

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA
BOROUGH COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 7th, 2017 at 10:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MOMENT OF SILENCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was sung by Emma Marshall a Palmyra High School Student.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

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

- A. Posting written notice on the Official Bulletin Board at the Palmyra Borough Hall on December 11th, 2016.
- B. Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, Courier Post newspaper on December 11th, 2016
- C. Notice to all Council Members.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by John Gural

OATHS OF OFFICE

Bernadette Russell was sworn in as Councilmember of the Borough of Palmyra for a 3 year term by Constance Russell Tous, Esq., her daughter, Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the State of New Jersey accompanied by Mark Russell (husband), Denise Schorr (mother), Iris Tous (granddaughter) and her grandson Callum Tous.

Mindie Weiner was sworn in as Councilmember of the Borough of Palmyra for a 3 year term by Constance Russell Tous, Esq., Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the State of New Jersey accompanied by her parents Chellie and Jay Weiner and her daughter Mattie Wentz.

CONVENE NEW COUNCIL

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Michelle Arnold Frank Cosky Timothy Howard Bernadette Russell Gina Tait
Mindie Weiner Lewis Yetter

ABSENT: none

COUNCIL PRESIDENCY NOMINATIONS

The Mayor opened the floor for Council Presidency nominations.

Mrs. Tait nominated Timothy Howard for Council President. Mrs. Russell seconded the nomination. Lew Yetter nominated Frank Cosky for Council President. Mr. Cosky seconded the nomination.

Hearing no more nominations, the Mayor close nominations.

At the call of the roll for Mr. Howard's nomination, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Howard, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner

NAYES: Mr. Cosky, Mr. Yetter

Mr. Yetter then withdrew his nomination for Frank Cosky, and Mr. Cosky agreed.

Congratulations! Mr. Howard, our new Council President.

OATH OF OFFICE – Council President

Mr. Howard was sworn in as Council President of the Borough of Palmyra by Assemblyman Troy Singleton and accompanied by his son Zion Howard.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DIGNITARIES

Mayor Arnold acknowledged special guests in the audience, Assemblyman Troy Singleton, Palmyra School Broad Members Lori Beck, and Mark Russell, President of the War Memorial Mr. Tom McElwee, Chief of the Fire Department Rick Dreby and our Chief of Police Scott Pearlman.

STATE OF THE BOROUGH ADDRESS – Mayor Michelle Arnold

Mayor indicated it was kind of difficult to recap all the work accomplished throughout the past year. First let me welcome everyone to the annual reorganization meeting, and I want to thank you all for attending. I want to congratulate our two new members of Council, the honor of serving on Borough Council comes with responsibility and commitment, I am sure you will bring your enthusiasm and dedication to the committees you are serving on and to the community as a whole. As with any new adventure there are many unknowns. Congratulations Tim on being elected Council President, there are many responsibilities, and again there are many unknowns, however I want you all to know I am here to help with any questions to assist you in any way, we are a team, we are working together and this is who we work for. I can't believe it's been a year already, the time went really fast; a lot of the time we spent educating ourselves, in getting ramped up, getting familiar with things that were going on in the Borough and things that were not but should have been. So we moved a lot of things forward.

So let's recap; in the finance department they have a new system in place for voucher approval, they are dedicated to keeping us in compliance, while deriving the most benefits from Borough dollars implementing systems with clear guidelines, "They keep us in line". And then the clerk's office when our new clerk comes into office she really took over, she takes the time to study and understand every aspect of the job and she organizes and improves it and it's really been a

