

Palmyra Borough Council Meeting
Tuesday April 11, 2023
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, William Garber, Tom Miller, James Tesche, and Jane Quairoli. Also, in attendance were Police Chief Andy Winters, Borough Manager Roger Powl, and Assistant Borough Manager Brenda Pera. Mayor Fred Carpenter and Anthony Catalani were absent from the meeting.

Public Comment Period #1

- Michael Corricelli, 4 Iron Horse Circle, Palmyra introduced himself as a candidate for the Magisterial District Judge position in this year's election. He explained that he lives in South Londonderry Twp., served in the U.S. Air Force, worked 28-years in federal law enforcement, and is teaching criminal justice at Lebanon Valley College.

Consent Calendar

a. Approve the minutes of the March 28, 2023, Borough Council meeting.

Motion: To approve the consent calendar. Motion by Jane Quairoli, second by James Tesche. Motion passed.

Action & Discussion Items

a. *Ordinance #823 – Amend School Speed Zone Times & Handicap Parking:*

Motion: To authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare and advertise Ordinance #823, an ordinance to amend the following provisions contained in Chapter 350 (Motor Vehicles & Traffic) of the Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Palmyra:

1. Section 350-18 (School Speed Zones):

- *Change all Elementary School Zones to the following times:
8:15 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.
3:20 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.*
- *Change Middle School Zone to the following times:
7:10 a.m. – 7:50 a.m.
2:35 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

2. Section 350-26 (Special Purpose Parking Zones):

- *Add – North Penn Street – East Side – Handicap parking – 110 North Penn Street*
- *Add – West Main Street – North Side – Handicap parking – 125 West Main Street*
- *Remove – E. Poplar Street – South Side- Loading Zone – From N. Railroad St to a point 70-feet east thereof.*

Motion by Don Barry, second by James Tesche. Motion passed.

Reports

a. President's Report: President Shearer did not have a report.

- b. Financial Report:
 - 1. Financial Statement: Mr. Powl stated that the March 2023 report will be available at the April 25, 2023 meeting.
 - 2. Delinquent Sewer & Refuse Account Report: Ms. Pera provided a copy of the March 2023 report.
- c. Fire Department: There was no report.
- d. Police Department: Chief Winters highlighted the department's participation in various training programs and weapons qualification. He also mentioned that Council will need to decide whom to place on the Regional Police Commission. There will be two elected representatives positions for a three-year term and a citizen-at-large position for a two-year term. Council agreed to continue allowing James Tesche and Jane Quairolì to serve in this capacity. Councilor Tesche introduced Matthew Andrews, who was in attendance, as a resident interested in serving on the Commission in the citizen-at-large position. Borough Council will need to pass a Resolution to fulfill these appointments.
- e. Planning Commission: The Commission did not meet in March.
- f. Public Works Department:
 - 1. Superintendent's Monthly Report: Mr. Powl provided a copy of the March 2023 report.
 - 2. Borough Properties:
 - a. Municipal Building – 325 S. Railroad Street: Mr. Powl reported that he and Ms. Pera met with three HVAC Controls companies for proposals to replace the controls system. The thought is to go with an independent controls system that can interface with any HVAC unit when they need to be replaced. He anticipates receiving proposals in the next several weeks.
 - 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:
 - 4. Parks: (Heritage Park, Palmyra Memorial Park, and Southeast Park) – Mr. Powl reported that the ballfields at the parks have been dressed for use for the season. Councilor Barry inquired when the roof would be placed on the pavilion at Memorial Park.
 - 5. Refuse & Recycling:
 - 6. Sewer System: Public Works repaired a sewer service lateral at 29 S. Lingle Avenue that was crushed when Met-Ed replaced their utility pole. Met-Ed moved the utility pole to enable the lateral to be repaired.
 - 7. Sinkholes:
 - a. New: None.
 - b. Old:
 - 1. 800 Block E. Main Street: (Center turn lane of US422 in front of Sheetz): the sinkhole in the center turn lane on PennDOT's right of way on Route 422 has reopened.
 - 2. 223 S. Locust Street: (PASD failed injection well)

8. Stormwater Management:
 - a. Phase A Stormwater Management System: (north of railroad tracks - west of N. Grant St.): RETTEW has received comments back from Norfolk Southern already and have addressed those comments and re-submitted the boring application to Norfolk Southern.
 - b. MS4 Bio-Swale Project Update (west of S. Lingle Ave):
9. Street & Alley Maintenance: The pre-construction meeting for this year's street paving project was held. The contractor (Pennsy) will be starting on North Londonderry's projects first and then will be moving into the Borough sometime around May 17th, pending weather delays, etc.
10. Traffic Signals:
 - g. Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Cleary filed the necessary paperwork with the Lebanon County Courts to request the Gerber Zoning Hearing Board appeal to be held on May 5th. There were some clerical errors made at the Courthouse that will cause a delay in the proceedings.
 - h. Zoning & Codes Enforcement: Mr. Powl provided a copy of the March 2023 report.
 1. Zoning Hearing Board: (Hearing scheduled for Monday April 10th at 5:30 p.m.)
 - a. 754 N. Railroad Street (Catherine Hardy/Salvatore & Brandi Giunta): (continued from March)
 - Seeking Variance of Section 380-15(B) (Permitted Uses – Town Residential District)
 - Seeking Variance of Section 380-38 (Off-Street Parking Spaces Required)

Mr. Powl reported that after two multiple hour hearings were conducted, the applicant, now represented by counsel, decided to withdraw their application, and intends to reapply in the future to seek appropriate relief from the Zoning Ordinance.
- i. Borough Manager's Report:
 1. East Ridge Road – Melrose Plan (Offsite Stormwater Improvement): Mr. Powl asked Council for direction on pursuing the off-site stormwater improvement project offered by Mr. Riahi as part of the Melrose Plan discussion at the last Council meeting. Council was split on whether the stormwater project would provide benefits to the residents living in the area, or cause unforeseen problems. After lengthy discussion, Council asked Mr. Powl for the following information:
 - a. If the ARM Group has enough data in their geophysical study of the Borough to show what is happening underground around east of North Grant Street between E. Ridge Road & E. Spruce Street.
 - b. What all is required to get an easement from the Hackett's who own the field property if Council decides to pursue the storm water project?
 - c. Obtain a cost estimate from the Borough Engineer on the cost of piping stormwater down N. Grant Street to Memorial Park and eventually into the new Phase A stormwater project that will take water under the railroad tracks at ShadowStone.

Other Business

- Councilor Quairoli commented about the email received from the Ecumenical Congregational Church at Main & College Streets celebrating their 100th anniversary in

July 2023. Council asked if something could be provided to the church commemorating the occasion.

- Councilor Garber stated that his neighbor complained to him about all the people coming and going at 625 N. Grant Street at all hours of the night. The neighbor claims that the people living at the residence are not related.

Public Comment Period #2

- Todd Gottshall, 511 E. Cherry St, commented that he hopes the Melrose Plan falls through because that field should not be developed. He stated that the area is better suited for a park.
- Doug Fleegle, 127 E. Maple Street, inquired why the Borough does not just allow the developer of the Melrose Plan to install the stormwater pipe to help solve a 30-year problem at zero taxpayer expense.

Announcement

President Shearer announced that Borough Council will conduct its next public meetings on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, and Tuesday May 9, 2023 beginning at 7:00 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jane Quairola, second by James Tesche. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger E. Powl
Borough Manager