

Palmyra Borough Council Meeting  
Tuesday, June 14, 2022  
7:00 PM

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, William Garber, Tom Miller, and Jane Quairoli. Also, in attendance were Mayor Fred Carpenter, Police Chief Andy Winters, Borough Manager Roger Powl, and Assistant Borough Manager Brenda Pera. Anthony Catalani and James Tesche were absent from the meeting.

Announcements

President Shearer announced that Borough Council held an executive session prior to this evening's meeting to discuss personnel issues as permitted by the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. Any official action resulting from the Executive Session will occur during a public meeting.

Public Comment Period #1

- Grace White, representing the Palmyra American Legion Post 72, was in attendance to discuss two items: 1) the Memorial Day parade, and 2) the Legion's upcoming Armed Forces Day celebration scheduled for July 2, 2022 at the American Legion located at 975 East Main Street. The event will include music and fireworks. It is scheduled to begin at 5 PM.

Chief Winters suggested that Ms. White ask Council for an exemption from the noise ordinance for their event.

*Motion: To exempt the Palmyra American Legion Post 72 from the noise ordinance on July 2, 2022 for their July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. Motion by William Garber, second by Jane Quairoli. Motion passed.*

Consent Calendar

- a. Approve the minutes of the May 24, 2022, Borough Council meeting.

*Motion: To approve the consent calendar with the corrections made to the minutes. Motion by Don Barry, second by Jane Quairoli. Motion passed.*

Action & Discussion Items

- a. Ordinance #817 – Designating 101 N. Harrison Street as a LERTA District:

President Shearer inquired about a commercial real estate ad showing the property for sale. Jack DeCicco, 14 Penn Drive, West Chester, PA, was in attendance and addressed the question. He explained that when he purchased the property, he considered all his options, including selling it, because he was unsure of the best next move for the property. He assured Council that he intends to and wants to develop the property. He also stated that Council is welcome to add a contingency to the motion that the Borough only agrees to the LERTA if he develops the property.

*Motion: To enact Ordinance #817, an ordinance to designate the current vacant industrial building, located at 101 North Harrison Street, Tax Parcel #16-2291216-358434-0000, as a deteriorated property and establish a Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act (LERTA) district for tax abatement purposes to facilitate redevelopment of the property. Motion by Jane Quairoli, second by Tom Miller. Motion passed.*

## Reports

- a. President's Report: President Shearer did not have a report.
- b. Financial Report: Ms. Pera provided a copy of the May 2022 delinquency report.
- c. Fire Department: Mr. Powl informed Council that a meeting occurred between him, Mike Booth of North Londonderry Township, and Dave Dugan, Fire Chief. The fire department is having issues with emergency response turn out. The department has a live-in program, but they have lost a few live-in members and are having trouble trying to replace them. Chief Dugan wanted to let the municipalities know that there is a time coming in the near future when there will be no volunteers to provide fire services.

- d. Police Department: Mayor Carpenter / Chief Winters

1. Personnel – Officer Disciplinary Suspension:

*Motion: To approve the Police Chief's recommendation of a one (1) day suspension without pay for Officer Timothy M. Lengle. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Don Barry. Motion passed.*

Chief Winters reported that several officers attended training programs. He reported that the PA DCED Regional Police Study between the Borough, Annville Twp, and S. Annville Twp is nearing completion. He also thanked the Palmyra Area School District for allowing the police departments to use the wrestling room for training.

Mayor Carpenter inquired about the status of code enforcement for 138 N. Railroad Street. Mr. Powl stated that the Codes Officer is actively working on enforcement, but the process will take time when dealing with an uncooperative property owner.

- e. Planning Commission: The Commission did not meet in May.
- f. Public Works Department: Borough Manager Powl
  1. Superintendent's Monthly Report: Mr. Powl provided a copy of the May 2022 report.
  2. Borough Properties: There was nothing to report.
    - a. Municipal Building – 325 S. Railroad Street:
    - b. Public Works Department – 910 E. Broad Street:
    - c. Town Square:
    - d. Vacant Lot – 40 E. Front Street:
    - e. Vacant Lot – Northeast corner of the intersection of N. Lingle Ave and W. Main Street
    - f. Vacant Lot (Shaffer-Erb Tract) – south side 900 Block East Cherry Street:
  3. Cemetery: There was nothing to report.
  4. Parks: (Heritage Park, Palmyra Memorial Park, and Southeast Park)
    - a. Shaffer-Erb Tract - Susquehanna Area Mountain Bike Association Report Update: Councilor Miller did not have a report.
  5. Refuse & Recycling: There was nothing to report.
  6. Sewer System: Mr. Powl reported that one of the pumps at Pump Station #3 needs rebuilding. He received a quote from Industrial Service Solutions for the overhaul. The funds to cover the expense of \$6,985 was not budgeted and he requested Council's authorization to transfer the cost from the Special Sewer Fund to the Sewer Fund.