positive staffing change. The tax collector is a wealth of knowledge and the experience in the office is immeasurable. Dedication to customer service is apparent every minute of every day. The construction office is very busy, housing inspections, there have been great efforts to make a streamline expedited permitting process, there's a new tech assistant, who is bilingual although I think she may speak more than two languages, she is delightful; more of our vacant and distressed homes are being sold, repaired and going back into the main stream as viable housing. The code enforcement office, Mr. Rick Dreby has taken on that challenge he is a dedicated individual addressing the concern and violations keeping our community safe while promoting our positive image. Public works and sewer in a category all their own, they have a new supervisor and four new team members The crew works tirelessly to serve the residents and tax payers of the Borough. Our streets parks and public places are carefully maintained by a skilled crew, most of the tasks they perform are done in teams and they work very well together. The newly completed sewer treatment plant is under the watchful eye of dedicated individuals. There are future opportunities for shared services and or join ventures which will be beneficial to the Borough that would not be possible without the cooperation of everyone in the department. There is new equipment down at the sewer plant and public works which is working well for us and bringing us great benefit. The police department, has new officers and body cameras. The chief was instrumental in obtaining a grant for the body cameras in the amount of about \$8,500.00. National Night Out was extremely successful. I can't tell you enough about the SRO Program it is absolutely dynamite. The Officer in charge of that program Omar Kendall loves it just as much as the children do, it's had a very positive impact on our community. The Police Chaplin program had been implemented this year thanks to the Chief Pearlman's hard work. Community outreach has been a focus of the police department this year, there was a "Meet and Greet" held at Ethel B Hardy Park, "Coffee with a Cop" held at WAWA, the Youth Academy, the Senior Academy and the Citizen Academy. The drug zone map has been updated and the officers are going to lunch at Charles Street School with the children. We also updated our reverse 911 system to SWIFT Reach, and the Chief has taken on the responsibility of Municipal Alliance so that we can get the most benefit out of that program, The Palmyra Fire department held the simulated emergency response drill, and I thank they for keeping us safe. We had some staff changes which I'm sure you've noticed, and the communications have been improved at the Borough. We have held meet the Mayor evenings, although people come in at all different time because people know we are accessible and we are here for you. The time of the council meetings was changed back to 7:00 pm to allow people time to get home from work and attend the meetings. We have added an additional public comment to our agenda to allow everyone a chance to express their opinions and we have added a Community Spotlight portion which gives a chance to talk about, brag about and it gives an opportunity to showcase that. Public events we held this year include the town wide yard sale, which was a huge success, we had over 100 homes sign up and made space available in the grove for those who live in rental properties, or who didn't wish to have it at their homes, or lived in townhouses could also participate. We also held Santa Clause coming to town, the

Easter egg hunt, and also Thank you Lou for the great job you did with the Summer Concerts in the park, we also brought back the community garden this year. The dividing wall in the community center between the meeting rooms was a completed. A lot of maintenance was done here at the Borough on the building, the Under Ground Storage Tank Project was completed, the maintenance evaluation of the building was completed, the step project was completed and we now have a road map of the things which need to be completed to keep up with the required ongoing maintenance for our building. Another thing I would like to share with you are real-estate sales in the Borough in 2015 total number of properties sold was 91 and in 2016 135. The total revenue in in 2015 was about 13 million and in 2016 it was just 16 million. There was in increase in number of listings of 49 percent, 48 percent increase in sold properties and 26 percent increase in total revenue, all positive improvements. I believe Ms. Kilmer can tell you, as she has been very busy with inspections because a lot of those vacant properties and foreclosures are being rehabbed and are going back on the market. In 2015 we opened three new business in the Borough in 2016 we open eleven, I think you'd agree we are on the right track. In 2015 we performed three weddings here at the Borough, in 2016 we performed ten. We received the new code books this year which is a great help. All council members were issued cell phones and laptops so that we can properly and securely communicate with one another. Last year we had a defensive driving program which all the employees in the Borough, Police Department and Fire Department participated in and saved the Borough about \$5,000.00. As you can see the court room monitors are installed and we are working on learning how to use them. We have a Borough vehicle which is saving us money and time while also keeping of employees safe as they travel back and forth from classes and meetings. The Energy Aggregation Program has been implemented. We restricted parking at Charles Street School in response to a concern, just trying to keep our children safe. We started the Tri-Boro Chamber of Commerce, something new this year. Habitat for Humanity broke ground on a new house on W. Sixth Street, and the Tri-Boro Vets building will be transferred to Habitat for Humanity and it will be promoted to veterans first for purchase. And just a few thank you to some of our partners for their help and support, we have been very successful with strengthening our relationships with our neighboring municipalities, and the school board. I would also like to thank the Burlington County Sheriff's Department for their help throughout the year; the Burlington County Bridge Commission for their support in grant writing and shared services; and the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders. If you want to know the rest, I'll tell you another time, so there is a lot going on, and I look forward to continuing the momentum we have started with all the individuals we have in place who have worked so hard.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Arnold acknowledged a letter received from Brian J McBride, the Superintendent of Schools addressing Fourth Street.

