

Palmyra Borough Council Meeting  
 Tuesday September 27, 2022  
 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, Anthony Catalani, William Garber, Tom Miller, and Jane Quairoli. Also, in attendance were Mayor Fred Carpenter, Borough Manager Roger Powl, and Assistant Borough Manager Brenda Pera. James Tesche was absent from the meeting. Police Chief Andy Winters joined the meeting at 7:13 PM.

Special Visitors

2021 Audit Report: Brian Marchuck and Scott Henry of Brown, Schultz, Sheridan, and Fritz were present to deliver the 2021 Audit Report to Borough Council. They reviewed the different fund balances and informed Council that it is a clean audit with no deficiencies or issues found and the Borough finances were in good condition.

Public Comment Period #1

- Eric Spangler, representing the Palmyra Rotary Club, was in attendance to explain more on the Flags for Heroes program that the Rotary would like to sponsor from November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 11<sup>th</sup> on the empty lot adjacent to the municipal center. The Club will place one 12” x 18” flag for each veteran / emergency responder medallion purchased. Proceeds from the sale of the medallions will go to the Caring Cupboard. The Club will also post a 4’X8’ board on support posts highlighting the program and additional boards for the medallions to hang. Tentative plans are to hold a ceremony on November 10<sup>th</sup> with a 21-gun salute. Council gave permission to proceed with the event.
- Maddie Reed, 233 E. Hazel Street, inquired if the digital sign placed in front of the Palmyra Middle School was allowed.

Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 Borough Council meeting.
- b. Approve payment of all bills listed on the August 2022 Detailed Check Listing Report.
- c. Approve the Treasurer’s Report for the period August 1 through August 31, 2022:

	General Fund	Sewer Fund	Refuse Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Special Sewer Fund	Liquid Fuels Fund
YTD Revenue	\$3,047,197	\$1,180,363	\$814,776	\$35,530	\$7,051	\$217,426
YTD Expenses	\$2,536,442	\$1,027,730	\$716,791	\$92,939	\$27,168	\$0
Difference	\$510,755	\$152,634	\$97,985	\$ (60,410)	\$(20,117)	\$217,426
Fund Balance	\$1,213,416	\$118,513	\$328,577	\$1,285,374	\$2,181,806	\$266,121

	Library Tax Fund	Police Health Care Fund	Joint Fire Apparatus Fund	Cemetery Fund	Employee Benefits Fund	Fire Protection Tax Fund
YTD Revenue	\$29,098	\$54,572	\$80,268	\$828	\$170,530	\$243,467
YTD Expenses	\$30,500	\$7,677	\$0	\$107	\$0	\$161,586
Difference	\$(1,402)	\$46,895	\$80,268	\$721	\$170,530	\$81,881
Fund Balance	\$1,252	\$309,588	\$200,930	\$42,369	\$534,640	\$81,881

*Motion: To approve the consent calendar. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by William Garber. Motion passed.*

Action & Discussion Items

a. Trick-Or-Treat Night:

*Motion: Upon recommendation from the Palmyra Chief of Police, and the Lebanon County Police Chief's Association, Trick-Or-Treat Night shall be held in the Borough on Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM, with a rain date of Monday October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-8 PM, in conjunction with Countywide Trick-Or-Treat Night. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Anthony Catalani. Motion passed.*

b. Road Closure Request: Lion's Club Reindeer Night:

*Motion: To authorize the Palmyra Lion's Club to close South Railroad Street from Main Street to Cherry Street from 4:00 PM to 8:30 PM on Saturday December 17, 2022 for the Reindeer Night event at the Town Square. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Don Barry. Motion passed.*

c. East Ridge Road - Melrose Plans – Request for time extension to Record the Plan:

*Motion: To grant an extension of time until May 31, 2023 for the developer to post financial security for the project, and to record the final plans at the County courthouse. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Tom Miller. Motion passed by a 4-2 vote with Beth Shearer and William Garber voting against the motion.*

d. 45-degree Angle Parking along N. Lincoln Street: Mr. Powl provided a sketch from the Borough Engineer and a probable cost estimate to change parking on N. Lincoln Street from Main to High Street to angled parking. The sketch shows that 8' parking spaces allows for approximately 100 parking spaces as opposed to the 35 available with the current parallel parking. If the spaces are widened to 10' as required by the Borough Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, the number of spaces available would decrease to approximately 77 spaces. The projected cost for changing to the 8' parking spaces is \$10,000.

Council discussed various options concerning the request and expressed concerns for setting a precedence for other streets and the overall width of the travel lanes if angled parking is approved. Council asked Mr. Powl for a sketch of 10' parking spaces and an updated cost projection for each block on N. Lincoln St. between E. Main St. and E. Broad St. for the next meeting.

