

**BOROUGH OF PALMYRA
MINUTES-August 4, 2014-6PM**

CALL TO ORDER.

ROLL CALL.

Present: President Riener, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Nowicki, Ms. Arnold. (Mr. Norcross and Mr. Bostock arrived late).

Absent: None.

CLOSED SESSION. Resolution No. 2014-167, Resolution Excluding The Public From Certain Meetings Pursuant To Section 8 Of The Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P.L. 1975. (litigation) Mr. Nowicki made a motion to approve the resolution, Ms. Dobbs second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Riener, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Nowicki, Ms. Arnold. (Mr. Norcross and Mr. Bostock arrived late).

**NAYES: None. Council went into executive session at 6 pm.
Council returned to public session at 7pm.**

MINUTES-August 4, 2014-7pm

CALL TO ORDER.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Scheffler, President Riener, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Nowicki, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Norcross.

Absent: None.

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 January 8, 2014.
- B. Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post Newspaper on January 8, 2014.
- C. Notice to All Council Members.

DISCUSSION ITEMS.

A. Tri-Boro Veterans Update-Mr. Gural informed council that he has notified the County that the Borough is no longer interested in the application for the parks funding for this year. Mr. Gural discussed that he has received an email from the attorney for the Borough handling the tax certificate process that it will be January before the Borough actually takes ownership. Mayor Scheffler reviewed for the public that there was a sewer lien on the property that was going to be foreclosed on so the Borough decided to purchase the tax certificate so that the Borough would own the property. Council had discussed demolition of the current building and a pocket park, but after listening to several residents, council has decided to not make the lot a park.

B. Water Usage Sewer fees and meeting status. Mayor Scheffler explained that council is still reviewing the issue and that the public hearing on the ordinance is on August 18th.

C. Feral Cat-Mr. Gural discussed that there was an article in the newspaper about a kitten having rabies and that the county animal shelter is going to a no-kill shelter. There is a trap, neuter and release program that council will consider. Mr. Norcross inquired if an ordinance was adopted on trapping the cats would be additional controls as well. Mr. Gural explained that Willingboro Animal Shelter is willing to train someone from the Borough about the trapping of the cats.

D. Sidewalk Ordinance-President Riener reported that she is still working with Councilman Nowicki on the ordinance and is attempting to adjust it so that the homeowners do not pay a cost for damage from the trees. Mayor Scheffler explained that the sidewalk ordinance as present was not adopted on second reading and that they are trying to create an ordinance that is fair to most residents.

E. Fence Ordinance. Mayor Scheffler explained that council will adopt the fence ordinance on first reading at the August 18th meeting.

F. Cinnaminson Avenue Traffic Study-Mr. Bostock inquired about the traffic study and if there has been any respond from the county. Chief Pearlman replied that he has had conversations with the county traffic engineers and that portions of the study are done. The entire study should be completed by the end of the week. Chief Pearlman also informed council that he met with the contractors today on the pedestrian crossing light at the corner of Cinnaminson Avenue and Charles Street. The contractor will be running more lines tomorrow for the installation. Mr. Bostock inquired if the Borough will have a report on the traffic study by the August 18th meeting. Ms. Arnold explained that several items came up at the River Route meeting about the traffic study and that she needs to be included in the loop so that she can pass information on to the committee.

G. W. Charles Street-road project. Mayor Scheffler discussed that the paving is half completed on West Charles Street. Mr. Kirchner explained that if the weather remains the same, it should be completed by July 22.

H. DCA Small Cities-Mayor Scheffler explained that as part of the grant application for Small Cities for West 2nd Street a survey needs to be completed by the residents on the street. Ms. Jackson will be helping the residents with the survey for the Borough.

I. NJ Economic-Mr. Nowicki reported that he had attend for the Borough a seminar on NJ Economic Development and handed out the slide show to council. There are two projects that they are working on to provide tax credits for commercial businesses and job creation incentives to stay in Palmyra or to move to Palmyra. There are eligibility requirements for businesses to get funding as well as performance based requirements. Mayor Scheffler discussed that all of the information needs to get to the businesses and to prospective business.