Mayor Arnold also read a letter of from Rick Dreby indicating he would be resigning his position of Code Enforcement Officer. A motion was made by Mrs. Tait to accept Mr. Dreby's letter of resignation. The motion was seconded by President Howard.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: none

PUBLIC PORTION

This public portion is for discussion on resolutions and other items listed on the agenda. Please sign in and state your name and address for the record. Council will give all comments appropriate consideration. Each citizen will be allotted up to five (5) minutes to speak, in order to allow everyone an opportunity to ask questions and express their opinions or concerns. Please direct all comments to the Mayor. Each citizen may only speak once during each public portion. **Please state your name and address for the record.**

President Howard made a motion to open the public portion, Mrs. Tait seconded the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion.

No one from the public wishing to be heard, President Howard made a motion to close the public portion, Mrs. Tait seconded the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Council Committees Appointments

Mayor

Michelle Arnold

Committee Chair: Director of Public Safety, Administration & Finance, Communications, Negotiations, Homeowners Association Liaison, Public Events

Committee Member: Business Community & Development

Borough Council President

Timothy Howard

Committee Chair: Youth & Recreation Committee

Committee Member: Shade Tree Advisory Board Liaison, Public Works & Sewer, Public Buildings & Grounds, Business Community and Development, Communications, Public Events

Borough Council

Frank Cosky

Committee Chair: Construction Committee

Committee Member: Public Safety Committee, Public Events

Bernadette Russell

Committee Chair:

Committee Member: Construction Committee, Parks & Playgrounds, Public Buildings & Grounds, Public Events

Gina Tait

Committee Chair: Parks & Playgrounds, Public Buildings & Grounds, Board of Education Liaison, Public Events

Committee Member: Youth & Recreation

Mindie Weiner

Committee Chair:

Committee Member: Business Community and Development, Administration & Finance, Public Works & Sewer, Youth and Recreation, Public Events

Lewis Yetter

Committee Chair: Public Works & Sewer, Land Use Board Liaison

Committee Member: Parks & Playgrounds, Business Community & Development, Public Events

B. Mayor's Annual Appointments

Borough Administrator	John Gural
Board of Health Secretary /Deputy Clerk	Marie Nagle
Tax Search Officer/Deputy Administrator	Tanyika Johns
Municipal Lien Search Officer	Doretha Jackson
Police Records Clerk	Renay Montgomery
SLEO II Officer/Court Officer	John Quigg
Crossing Guards	All names on resolution
Fire Chief	Richard Dreby
Deputy Fire Chief	Howard Roun
1 st Battalion Chief	William Conley
2 nd Battalion Chief	Michael Stokes
Police Matron	Geraldine Bright
Emergency Management Coordinator	Richard K. Dreby
1 st Deputy Emergency Mgmt.	Tracy Kilmer
2 nd Deputy Emergency Mgmt.	John Skowronski
Storm Water Coordinator/Tree Officer	Paul Henry
Clean Communities Coordinator/Recycling Coordinator	Paul Henry

C. Annual Citizen Appointments

LAND USE BOARD

Michele Arnold, Mayor	4 years	01/07/16	12/31/19
Lew Yetter, Council Rep.	1 year	01/04/16	12/31/17
John Gural, Borough Official	1 year	01/07/17	12/31/17
Timothy Beck	4 year	01/06/14	12/31/17
Andrew Blaisdell	4 year	01/07/16	12/31/19
Michael Stokes	4 year	01/04/15	12/31/18
Brian O’Kane	4 year	01/04/15	12/31/18
Robert Locke – Chairman	4 year	01/07/16	12/31/19
Norman King	4 year	01/07/17	12/31/20

SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD (all new reappointments).

Tim Howard (Council Rep)	1 year	01/07/17	12/31/17
Paul Henry (tree officer)	1 year	01/07/17	12/31/17
Dave Austin	1 year	01/07/17	12/31/17
Tim Kaluhiokalani	1 year	01/07/17	12/31/17

D. Notice of Annual Borough Council Caucus Meeting and Regular Meeting Dates

All such meetings to be held on the first Monday (**Caucus Meeting**) and third Monday (**Regular Meeting**) of each month at 7:00 pm at Borough Hall, Palmyra NJ. Any and all business involving the Borough may be discussed. Formal official action will be taken at such meetings.