- e. Zoning Regulations for the Keeping of Livestock: Mr. Powl provided the following information for review:
- Current Zoning Ordinance language
  - Former Zoning Ordinance language
  - Recently enacted chicken regulations – Hummelstown Borough
  - Other examples from Chambersburg, Shippensburg, and Charleroi

Council discussed the positive and negative aspects of allowing chickens in the Borough. Councilor Miller commented that the negatives outweigh the positives, and he does not believe it will be a good decision for the community to allow chickens. Councilor Quairoli asked if chickens could be allowed in separate zoning districts.

Mr. Powl commented that he had a discussion with the Public Works Superintendent, who is also a farmer, and learned that it was neighborhood coops that brought on the latest bout of avian flu because small individual coops are usually not maintained as well as a more commercial coop. He further explained that after factoring in the cost of the coop, fencing, the feed, and the birds themselves, it does not make economic sense when there are many farms in our local area that sell their pasture raised eggs directly to the public.

President Shearer asked for this item to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to allow additional time to consider all options and any additional information.

#### Reports

- a. President's Report: President Shearer reminded Council that the Palmyra Homecoming parade is scheduled for Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> prior to the Palmyra Cougars football game against Lower Dauphin High School.
- b. Financial Report: Mr. Powl provided a copy of the August 2022 report.
- c. Fire Department: President Andy Braden reported that their 2021 financial audit is being finalized and their fund drive has reached the halfway point towards their goal.
- d. Library Report: Councilor Quairoli provided a copy of the September 2022 report.
- e. Police Department: Chief Winters provided a copy of the August 2022 report. He reported that South Annville Township has decided not to participate with the regional police department and inquired if Council was still interested in pursuing the regional department with Annville Township. He believes the Borough could still save about \$50,000 per year for police services. Council agreed to continue moving forward with the regionalization.

Chief Winters stated that he is working on a Local Law Enforcement grant with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency for the equipment needs for the regional department and he needed Council to authorize the application.

*Motion: To approve Resolution #2022-22, a resolution of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra authorizing the application for a local law enforcement support grant from the Office of Justice Programs of the Pennsylvania commission on crime and delinquency. Motion by Jane Quairoli, second by William Garber. Motion passed.*

- f. Recreation Commission: Councilor Quairoli did not have a report. She mentioned that the Commission Director was getting married and there may not be a report for a few weeks.
- g. Solicitor's Report: There was no report.
- h. Borough Manager's Report:
1. Mr. Powl informed Council that Bill Seaton, PG, PhD, ARM Group, will be present at the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss the Borough-wide Geophysical & Stormwater Model study proposal.

2. Mr. Powl is currently working on the budget. However, the next several weeks have him dealing with other prominent issues. October 17<sup>th</sup> he will be collaborating with the attorney to prepare for his deposition in the outstanding Cherry Street sinkhole/stormwater lawsuit. October 18<sup>th</sup> he will be participating in the deposition. October 19<sup>th</sup> the federal EPA will be in the Borough to conduct an MS4 stormwater inspection audit.

#### Other Business

- Councilor Garber made the following motion:  
*Motion: To approve the closure of Kramer Alley from Cedar Street to Ridge Road on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM. Motion by William Garber, second by Beth Shearer. Motion passed.*

The request was made to close the road for a backyard wedding.

- Councilor Miller announced he will not be present at the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Councilor Quairoli stated that she had two separate conversations with Palmyra Area School Board members, and they will not be approving the LERTA request for the N. Harrison Street luxury apartment development.
- Mr. Powl announced that the PA Legislature passed a new law to give municipalities more options when it comes to fireworks. Council requested he do more research on this issue.

#### Public Comment Period #2

- Sheila Hoffer, 60 Cortland Crossing, asked Council why they were only focused on chickens with their livestock discussion and did not include rabbits. She stated that Lebanon County has the highest number of ticks in the country and reiterated that it was in the world. Ms. Hoffer asked permission to provide Council with additional information. She thanked Mr. Powl for sharing the information from the Public Works Superintendent but disagreed with his assertion about individual coops not being cleaned or cost effective. She stated that chickens eat ticks and as a patient of Lyme's Disease she views chickens as a method to help eliminate or control the disease. She will provide more information to the Borough by October 5<sup>th</sup> so that it can be included in the Council packets for their review.
- Greg Reed, 233 E Hazel Street, inquired of Council Garber on why his family was allowed to have a pony in the Borough. Councilor Garber stated that the pony was grandfathered when the new zoning law went into effect.

#### Announcement

President Shearer announced that Borough Council will conduct its next public meetings on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, and Tuesday, October 25, 2022 beginning at 7:00 PM.

#### Motion to Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jane Quairoli, second by Anthony Catalani. The meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,

Roger E. Powl  
Borough Manager