

Borough of Palmyra
Borough Council
Minutes- November 16, 2015

PRESENTATION OF MILITARY SERVICE MEDALS. Mayor Scheffler and Mr. McElwee(War Memorial Committee) presented Military Service Medals to the following individuals before the regular council meeting: Ronald C. Blackeby, Air Force, William Byrem, Navy, Leland Dimond, Air Force, Charles W. Fish, Navy, Daniel E. Fish, Army, Joanne Huber, Navy, Michael McClernan, Navy, Vincent D. Mento, Army, Warren J. Nece, Army, Harry Perkins, Army, Harry E. Riddle, Army, John H. Riddle, Air Corps, Philip E. Riddle, Army Air Force, Curtis Stavely, Navy, Dorothy Stavely, Navy, Robert Stavely, Navy, Wesley Stavely, Navy, William Stavely, Navy, William Stuckey, Army, Earl Van Emburgh, Army, Arthur Wright, Army, William Wolfschmidt, Navy, Clare D. Yauger, Sr., Marines, John M. McElwee Jr. Richard Schoenberg, Army.

CALL TO ORDER.

ROLL CALL OF BOROUGH COUNCIL.

PRESENT: Mayor Scheffler, President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard and Mr. Gravano (student representative).

ABSENT: Mr. Norcross.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

MOMENT OF SILENCE.

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 7, 2015.
- B. Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post Newspaper on January 7, 2015.
- C. Notice to All Council Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve the regular minutes from November 2, 2015, President Dobbs second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE. Mayor Scheffler announced that a gentleman, Mr. Mitchell has left \$20,000 to the police department, \$20,000 to the school and \$20,000 to the Squad. Chief Pearlman would like to have the funds placed in a dedication by ryder trust account for the K-9 dog program and also for additional funding for community policing. Mr. Gural explained that council will adopt a resolution to accept the funds by dedication by ryder, but that the actually spending of the funds will need to be decided later by council per a resolution. Resolution 2015-218 will be added to the consent agenda for the dedication by ryder.

PROFESSIONAL UPDATES.

A. Environmental Resolutions-William Kirchner updated council on the South Broad Street road project. Due to the upcoming rain later in the week the project will start next Monday. The contract for the emergency generator at the community center was signed and there will be a pre-construction meeting next week. On the agenda is a change order for Eagle Construction for the sewer plant project. The change order is for additional paving and work that was request by the Borough. Mr. Kirchner discussed that the bond for Phase 2 of the Parry Street project is set to expire and that he would request that Borough Council have Mr. Rosenberg write a letter to the bond company. Resolution 2015-219 will be added to the consent agenda. Mr. Howard inquired about the meeting with residents for the South Broad Street project. Mr. Kirchner replied that only two residents showed up for the meeting and their only concern was the parallel parking, but that they are excited for the project to start.

B. Environment Resource Management-John Hogue updated Borough Council on the project with the Palmyra Cove and the emissions work. A large amount of funds were received from the grant fund to reimburse the Borough for their costs. The work that is being performed now is the surveys, clearing of the vegetation, soil and getting ready to start geo-physics to look for explosives. There was an issue about the property lines between the Palmyra Cove and National Amusements, but it should not change the schedule of the work.

ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING.

A. **Ordinance 2015-15,** An Ordinance Of The Borough Of Palmyra Amending Ordinance 2014-4 and Ordinance 2014-13, An Ordinance to Determine The Rates And Ranges Of Compensation Of Each Employee And Officer For The Years 2014 and 2015. Mayor Scheffler explained that this ordinance may be necessary to accommodate the extra pay in 2015. If the ordinance is not necessary it can be pulled at the next meeting. President Dobbs made a motion to adopt the ordinance on first reading, Mrs. Tait second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard.

NAYES: None. The ordinance was adopted on first reading and will be heard on second and final reading at the Borough Council meeting of December 7, 2015 at 6:30pm after publication according to law.

RESOLUTIONS. Consent Agenda- Resolution 2015-212-Resolution 2015-219 will be enacted as a single motion, if any resolution needs additional discussion it will be removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately. President Dobbs made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Howard second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard.