January 17 (Tues)	March 20	May 15	August 7	October 16
December 18				
February 6	April 3	June 5	August 21	November 6
February 21 (Tues)	April 17	June 19	September 18	November 20
March 6	May 1	July 17	October 2	December 4

RESOLUTIONS

Consent Agenda– Resolution 2017-1 to Resolution 2017-57 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.

1. Resolution 2017-1, Resolution to Confirm Mayor's Appointments.
2. Resolution 2017-2, Resolution Approving the Borough of Palmyra Official Caucus and Regular Monthly Public Meeting Dates for Borough Council for 2017
3. Resolution 2017-3, Resolution Designating the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post as the Legal Newspapers and GovDeals.com as the Legal Auction Site for Vehicles and Property.
4. Resolution 2017-4, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Ted Rosenberg, Esq., as Borough Solicitor.
5. Resolution 2017-5, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Robert P. Nehila Jr., of Bowman & Company LLP, as Auditor.
6. Resolution 2017-6, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of David Gerken of Community Grants, Planning and Housing, as Borough Planner/Grants Coordinator.
7. Resolution 2017-7, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Community Grants, Planning and Housing, as Affordable Housing/RCA Administrator.
8. Resolution 2017-8, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of James D. Fattorini, Esq., as Public Defender.
9. Resolution 2017-9, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Maser Consulting as Borough/Municipal Engineer.
10. Resolution 2017-10, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of a Prosecutor.
11. Resolution 2017-11, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of any/all other Municipal Prosecutors In Burlington County, as The Substitute Prosecutor.
12. Resolution 2017-12, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of John Hogue & Vladimir Raskin of Environmental Resolutions Management (ERM), as Environmental Engineer/Consultant and LSRP.
13. Resolution 2017-13, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of William Kirchner of Environmental Resolutions Inc., (ERI) as Sewer Engineer.
14. Resolution 2017-14, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Capehart & Scatchard as Special Counsel/Labor Attorney.
15. Resolution 2017-15, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Capehart & Scatchard as Special Counsel/Bond Attorney.
16. Resolution 2017-16, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Hardenbergh Insurance Group as Insurance Consultant / JIF Risk Management Consultant and Authorizing JIF Risk Management Consultant Agreement.

17. Resolution 2017-17, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Capehart & Scatchard as Special Counsel/Conflict Attorney.
18. Resolution 2017-18, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Consulting & Municipal Engineers (CME) and Environmental Resolutions, Inc., (ERI) as Special Projects Engineers.
19. Resolution 2017-19, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann as Special Counsel/Redevelopment Attorney.
20. Resolution 2017-20, Resolution Authorizing The Mayor to Execute Contracts with All Appointed Professionals After Review and Approval by the Solicitor and the Chief Financial Officer.
21. Resolution 2017-21, Resolution Appointing John Gural as Burlington County JIF Fund Commissioner.
22. Resolution 2017-22, Resolution Appointing Scott Pearlman as Burlington County JIF Alternate Fund Commissioner.
23. Resolution 2017-23, Resolution Appointing John Gural as Burlington County JIF Claims Coordinator.
24. Resolution 2017-24, Resolution Appointing Tracy Kilmer as Burlington County JIF Safety Coordinator.
25. Resolution 2017-25, Resolution Appointing John Gural as Hearing Officer For Non-Uniformed Employees
26. Resolution 2017-26, Resolution Appointing John Gural as Administrator for The Borough Of Palmyra
27. Resolution 2017-27, Resolution Appointing Tanyika Johns as Deputy Administrator for the Borough Of Palmyra
28. Resolution 2017-28, Resolution Appointing Tracy Kilmer as Housing Official for The Borough Of Palmyra
29. Resolution 2017-29, Resolution Appointing the Crossing Guards for The Borough of Palmyra for 2017.
30. Resolution 2017-30, Resolution Appointing Tracy Kilmer as Zoning Officer for the Borough of Palmyra.
31. Resolution 2017-31, Resolution Appointing Rick Dreby as Code Enforcement Officer for The Borough Of Palmyra until January 31st, 2017.
32. Resolution 2017-32, Resolution Appointing John Quigg as SLEO II Officer for the Borough of Palmyra Police Department.
33. Resolution 2017-33, Resolution Appointing Dale Palmer as Part Time Supervisor for Public Buildings and Grounds Department.
34. Resolution 2017-34, Resolution Appointing George Moore Part Time to Public Buildings and Grounds Department.
35. Resolution 2017-35, Resolution Appointing Gregory Benson as Sewer Plant Operator Level II at the hourly rate of \$27.00.

