works with property owners. Mr. Powl provided a copy of an email from the Solicitor outlining various options available to the Borough to extend the program to tenants, but none of the options is easy to track when property owners do not submit rental registrations forms when a tenant moves. The Borough has experienced this issue quarterly with the number of address corrections notices it receives after the newsletters are mailed to tenants. Council can also consider not offering the program to rental units. Council requested an opportunity to consider all the options prior to making a final decision.

Reports

- a. President’s Report: President Shearer did not have a report.
- b. Financial Report: Mr. Powl provided a copy of the December 31, 2018 report.
- c. Library Report: Councilor Quairoli provided a copy of the January 2019 report, and announced the Springtime at the Hershey Vineyards fund raising event for the library.
- d. Police Department: Acting Chief Mathews informed Council that since the 2020 Ford Police Interceptor SUV police vehicles have not been manufactured yet, the accessories for these vehicles have also not been determined or priced. It will be a few weeks/months before a final price can be determined for the new unmarked police vehicle.
- e. Solicitor’s Report: There was no report.
- f. Zoning Hearing Board: No Hearings were conducted this month.
- g. Borough Manager’s Report:
 - 1. New Public Works Garage Building Project: Mr. Powl announced that a temporary occupancy permit has been received to enable the Public Works crew to begin moving equipment into the garage. He stated that they intend to keep the garage organized and clean and are very appreciative of the opportunity to keep all the equipment under roof.
 - 2. Southeast Park Sinkhole Repair: Mr. Powl reported that during excavation a 5th sinkhole was found at the park and the engineer and excavator will be working to repair it. The Borough has approximately 112 yards of concrete in the area to this point. The engineer is recommending adding a bentonite liner on the exit side of the stormwater pipes for the detention basin to eliminate infiltrating water over the repair area, but believes it is best to wait until Spring for the installation.

3. **New Leaf Truck Hydraulic Issue:** Mr. Powl informed Council that this truck has never worked properly, and he has notified the original manufacturer that we will no longer accept this piece of equipment in this condition. The boom swings wildly after the hydraulic oil warms causing the potential for damage of private property. The truck cannot be used until the issue is resolved. The Public Works Superintendent has been trying to get the truck repaired through warranty with the manufacturer, but they have been mainly unresponsive. He has also tried to work with a local outside vendor that services this type of equipment, but they cannot determine the problem, or have received incorrect parts from the manufacturer. Mr. Powl is hopeful that the manufacturer will be able to get the problem resolved by working with the local vendor but, if not, he has requested that the manufacturer prepared to return the truck to its manufacturing facility for re-work and to be returned to the Borough by the end of March in good working order.
4. **Other:** Councilor Holl inquired about status of the refuse and recycling trucks. Mr. Powl reported that the Refuse Vehicle #14 is still at the shop for repairs from the May 2018 accident. The repair shop is having difficulty with some of the electronics, but all repair work will be paid by the insurance company of the driver that hit the truck. Once the vehicle is back, the Borough will clean the trucks, prepare them for sale, and have Borough Council adopt the necessary resolution to sell the vehicles via online bids, sealed bids, or public auction.

Other Business

- Mayor Carpenter commented that the street banners were unappealing, and he was trying to contact PABA to have them removed. Mr. Powl commented that the Public Works Crew will remove the banners when they remove the snowflake light decorations.
- Councilor Holl announced that he attended a fire training class and was proud to announce that the Citizen's Fire Company #1 was recognized as a leading department for gear cleaning and maintenance program to remove carcinogens from equipment.

Public Comment Period #2

- President Shearer recognized a Cub Scout in the audience. Joshua Foltz from Scout Troop 456 was in attendance for his merit badge.
- Representative Frank Ryan commented that Senate Resolution 6 of the 2017-2018 Regular Session made recommendations for emergency services.

He also commented that the reduction in Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements for senior citizens is going to be a cause for many EMS service providers to seek bankruptcy protection.

Rep. Ryan thanked the Borough Manager and Assistant Borough Manager for their assistance in working closely with his office.

He also stated that the property tax reform bill in consideration does not include the municipal tax, just school property tax, and will likely take two years to implement once enacted.

Councilor Mellinger thanked Rep. Ryan for attending the meeting and keeping them apprised of current legislation.

Announcement

President Shearer announced that Borough Council will conduct a public meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 and on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 beginning at 7:00 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Jane Quairola, second by Don Barry. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger E. Powl
Borough Manager