

Palmyra Borough Council Meeting
 Tuesday April 30, 2024
 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 Matthew Andrews, Anthony Catalani, Marcus Riddell, Jane Quairoli, and James Tesche. Also in attendance were Borough Manager Roger Powl, Assistant Borough Manager Brenda Pera, and Police Chief Andy Winters. Nancy Fleegle and Mayor Fred Carpenter were absent from the meeting.

Public Comment Period #1

- Maddie Reed, 233 E Hazel St, had questions about the water being turned on at Memorial Park and if the bathrooms were open to the public. She asked why the walking path at Southeast Park was not built. She also suggested removing the clock at the Town Square because it is never working properly. She also mentioned that the bushes around the bottom of the clock hide all the donor’s names.

Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve the minutes of the April 9, 2024, Borough Council meeting.
- b. Approve payment of all bills listed on the March 2024 Detailed Check Listing Report.
- c. Approve the Treasurer’s Report for the period March 1 through March 31, 2024:

	General Fund	Sewer Fund	Refuse Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Special Sewer Fund	Liquid Fuels Fund
YTD Revenue	\$667,047	\$462,517	\$321,386	\$225,870	\$3,376	\$222,718
YTD Expenses	\$627,295	\$328,939	\$280,186	\$430,721	\$0	\$0
Difference	\$39,753	\$133,578	\$41,200	\$(204,851)	\$3,376	\$222,718
Fund Balance	\$654,710	\$322,724	\$137,491	\$1,211,076	\$2,211,931	\$270,479

	Library Fund	Police Health Care Fund	Joint Fire Apparatus Fund	Cemetery Fund	Employee Benefits Fund	Fire Protection Tax Fund
YTD Revenue	\$3,195	\$0	\$603	\$166	\$3,844	\$38,808
YTD Expenses	\$0	\$3,909	\$0	\$0	\$60,340	\$15,237
Difference	\$3,195	\$(3,909)	\$603	\$166	\$(56,497)	\$23,570
Fund Balance	\$6,805	\$293,012	\$161,515	\$44,470	\$612,622	\$56,794

Motion: To approve the consent calendar. Motion by Jane Quairoli, second by Matthew Andrews. Motion passed.

Action & Discussion Items

There we no action items.

Reports

a. President's Report: President Shearer reminded Council that the Memorial Day Parade coordinators still need to know who will be walking or riding in the parade. She also reported potholes needing attention along Arch Street near the Wagner Alley intersection, and along Mark Street about 10-feet south of Main Street.

b. Financial Report: Mr. Powl provided a copy of the March 2024 Financial Statement.

c. Fire Department:

1. DCED Fire Study – Letter of Intent: Mr. Powl informed Council that the letter is just to allow the Borough to participate in a no cost study concerning the development of a fire authority. Councilor Catalani expressed his concern that the authority will just be requiring the residents to pay more money like with the new regional police department. He is not opposed to the study but will be opposed to higher costs for the residents.

Motion: To authorize the Borough Council President to sign a Letter of Intent to request the DCED Governor's Center for Local Government Services conduct a free feasibility study of the creation of a regional fire department authority to oversee the current volunteer fire departments and hire full-time paid firefighters under the authority to supplement declining volunteers. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Beth Shearer. Motion passed.

2. Penn State Health (PSH) – Ground Ambulance Service Provider Agreement: Mr. Powl educated Council on a meeting he had with PSH regarding assistance. The PSH representatives supplied a template of an agreement that was used for another municipality. They would be looking for an annual per capita based fee and the assistance with the \$23,000 per year lease agreement they have with the fire department for the ambulance space. After some discussion, Council asked Mr. Powl to see if the PSH representatives have a per capita fee in mind. Chief Dugan also commented that he will be checking with the Executive Board of the Fire Company to see if they can forego or adjust the \$23,000 in the fire budget.

d. Library Report: Councilor Quairolì provided a copy of the April 2024 report.

e. Police Department: Chief Winters provided a copy of the March 2024 report. He also recommended that Council consider a panhandling/loitering ordinance like Reading City's ordinance to eliminate this practice in the Borough. Mr. Powl will check with the Solicitor on this type of ordinance.

f. Recreation Commission: Councilor Quairolì will provide a copy of the April 2024 report when received.

g. Solicitor's Report: (Solicitor Cleary)

1. Ordinance #830 – Amend Chapter 314 (Streets & Sidewalks) – Specifications: Mr. Powl provided a copy of a letter to Council regarding the change of base course materials in the appendix of the ordinance. The original desire to update the appendix was to allow changes to be made via a resolution. Solicitor Cleary affirmed that any changes cannot be done by resolution. She provided changes to the ordinance for Council's review.
2. Street sweeping services: Mr. Powl stated that the Reigle Airport has asked the Borough to street sweep the parking lot area of the airport. If Council agrees, the Borough will need to develop an agreement for the service. Council was not opposed to this request.

h. Borough Manager's Report:

1. Phase A Stormwater Project –

- a. W. Front Street Restoration: The portion of the project concerning road restoration of W. Front Street became an area of discussion with the Borough Engineer. The cost for the project contractor to restore the full width or half of the street was significantly higher than estimates received from the paving contractor for the 2024 paving project. Council agreed that the paving contractor should include the repair in the paving contract for the full width of the street.
 - b. Kinsley – Railroad Crossing: The contractors have reached the portion of the project that will require boring under the Norfolk Southern rail line. Kinsley submitted the application for railway flaggers as required by the railroad. They were informed that the application will take up to 90 days to process. As a result, the project has shut down temporarily until a date is provided by the railroad for flagger services.
2. Philadelphia Mixers property: Mr. Powl stated that the Borough worked with North Londonderry Township (NLT) to analyze the wastewater treatment needs of the Divert company interested in placing a food recycling center at the property. The conversation was regarding the amount, type of flow, and strength of waste from the business to the sewer treatment plant. The needs of the company would require the Borough to purchase additional capacity over the current agreement. Additionally, there were concerns for the projected strength of the wastewater and the required treatment process, respectively. After the township sewer engineer provided the information discussed, Mr. Powl informed Divert that the site would not be amenable to their business and Divert decided not to pursue the location any further.

Other Business

- Councilor Riddell questioned the responsibility for the sinkhole in the detention basin behind the Macintosh Crossing development.
- Council Riddell inquired about the incentive paid by the Borough to the fire fighters.
- President Shearer expressed concerns about the security cameras at Memorial Park. She also requested the table under the new outdoor pavilion to be returned to the main pavilion.

Public Comment Period #2

There were no public comments.

Announcement

President Shearer announced that Borough Council will conduct its next public meetings on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, and Tuesday, May 28, 2024, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,

Roger E. Powl
Borough Manager