NAYES: None.

- A. **Resolution 2015-212,** Resolution Requesting Approval Of Items Of Revenue And Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87 (Chapter 159): HDSFR.
- B. **Resolution 2015-213,** Resolution Authorizing A Lien Be Placed On 1004 Cinnaminson Avenue.
- C. **Resolution 2015-214,** Resolution Authorizing The Award Of A Contract To QC Inc.-Eurofis Lab For Lab Testing For The Sewer Department.
- D. **Resolution 2015-215,** Resolution Approving Transfer of Funds In The 2015 Budget.
- E. **Resolution 2015-216,** Resolution Approving Contract Change Order #3 For Eagle Construction Services Inc. For Sludge Thickening & Odor Control Improvements In The Amount Of \$52,600.78.
- F. **Resolution 2015-217,** Resolution Authorizing The Payment Of Bills For The Month Of October 2015 In The Amount Of \$1,959,651.26.
- G. **Resolution 2015-218,** Resolution Requesting Permission For The Dedication By Rider For Request Of Funds For The Borough Of Palmyra Police Department.
- H. **Resolution 2015-219,** Resolution Authorizing The Solicitor, Ted Rosenberg To Contact The Bonding Company For Phase 2 Of The Parry Avenue Project.

DISCUSSION ITEMS.

A. **Real Results Basketball Agreement.** Mr. Gural requested that Council authorizing a resolution for the signing of the contract between Real Results Basketball and the Borough of Palmyra. **Resolution 2015-220,** Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Sign The Agreement Between Real Results Basketball and the Borough of Palmyra. Mrs. Tait inquired if this was for the men's league. Mr. Gural explained that Real Results Basketball compensates the Borough in lieu of being charged for the gym at the Community Center. They provided additional basketball nets and also run clinics for the youth of Palmyra. Mr. Howard made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Bostock second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard.

NAYES: None.

B. **Police Chaplains Program.** Chief Pearlman discussed with Borough Council that he is investigating starting a Chaplain program for the police department. The Epworth Methodist and the Central Baptist Pastors have shown an interest in the program. The program would require an ordinance by council next year to regulate the appointments and procedures. Chief Pearlman explained that the Chaplains volunteer their time. There is training available now in Mount Laurel and although the program has not been approved, Chief Pearlman would like to send the Pastors to the training, since the next training session will be further away.

C. **Trick or Treat Hours.** Mr. Howard explained that he was approached about the hours for trick or treat and that he knows that there is a 9pm curfew on Halloween. Mrs. Tait discussed that she would like to see the hours limited to set times for trick or treating.

D. **Superintendent of PW/Sewer-**Mr. Gural informed council that the deadline for

submitting resumes has passed and that he is reviewing the ones that are qualified. Mr. Gural recommend that the interview process be started over the next few weeks so that a person can be hired to overlap the time before Mr. Ryan retires.

E. Cell Tower-the consultant for the cell tower will attend the December meeting to speak to council.

F. Sewer Fees-Mr. Gural explained that the Borough Council will have to start looking at increasing the fees for the sewer due to the renovations at the sewer plant. The increases need to be implement before the April billing.

G. Tri-boro Veterans Property-the resolution of approval is on the agenda for the Land Use Board meeting on November 18th. Mr. Gural recommend holding off on selling the property till next year. Ms. Arnold discussed that investors would be interested in the property before the end of the year.

H. Council meetings in December- Council discussed the two dates for the December meetings. There will only be one meeting of Council to be held on December 7, 2015. The second meeting of December 21 will be cancelled.

I. Concession Stand- the sports teams will be notified that the stand will be winterized next week and the bathrooms will be closed for the season.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT.

A. Municipal Shared Services Defense Agreement-Affordable Housing Obligations. the defense agreements were forwarded to the attorney handling the shared services for the Borough.

B. Request for Proposals-the request for proposals are due on December 4, by 2pm for the 2016 year.

C. Turkey Trapping Update-Mr. Gural discussed the article in the paper about the turkeys and that a Wildlife Tech from the State has been in the Borough to review the turkey issue. The main problem is the space needed to set the netting for trapping them.