36. Resolution 2017-36, Resolution Appointing Dave Austin, Part time to Public Works Department.
37. Resolution 2017-37, Resolution Appointing Paul Henry as Storm Water Coordinator for the Borough of Palmyra.
38. Resolution 2017-38, Resolution Appointing Paul Henry as Recycling Coordinator for the Borough of Palmyra.
39. Resolution 2017-39, Resolution Appointing Paul Henry as Clean Communities Coordinator for the Borough of Palmyra.
40. Resolution 2017-40, Resolution Appointing Paul Henry as Tree Officer for the Borough of Palmyra.
41. Resolution 2017-41, Resolution Appointing the Borough of Palmyra Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) Members.
42. Resolution 2017-42, Resolution Authorizing the 2017 Temporary Budget Appropriations.
43. Resolution 2017-43, Resolution Authorizing The Payment Of Debt Service for The Borough of Palmyra and All Necessary Bills Required for January 2017.
44. Resolution 2017-44, Resolution Approving a Cash Management Plan for The Borough Of Palmyra.
45. Resolution 2017-45, Resolution Fixing the Rate of Interest to Be Charged On Delinquent Taxes, Sewer Payments and Assessments.
46. Resolution 2017-46, Resolution Awarding 2017 Maintenance Contract for Sewage Treatment Plant to Municipal Maintenance Company in the amount of \$127,940.00, subject to the solicitor's review.
47. Resolution 2017-47, Resolution Awarding 2017-2018 Transportation and Disposal of Sludge to Franc Environmental, Inc. in the amount of \$0.0815 for the year of 2017 and \$0.0835 for the year of 2018, subject to the solicitor's review.
48. Resolution 2017-48, Resolution Awarding 2017 Generator Preventative Maintenance Contract to Industrial Diesel Power, Inc. in the amount of \$5,370.00, subject to the solicitor's review.
49. Resolution 2017-49, Resolution Awarding 2017-2018 HVAC Maintenance Contract to Falasca Mechanical ,in the amount of \$ 23,796.00 for the year of 2017 and \$23,852.00 for the year of 2018, subject to the solicitor's review.
50. Resolution 2017-50, Resolution Awarding 2017 On-Call Contracting Services Contract to Neri's Construction & Rental, Inc. in the amount of \$408,493.00, subject to the solicitor's review.
51. Resolution 2017-51, Resolution Awarding 2017 Sewer Treatment Plant and Pump Station Debris Removal Contract to Municipal Maintenance Company, Inc. in the amount of \$23,450.00, subject to the solicitor's review.

52. Resolution 2017-52, Resolution Approving Participation With The State of New Jersey Federal Grant Program Administered by the Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety.
53. Resolution 2017-53, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Shared Service Agreement with Willingboro Township for 2017 Animal Control Services in the amount of \$14,000.00.
54. Resolution 2017-54, Resolution Authorizing Employees' unused 2016 Personal Time Off (PTO) days as provided in the current Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual to be carried over to 2017 with the Stipulation they be used by January 31st, 2017.
55. Resolution 2017-55, Resolution Appointing Marie Nagle as Board of Health Coordinator for the Borough of Palmyra
56. Resolution 2017-56, Resolution Authorizing The Tax Collector to Cancel Debits and Credits of \$10.00 or Less for Tax and Sewer Payments
57. Resolution 2017-57, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills for December of 2016 in the Amount of \$1,503,862.21.

Council President Howard requested Resolution 2017-1 thru Resolution 2017-20 be removed from the consent agenda and voted on individuality.

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-21 thru Resolution 2017-57. President Howard seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

The Mayor then went back to: Resolution 2017-1. President Howard made a motion to amend Resolution 2017-1 to confirm Mayor's Council Committee Appointments only. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tait.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, President Howard

NAYES: Mr. Cosky, Mr. Yetter

Mrs. Tait made a motion to add Resolution 2017-58 to confirm The Mayor's Annual Appointments and Annual Citizen Appointments. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Russell

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: none

Resolution 2017-1, Resolution to Confirm Mayor's Council Committee Appointments Only.