*Motion: To authorize the transfer of \$6,985 from the Special Sewer Fund to the Sewer Fund budget, line item #08.429.374.3 for the purpose of rebuilding a pump from Pump Station #3. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Don Barry. Motion passed.*

7. Sinkholes:
  - a. New: None
  - b. Old:
    1. 223 S. Locust Street: (PASD failed injection well)
    2. 800 Block E. Main Street: (Center turn lane of US422 in front of Sheetz)  
PennDOT has made recent repairs
    3. 123 E. High Street: (Waste Management property) - WM presented a sinkhole repair cost sharing proposal to the Borough. The Borough Solicitor reviewed the request and advised Council that the Borough has no financial responsibility for the costs because the Borough does not own the ground, only the public right of way. Council declined the proposal so as not to set a precedent for future private property sinkhole issues.
    4. South Harrison Street: (between E. Cherry St and South Ave) The street has been prepped for re-paving.
    5. 430 E. Walnut Street: (between curb & sidewalk along S. Franklin St side)
    6. 12 E. Main Street: A small hole opened along the east side of S. Walnut Alley. The Public Works staff filled the hole and will monitor it for future settling.
8. Stormwater Management:
  - a. Phase A Stormwater Management System: (north of railroad tracks - west of N. Grant St.): Mr. Powl commented that he is still waiting for the official right-of way map that was ordered from Norfolk Southern.
  - b. Stormwater Injection Well #11 (W. Walnut St. & S. Green St): Mr. Powl has not received the final report of the drilling in this area.
  - c. Bio-Swale MS4 Project Update: The Watershed Grant was submitted, a Growing Greener Grant will be submitted, and a County Action Plan grant will be requested for the Spring Creek Watershed Area on the west end of the Borough.
  - d. DEP MS4 Stormwater Permit Issues: Rettew is still working on modifying the DEP 2022 Model Stormwater Ordinance to suit the Borough's underlying Karst geology. The Borough needs to begin identifying, inspecting, and testing Borough outfall locations and private BMP (Best Management Practice) facilities constructed since 2003.
9. Street & Alley Maintenance: Pennsy Supply has begun the paving projects for 2022.
10. Traffic Signals: There was nothing to report.
- g. Solicitor's Report: There was no report.
- h. Zoning & Codes Enforcement: Mr. Powl provided a copy of the May 2022 report.

Zoning Hearing Board: A hearing was conducted on Monday June 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.

  - a. 401 W. Walnut Street – Shawn & Jessica Geist: The board approved the application.
    - Granted a variance of Section 380-76 (B)(1) (Four Feet Max Height in Front Yard) to erect a 6' high fence in the front yard along S. Columbus Street.
- i. Borough Manager's Report:
  - a. Comcast Franchise Agreement Renewal: Mr. Powl received the renewal agreement and forwarded it to the Borough Solicitor's office for review.

#### Communications

Mr. Powl provided a copy of an invitation to the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority's new Electronics Recycling Facility Dedication to be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

### Other Business

- Councilor Quairoli mentioned two bills under consideration by the PA House of Representatives – one amending the PA fireworks law, and the second requiring municipalities to bid their Engineering services to appoint two Engineers.
- Councilor Barry mentioned that the property on E. Broad Street that was previously cited for tall grass, has tall grass again.

### Public Comment Period #2

- Greg Reed, 233 E. Hazel Street, asked for more clarification on the Phase A Stormwater Management System. Mr. Powl explained that storm water would be captured on E. Spruce Street and N. Railroad Street and conveyed to the ShadowStone detention basin that will be converted to a water quality basin. From there the water would be piped under the railroad tracks to a detention basin on the Irvin property that will discharge into the the stormwater system on the General Mills facility property, which terminates at a quarry on the property.

### Announcement

President Shearer announced that Borough Council will conduct its next public meetings on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, and Tuesday, July 12, 2022, beginning at 7:00 PM.

### Motion to Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jane Quairoli, second by William Garber. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,

Roger E. Powl  
Borough Manager