D. JIF Elected Official Liability Seminar-there are two seminars at the League Conference in Atlantic City for council to attend and there is also one being held in Eastampton on March 1st. The Borough receives \$250. credit for the insurance premium for every council member that attends.

E. NJLM-the conference for the league starts Tuesday and goes through till Friday.

F. Facilities cleaning options-Mr. Gural discussed that the Borough needs to look at cleaning options for their other own facilities.

G. FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant for Fire/Code Program-the Borough had applied for a grant to help with the code enforcement officer and the fire inspector. The Borough was informed that they were not award the grant.

H. 2016 Budget-Mr. Gural reported all of the departments are working on their budgets for submittal.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Public Events- Mrs. Tait reported that the Halloween Parade and show afterwards was wonderful and well attend. Santa and the tree lighting will take place on December 4th at 7:30 at the band shell. Santa will be on the firetruck before the tree lighting. Mrs. Tait discussed that Kate Johnson

was contracted by the Community Center Board to do the mural in the community center. The mural is now completed with over 100 people participating.

Board of Education/Construction- Ms. Arnold reported that at the December meeting the Board of Education will be discussing the Strategic Plan. Students, teachers, parents and community members should attend for the visions of the schools. Mrs. Tait reported that also that night they will be recognizing all of the fall sports. Ms. Arnold discussed that the construction office is waiting for input from the Land Use Board on the sign ordinance.

Student Representative-Mr. Gravano-reported that the school is collecting items for the USO. The school participated in spirit week and homecoming. The football team is moving on to the play-offs.

Youth Recreational- Mr. Howard reported that registration for PalRiv basketball is tomorrow night from 6-7. The league is in need of more 7th-8th graders.

Public Works/Sewer- President Dobbs reported that public works is still open on Saturdays from 7am-noon and that leaves should not be placed in the street, they should be placed on the curb between the sidewalk and the street.

PUBLIC COMMENT. President Dobbs made a motion to open the meeting to the public, Mr. Bostock second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Rader-Harbour Drive discussed at the last council meeting there was a comment about allowing questions from the public prior to voting on the resolutions. Mr. Rader explained that there is nothing in the open public meetings act that regulates the participation of the public at the meeting. Mr. Rosenberg explained that the public is always given the chance to comment at a meeting and that there is no requirement for a public hearing on a resolution except for the budget, only on ordinances. Mayor Scheffler replied that she did not say that the public comment was not before the resolutions due to Robert Rules of Order. Mayor Scheffler explained that since a new council will be seated in January that those decisions should wait till January. Mr. Rader discussed that resolutions spend taxpayer's money, but they are not given the chance to speak before the vote, he understands that it will take more time. Ms. Arnold replied that the point is well taken.

Mr. McElwee-Columbia Avenue thanked council for the opportunity to present the medals and that he would like it to remain on the website. Next November they would like to give it out to all Veterans living in the Borough. The cookies for the cookie drive sponsored by Yellow Ribbon are due by December 4.

Ms. Veitenheimer-Rowland Street inquired when the non-profit budgets are due to the Borough. Mr. Gural replied that they have till the end of the year and that he will send an email to the various organizations. Ms. Veitenheimer explained that if the leaves are left on the curb, public works does not do as good of a job as if they are left on the street.

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

Resolution 2015-221, Resolution Excluding the Public From Certain Meetings Pursuant To Section 8 Of the Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P. L. 1975. (Litigation, negotiations, personnel). President Dobbs made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Bostock second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard.

NAYES: None.

Borough Council went into executive session at 7:39 pm.

Borough Council returned to public session at 8:32pm.

Resolution 2015-222, Resolution Amending Resolution 2015-89, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra Establishing The Annual Rates of Compensation and/or Hourly Rates Paid To Borough

Employees. This resolution increase the salary rates of three employees for the Borough of Palmyra. President Dobbs made a motion to approve the resolution, Mrs. Tait second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: President Dobbs, Mrs. Tait, Mr. Bostock, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Howard.

NAYES: None.

ADJOURNMENT. Mrs. Tait made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm, Mr. Howard second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.