

Palmyra Borough Council Meeting  
 Tuesday, November 24, 2020  
 7:00 PM

President 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, Tom Miller, Jane Quairoli, Joe Templin and James Tesche. Also, in attendance were Borough Manager Roger Powl, Assistant Borough Manager Brenda Pera, Mayor Fred Carpenter and Police Chief Andrew Winters.

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 November 12, 2020 Borough Council meeting.
- b. Approve the Treasurer's Report for the period October 1 through October 31, 2020:

	General Fund	Sewer Fund	Refuse Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Special Sewer Fund	Liquid Fuels Fund
YTD Revenue	\$3,169,215	\$1,457,710	\$985,090	\$261,478	\$569,049	\$233,807
YTD Expenses	\$3,460,747	\$1,866,982	\$914,621	\$494,337	\$3,716	\$465,342
Difference	\$(291,533)	\$(409,272)	\$70,470	\$(232,859)	\$565,333	\$(231,535)
Fund Balance	\$757,567	\$124,125	\$400,700	\$1,128,067	\$2,038,709	\$663

	Library Fund	Police Health Care Fund	Town Square Reserve Fund	Joint Fire Apparatus Fund	Cemetery Fund	Employee Benefits Fund
YTD Revenue	\$28,613	\$38,508	\$24	\$70,197	\$255	\$138,027
YTD Expenses	\$26,000	\$25,201	\$0	\$0	\$1,240	\$6,377
Difference	\$2,613	\$13,307	\$24	\$70,197	\$(985)	\$131,650
Fund Balance	\$3,684	\$229,307	\$3,960	\$90,383	\$41,725	\$235,023

*Motion: To approve the consent calendar. Motion by Jane Quairoli, second by Don Barry. Motion passed.*

Action & Discussion Items

- a. 2021 Preliminary Budget Discussion: Councilor Miller raised the issue of only giving 2.5% increase to the Public Works Superintendent instead of the salary adjustment proposed for the rest of the Public Works Department. He believes the position needs to be adjusted but was concerned about the message this action would exhibit. Council considered his remarks and decided to keep the 2.5% increase only for the Public Works Superintendent.

Councilor Quairoli suggested reducing the \$100,000 transfer into the Capital Reserve Fund to \$75,000. Mr. Powl calculated the millage savings on the \$25,000 savings which amounted to a few cents per month. Mr. Powl commented that since Council is transferring funds into the Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of vehicle replacement and the fund balance is already over \$1 million dollars, they could consider not transferring the \$100,000 in 2021. Mr. Powl also commented that he would never recommend eliminating a transfer into the Capital Reserve Fund, but for 2021 it could be a possibility for Council to consider. Council took no action on this suggestion.

President Shearer stated that in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic she is not comfortable with a tax increase. She did not offer any proposals for reducing the expenditures from the General Fund.

*Motion: To authorize the Borough Manager to advertise the 2021 Preliminary Budget and to make the 2021 Preliminary Budget available for the required 10-day public review period pursuant to Section §1308(a) of the Borough Code for final consideration of the Budget to occur at the Tuesday December 22, 2020 Borough Council meeting. Motion by Jim Tesche, second by Tom Miller. The motion passed by a 5-2 vote with Beth Shearer and Jane Quairoli voting against the motion.*

b. Ordinance #809 – 2021 Real Estate Tax Ordinance:

*Motion: To authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare and advertise Ordinance #809, the 2021 Real Estate Tax Ordinance, to set the real estate tax rate pursuant to Section §1310.1 of the Borough Code for the Year 2021 at the following rates:*

*Real Estate Tax = 3.79 mills; Public Library Tax = 0.06 mills*

*Motion by Tom Miller, second by Jim Tesche. The motion passed by a 5-2 vote with Beth Shearer and Jane Quairoli voting against the motion.*

c. Resolution #2020-27 – Reconfigure Citizens Fire Co. No. 1 New Firehouse Loan:

*Motion: To approve Resolution #2020-27, a resolution approving all actions necessary to modify the interest rate on the 2015 Note, including entering into a loan modification agreement to amend the guaranty agreement and providing for a new amortization schedule for the loan. Motion by Jim Tesche, second by Tom Miller. Motion passed by a 6-0 vote with Josh Holl abstaining from the vote because he is a firefighter.*

d. Bid Award – 2021 Paving Projects:

*Motion: To authorize the Borough Manager to issue a Notice of Intent to award a contract to New Enterprise Lime & Stone Co., Inc. for the Base Bid, Alternate #1, and Alternate #2 in the following amounts for the milling, base repair, and paving of the following streets:*

1. Base Bid = \$444,455.75
  - W. Walnut St. (from S. Railroad St. to S. Hetrick Ave.)
  - W. Pine St. (from S. Railroad St. to S. Miller St.)
2. Alternate #1 = \$131,129.25 (to be expensed from Liquid Fuels Fund)
  - S. College St. (from W. Walnut St. to Campbelltown-Palmyra Rd.)
3. Alternate #2 = \$5,433 (to be expensed from Liquid Fuels Fund)
  - Thermoplastic white 6" wide crosswalk and 24" wide stop bar striping

*Motion by Jane Quairoli, second by Joe Templin. Motion passed.*

Reports

- a. President's Report: President Shearer wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

- b. Fire Department: There was no report.
- c. Library Report: Councilor Quairoli provided a copy of the November 2020 report.
- d. Police Department: Chief Winters provided a copy of the October 2020 report. He also announced the Department has a new Facebook page. The last page ended up with issues after an update.
- e. Recreation Commission: Councilor Quairoli provided a copy of the November 2020 report. She indicated that Commission is concerned that the Rec basketball program will be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This program helps with their budget revenues which is needed since the summer camp program was canceled.
- f. Solicitor's Report: There was no report.
- g. Borough Manager's Report: Mr. Powl advised Council about a sinkhole that opened in front of 900 E. Maple Street due to a water main break. The hole took 13 ½ yards of concrete to stabilize. The water company should be paving the area on November 25<sup>th</sup> to open the road before Thanksgiving.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Public Comment Period #2

There were no public comments.

Announcement

- a. Borough Council will conduct its next public meetings on Thursday, December 10, 2020, and Tuesday, December 22, 2020 beginning at 7:00 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jane Quairoli, second by Jim Tesche. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,

Roger E. Powl  
Borough Manager