Mr. Cosky made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-1 to confirm The Mayor's Council Committee Appointments Only. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Russell.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mr. Yetter

NAYES: Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, President Howard

Motion not passed

Resolution 2017-58, Resolution to Confirm Mayor's Annual Appointment and Annual Citizen Appointments

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-58. Motion was seconded by President Howard.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-2, Resolution Approving the Borough of Palmyra Official Caucus and Regular Monthly Public Meeting Dates for Borough Council for 2017

Mr. Yetter made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-2. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Russell.

Some discussion was had regarding the starting time of the meetings. If it were decided to change the time of the meetings a resolution would be required.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-3, Resolution Designating the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post as the Legal Newspapers and GovDeals.com as the Legal Auction Site for Vehicles and Property.

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-3. The motion was seconded by President Howard

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-4, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Ted Rosenberg, Esq., as Borough Solicitor.

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-4. The motion was seconded by President Howard.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-5, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Robert P. Nehila Jr., of Bowman & Company LLP, as Auditor.

Mr. Cosky made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-5. The motion was seconded by President Howard.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-6, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of David Gerkens of Community Grants, Planning and Housing, as Borough Planner/Grants Coordinator

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-6. The motion was seconded by President Howard

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-7, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Community Grants, Planning and Housing, as Affordable Housing/RCA Administrator.

President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-7. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tait.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-8, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of James D. Fattorini, Esq., as Public Defender.

Mr. Cosky made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-8. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tait.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-9, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Maser Consulting as Borough/Municipal Engineer

President Howard inquired if Maser Consulting is not reappointed will they finish the jobs they already started. Mr. Rosenberg indicated if Maser is not approved then Maser would continue in a hold over status. Mayor Arnold indicated that at this point the only people we can consider for this position are those who responded to the RFP's. If they are not appointed today at a later time we consider another company we would have to appoint then in a non-fair and open awarded contract. Mr. Yetter asked if we change will the new company come in and resurvey projects already in the works. Mr. Rosenberg indicated there is an overlap, however it is not like starting over again, your administrator would supervise the engineer telling them what had been completed and what had not regarding any projects currently in the works. The Mayor gave several reasons for why she decided to appoint Maser Consulting, Mr. Gural also indicated that if Maser Consulting is not appointed as municipal engineer that council consider appointing them thru non-open and fair contract as special projects engineer as there are many projects they are currently working on which are not under contract.

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-9. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cosky.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mr. Yetter

NAYES: Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, President Howard

Motion not passed

Resolution 2017-10, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of a Prosecutor

Mr. Gural asked to have this vote postponed while additional information is gathered. Mayor and council agreed. **The vote on resolution 2017-10 is postponed to a later date.**

Resolution 2017-11, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of any/all other Municipal Prosecutors In Burlington County, as The Substitute Prosecutor.

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-11. The motion was seconded by President Howard

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-12, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of John Hogue & Vladimir Raskin of Environmental Resolutions Management (ERM), as Environmental Engineer/Consultant and LSRP.

President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-12. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tait.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-13, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of William Kirchner of Environmental Resolutions Inc., (ERI) as Sewer Engineer.

President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-13. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Russell.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-14, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Capehart & Scatchard as Special Counsel/Labor Attorney.

Mr. Yetter made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-14. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Russell.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-15, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Capehart & Scatchard as Special Counsel/Bond Attorney

Mr. Cosky made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-15. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Russell.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-16, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Hardenbergh Insurance Group as Insurance Consultant / JIF Risk Management Consultant and Authorizing JIF Risk Management Consultant Agreement.

President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-16. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Russell.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-17, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Capehart & Scatchard as Special Counsel/Conflict Attorney.

President Howard made a motion approve Resolution 2017-17. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tait.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-18, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Consulting & Municipal Engineers (CME) and Environmental Resolutions, Inc., (ERI) as Special Projects Engineers.

President Howard made to a motion approve Resolution 2017-18. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yetter.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-19, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of McManimon, Scotland and Baumann as Special Counsel/Redevelopment Attorney.

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-19. The motion was seconded by President Howard.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: Mrs. Russell

Resolution 2017-20, Resolution Authorizing The Mayor to Execute Contracts with All Appointed Professionals After Review and Approval by the Solicitor and the Chief Financial Officer.

President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-20. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yetter.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

MOTIONS.

