

Minutes - April 28, 2011

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA

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BUDGET MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

Public Notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given by the Borough Clerk in the following manner:

- A.** Posting written notice on the official bulletin board at the Palmyra Borough Hall on April 15, 2011.
- B.** Mailing written notice to the NewsWeekly, the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post Newspaper on April 15, 2011.
- C.** Notice to All Council Members.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Gural, President Scheffler, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Brahl, Mr. Bostock, Mr. Norcross.

Absent: Mr. Dorworth.

NEW BUSINESS.

- A.** Resolution 2011-81,

Resolution Approving Self-Examination of 2011 Budget.

Mayor Gural read the first two paragraphs into the record:

Whereas, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Borough of Palmyra has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local government Services, and the Chief Financial officer has determined that the local government meets the

necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2011 budget year.

Now, therefore be it resolved, by the governing body of Borough of Palmyra that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:

- a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
- b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
- c. Cash deficit of preceding year
- d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
- e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
- f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.

Mr. Stewart, auditor explained that it is a standard resolution of adoption for the budget. Mr. Brahl made a motion to approve the resolution, President Scheffler second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Scheffler, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Brahl, Mr. Bostock and Mr. Norcross.

NAYES: None.

B. Public Hearing on 2011 Budget.

Mr. Brahl made a motion to open the hearing to the public, President Scheffler second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Radar inquired about funding for the senior citizens? Mayor Gural explained that the senior group submitted their budget this year; they requested \$700.00 since they will not be paying rent to the church this year. Mr. Radar discussed that the seniors are paying the taxes too and are not getting their money's worth. They are entitled to more funding. Mrs. Lewis explained that the seniors received a part of the municipal alliance grant usually in the amount of \$3500.00 Mr. Brahl made a motion to close the public hearing, Ms. Dobbs second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

C. Resolution 2011-82, Resolution Adopting The 2011 Budget.

Ms. Dobbs made a motion to approve the resolution, President Scheffler second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Scheffler, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Brahl, Mr. Bostock and Mr. Norcross.

NAYES: None.

D. Resolution 2011-83,

Resolution Appointing A Stormwater Coordinator. Mr. Brahl made a motion to appoint Thomas Ryan as the stormwater coordinator, President Scheffler second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the resolution.

E. Resolution 2011-84,

Resolution Of Authorization For The Borough Of Palmyra To Accept A Subgrant Award Of The Federal Fiscal Year 2009 Of Department Of Homeland Security Emergency Management Performance Grant Program Funding. Mrs. Kilmer explained that the OEM has been awarded a grant of \$8,000 from the state police. The grant is for the Borough to obtain talking pill bottles for seniors and disabled. There is a 50/50 match for the grant, but OEM has already completed the necessary hours of labor for the match. President Scheffler made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Norcross second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Scheffler, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Brahl, Mr. Bostock and Mr. Norcross.

NAYES: None.

OLD BUSINESS.

A. Resolution 2011-65,

Resolution Introducing the BID budget. This resolution was held until May 2, 2011 regular council meeting.

COORESPONDENCE.

Operation Take Back-Chief Pearlman explained that this was to collect medicine that is not being used or is expired from residents. The police department will handle the disposal of the medicine. It will be held from 10am-2pm this Saturday-April 30th.

DISCUSSIONS.

A. Irrigation services to Legion Field. Mr. Bostock discussed the quotes that were received and that Mr. Bello's quote is not signed or dated. Mayor Gural recommended holding the award for further discussion on Monday night at the regular council meeting.

B. Landscaping Services for Legion Field. Mr. Norcross explained that he had the complete list of companies that provided quotes, but he would like to see the public works department cut the grass and the companies provide the chemical and fertilization work. Mayor Gural inquired about the lowest bidder. Mr. Norcross explained that he would prefer not to go with the lowest bidder as they did not put down the chemicals correctly last year. Mayor Gural inquired if council needed a legal reason to disqualify them. Mr. Rosenberg replied that since it is not a bid, but a quote, council has the option of award. Mr. Rosenberg requested that the award be held until the regular council meeting on Monday night, so that he can meet with Mrs. Lewis, CFO and review the quotes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Brahl made a motion to open the meeting to the public, President Scheffler second the motion. Mr. Radar discussed that he was under the impression that the BID budget was going to be reviewed this evening. The general budget for the BID does not go into detail and the administration budget is too high. Mr. Radar discussed that the quality of life amount requested does not go into detail and he inquired as to what criteria is being used to measure the success of the program. There are 75 properties in the downtown area and 20% are closed.

Mayor Gural explained that the same concerns were expressed by council members and that the budget has been placed on hold while it is reviewed by the committee. Mayor Gural agreed that the administrator salary is too high and that the committee needs to document the vacant store fronts and compare them to next year to judge the improvements. Mr. Bostock discussed that Mr. Radar has some good points and many have been discussed and reviewed. The BID has set goals to fill in the vacancies and that the BID director will develop a business plan and make a report at the end of the year. Mr. Radar inquired if the information will be available to the general public? Mayor Gural informed him that he can

request the documents from the BID committee. Mr. Bostock discussed that the BID did not get all of the money up front. Mrs. Lewis informed council that so far this year they have gotten \$18,000 and that the ordinance was adopted in December and they only get from that point forward. Mr. Radar inquired if the BID still gets the money if they do not perform. Mr. Bostock explained that council has the option of dissolving the BID if it doesn't work out, but that the taxes are not based on levels of performance.

No one else from the public wishing to be heard, Mr. Brahl made a motion to close the public portion, President Scheffler second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

CLOSED SESSION.

Resolution No. 2011-85,

Resolution Excluding The Public From Certain Meetings Pursuant To Section 8 Of The Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P.L. 1975(personnel, negotiations, litigation). Mr. Brahl made a motion to approve the resolution, President Scheffler second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Council went into close session at 7:30pm

Council returned to public session at 8:15pm.

Mr. Brahl discussed the picking up of trash in the business district and that he and Mr. Norcross need to review the trash ordinance. Mr. Norcross agreed that the contractors also leave the brush out front of the residents for public works to pick up and that the Borough has begun to notify the residents that the contractor has to remove the brush. Mr. Bostock explained that there are dumpsters in back of the stores that belong to the Borough. Mr. Norcross advised council that Mr. Ryan is doing evaluations of the public works and sewer employees. Mr. Brahl advised holding off until there is a full time administrator hired for the Borough to review the issue.

Adjournment.

President Scheffler made a motion to adjourn at 8:31 pm, Ms. Dobbs second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.