J. River Route Committee-Ms. Arnold discussed the River Route meeting that she attended. They had discussed the intersections of Highland, Morgan and Broad Street. A new sign on Route 73 for the Borough. Mr. Norcross explained that years ago state engineers look at doing a swing turn into the grass property that was never constructed at the same time they did Broad Street. Ms. Arnold discussed the access to Route 73 to joining two parcels for developing. Mr.

Kirchner explained that Mr. Fox and Mr. Livingston from the county were present at the meeting. Mr. Fox empathize at the meeting that things can be put into the River Route plan for future plans.

K. Landlord litigation – Mayor Scheffler discussed that there will a meeting of the committee for the litigation. Mr. Rosenberg discussed that Judge Bookbinder is requesting an update by Thursday.

L. Local Mitigation Plan Review – Resolution for August 18th-Mrs. Kilmer will make a presentation on the plan at the August 18th meeting.

M. Totaled fire vehicle – 1996 GMC Yukon-Mr. Gural explained that this vehicle was involved in a motor vehicle accident on Broad Street and that the insurance is offering a settlement of \$6756.00. The fire department is looking to replace the vehicles, but there are no funds in the current budget. Mr. Nowicki inquired if the insurance settlement can go towards the purchase of a new vehicle. Mr. Gural explained that the money is deposited into the Borough's general fund as surplus and is not available this year, there is also the firetruck on GovDeals.com and those funds also are deposit in the general fund for future surplus. Mr. Norcross would like to discuss the options at the public safety committee meeting next Monday.

N. 710 Parry Ave sewer lateral repair-President Riener recused herself from the discussion. Mr. Gural explained that the letter has been sent to the resident with the Boroughs terms for the sewer repair. Mr. Rosenberg recommends that a resolution be approved with council agreeing with the settlement.

O. James Simon – auto insurance deductible-Mr. Gural had met with the owner of the car and the tort claim has been filed concerning a Borough tree falling on the vehicle. The amount of \$1,000.00 will be on the bill list for council's approval.

P. Computer & phone extensions for Council-Mayor Scheffler informed council that there are telephone extensions for all councilmembers for voice mail. The messages can be obtained from any phone or calls can be automatically transferred to a cellphone.

Q. Temple Blvd – paving request-Mayor Scheffler explained that Mr. Fries of Temple Blvd had requested that Temple be paved and that there are large potholes. The trucks create a lot of noise and rumbling when they hit the potholes. Mr. Norcross discussed that Temple was a concrete street with seams and that the Burlington County Bridge Commission paved it with asphalt and poured tar into the seams. Mayor Scheffler requested that the Bridge Commission be contacted to see if they can repair Temple Blvd.

R. Tony the Barber Shop-Mr. Gural discussed that several years ago the Borough had torn down a building next to the Barber Shop. The owner of the shop is requesting that the outside wall be repaired and that a mural or the Boroughs logo would look good on the blank wall. Mr. Bostock discussed that the schools art teacher-Mr. Budden should be consulted to design something and that maybe the students can paint something on the building. Ms. Arnold suggested a contest with the students for the mural. Mr. Norcross discussed that the art teacher is a professional artist and sells his work. Mayor Scheffler requested that Ms. Kane (student representative) be involved as well.

S. Bike Program-Mr. Gural explained that Mr. Blaisdell of Palmyra and also Parsons Brinckerhoff and Civic Eye Collaborative would like to conduct a workshop for senior walkability workshop that is sponsored by the NJ Department of Transportation's Office of Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs.

Ms. Arnold express her thanks for the Welcome Home Celebration held on Arch Street with the Yellow Ribbon Ceremony.

Mr. Norcross requested that the outside of Borough Hall be review. The old steps out front are not safe and the siding is falling off in various areas.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT.

Mr. Gural informed council that the county has set the tax rate and that the estimated bills were within three tenths of one cent. The meeting was held for the members of the business community to review the BID refunds and only a few attended the meeting. The flagpole at the WaWa that belongs to the Borough has severe cracks and must be removed. The plaque for the War Memorial that is attached will be saved. A new pole cannot be erected in the same place due to the electrically wires and Mr. Gural is open to suggestions for a new location. Mr. McElwee inquired if the pole can be cut down right above the plaque and can part of the pole be saved and put somewhere else. Mr. Gural explained that the pole has to come down and that they are waiting on PSE & G to insulate the wires before the pole is removed. Mr. Gural updated council on the memorial benches that had been requested by Mr. Berkley in honor of his parents.

RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution 2014-165, Resolution Authorizing The Purchase of a Panasonic Arbitrator In-Car Video Solution system from Wireless Communications & Electronics per New Jersey WSCA Panasonic State Contract 75583/B27172 In The Amount of \$63,307.00 and Utilizing \$4,307.00 in Municipal Law Enforcement Trust Account Funds As Approved by the Burlington County Prosecutor. Mr. Norcross made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Bostock second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Riener, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Nowicki, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Norcross.

NAYES: None.

B. Resolution 2014-166, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute An Agreement Concerning The Acquisition of Recycling Cart Containers in 2014 for the Burlington County Recycling Program in the amount of \$10,449.00. Mr. Norcross made a motion to approve the resolution, President Riener second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Riener, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Nowicki, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Norcross.

NAYES: None.

C. Resolution 2014-168, Resolution Authorizing The Borough Administrator To Sign The Agreement With Mr. Petite Of 710 Parry Avenue For Sewer Lateral Repair. Mr. Norcross made a motion to approve the resolution, Ms. Dobbs second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Nowicki, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Norcross.

NAYES: None.

ABSTAIN: President Riener.

PUBLIC COMMENTS. Mr. Nowicki made a motion to open the meeting to the public, Ms. Dobbs second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Smith-Van Sant Drive inquired if the county's new single stream program would affect the properties in the Harbour. Mayor Scheffler replied that the Harbour's recycling program is different than the rest of the Borough. Mr. Smith inquired about the sewer rates for the Harbour and has it been worked out. Mayor Scheffler explained that the Harbour properties do not have individual meters for water and that the Borough is working on a solution.

Mr. Howard-Vine Street thanked everyone involved with the Yellow Ribbon ceremony and that it was a great presentation to the family. Mr. Howard discussed that there has been raccoons out

during the day in the area and the residents are concerned. Chief Pearlman replied that just because raccoons are out during the day does not mean they are rabid. Mr. Howard discussed the flooding at West Henry and Public Road when it rains heavy. Mr. Norcross explained that it is the overflow from the creek. Mr. Howard inquired about the work on the corners of 6th and Market Street. Ms. Dobbs explained that the contractor is repairing the handicapped ramps in the sidewalk per the state.

Mr. Gural introduced Dawn and April from Kormans. They are interested in the sewer/water usage also.

Mr. McElwee-Columbia Avenue thank council for attending the Yellow Ribbon ceremony and also Chief Pearlman for the police escort as well as the fire department.

Mr. Rader-Harbour Drive-discussed that the BID was created by ordinance and funded through a special assessment. Mr. Rader refer to a letter sent by Mayor Scheffler on July 10, 2014 discussing that the Borough was not responsible for the BID management corporation operations or how they spent the BID tax dollars. Mayor Scheffler explained that council approves the BID budget and that the funds collected were turned over to the BID. Mr. Rader discussed that it is still taxpayer's money. Mr. Bostock explained that in the budget process there are large expenses and small expenses and that he was not part of the budget design. The goals were set by the management company that was hired by the BID. Mr. Rader inquired as to why it took five years to deny responsibility for the BID. Mayor Scheffler explained that the council wanted more oversight of the BID, but the management company had sent a letter to council stating that council was not responsible for the BID. Mr. Norcross explained that it is like the school, the Borough collects the school tax and turns over the money to the school, but has no say in the budget of the school.

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

CLOSED SESSION. Resolution No. 2014-169, Resolution Excluding The Public From Certain Meetings Pursuant To Section 8 Of The Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P.L. 1975. (contracts) President Riener made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Nowicki second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Riener, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Nowicki, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Norcross.

NAYES: None. Council went into executive session at 8:15pm.

Adjournment. Ms. Dobbs made a motion to adjourn at 8:38pm, Mr. Norcross second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.