Approval of Treasurer's Report will be postponed until next scheduled meeting, January 17th, 2017.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

President Howard indicated there is a program being held at the High School, Project Lioness – More information will be posted on their website. Mrs. Tait indicated the project will be held on January 17th, 2017 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon and asked all that wish to participate bring a yard and a half of fleece so that you can make a blanket, as the Interact Club cannot afford to supply all the material., the Seniors will also be participating.

Mrs. Weiner announced the Palmyra Players High School Drama Club will be holding their Annual Broadway Breakfast at the Community Center on January 22nd, 2017, tickets are \$5.00. Also the Community Center Program Board's winter schedule of classes will be coming out soon. Classes should be starting by the end of January.

The Life and Music of Duke Ellington will be presented February 1st, 2017 at 11:00 am at the Community Center. On Wednesday February 8th, 2017 at 11:00 am the High School will be hosting a program regarding Bessie Coleman the first female African American pilot. A Hymn Along will be held at the Community Center February 15th, 2017 with information about the music of Charles A Tindley and his life.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

Frank Cosky thanked everyone for coming out, and is looking forward to a prosperous in year.

Bernadette Russell wished everyone a Happy New Year! And is looking forward to working together in 2017.

Lewis Yetter wished everyone a Happy New Year, and thanked them for coming out.

Gina Tait asked everyone to continue making suggestions, and she is looking forward to a great new year.

Mindie Weiner indicated it was nice to see some friendly faces out there, hope everyone keeps coming out and gets involved.

President Howard thanked everyone for coming out, add thanked the employees for the great job they do all year. President Howard also indicated he was looking forward to the New Year.

Mayor Arnold said we are a new group a new body, with new ideas. Mayor Arnold indicated she wished we had started out more united than we did; she met with everyone prior to this meeting to what they interest were. She hopes we could put all this behind us and we can come together and work together and do the job were tasked with. Please be good neighbors.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Please sign in and state your name and address for the record. Council will give all comments appropriate consideration. Each citizen will be allotted up to five (5) minutes to speak, in order to allow everyone an opportunity to ask questions and express their opinions or concerns. Please direct all comments to the Mayor. Each citizen may only speak once during each public portion. **Please state your name and address for the record.**

Mrs. Tait made a motion to open the public portion, President Howard seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Ms. Wells – 5th Street – Indicated she was unhappy with the Park Tavern and the things that are going on in there; she would like to see it closed and something more neighborhood friendly in

its place like a library. Ms. Wells also inquired why the expanded areas for drug free zone were only for the Ethel B Hardy Park and the War Memorial, why isn't the entire town declared a drug free zone. Mayor Arnold said that if there is a problem or things which have legal implications perhaps you should have a conversation with the police department.

Mr. Rader – Harbour Drive – Mr. Rader inquired if the changes regarding Resolution 2017-1, which was not passed, would be discussed in open session. Mayor Arnold indicated yes. She further explained now it was out of the Mayor's hands and in the hands of council. Mr. Rader then inquired as to how it would be done, open or closed session, because the entire council cannot get together without opening that meeting to the public. Mr. Howard indicated he could possibly email each member and have them responded back to him only. Mr. Rosenberg indicated it could potentially be a meeting of a group of not more than three council members who would get something together collectively and then return it to council for additional discussion in an open meeting, which could then be voted on, Mr. Rosenberg indicated that would be the best way, if the governing body so chooses, to address the concerns Mr. Rader has mentioned regarding the open public meeting act.

Ms. Veitenheimer – Rowland Street – Ms. Veitenheimer said she was totally discussed with what was done here today; it does not give the residents confidence that the governing body is going to work together. Don't we need another resolution for Maser Consulting to continue working for us until something is decided? Mr. Gural indicated they continue in a holdover capacity until we appoint an engineer. Your actions are going to cost the taxpayers more money by changing engineers. It looked like we were on the right track, please work together. Additionally what is the on call contract which was awarded for \$408,493.00? Mr. Gural explained the on call contracting services is a general contract where we issue a long list of individual items which we may need to have completed, so as we have some idea of what it would cost for example to have a block of concrete installed. There is no actual dollar contract awarded, nor does it mean we will spend that much money. It is awarded on an as needed or required basis.

No one from the public wishing to be heard, Mrs. Tait made a motion to close the public portion, Mr. Cosky seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cosky made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Russell seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor on the motion

Meeting adjourned at 12.02 pm

Respectfully Submitted
Doretha R Jackson
Acting Municipal Clerk