

Borough of Palmyra
Council Caucus Meeting Minutes, 7:00 PM
Monday May 1st, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The Caucus Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra was called to order by Mayor Michelle Arnold at 7:06 pm

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Michelle Arnold, President Tim Howard, Mr. Frank Cosky, Mrs. Bernadette Russell, Mrs. Gina Tait, Ms. Mindie Weiner, Mr. Lewis Yetter

Absent: none

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 Municipal Clerk in the following manner:

- A. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board at the Palmyra Borough Hall on January 10, 2017.
- B. Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post Newspaper on January 10, 2017.
- C. Notice to All Council Members.

INVOCATION

Prayer was given by Mr., John Gural

APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 17th, 2017 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve the regular council meeting minutes April 17th, 2017. President Howard seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll:

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

NAYES: None

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Arnold acknowledged an email received from Jack Morrissey, Executive Director of New Jersey Conference of Mayors, indicating that Mayor Arnold had been elected to the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors, filling one of the four Board of Directors seats from Burlington County.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Larry Morgan of Tilson Technologies who represents Verizon, indicated Verizon has requested permission to upgrade its network by installing equipment in the public right-of-way in the Borough of Palmyra. The reason for the project is to enhance Verizon's signal strength in the area.

Mrs. Tait and Mr. Yetter both stepped down from the dais and recused themselves from any further discussion.

Mr. Morgan indicated how and where the can tenna and the radio cabinet are placed on the existing utility poles, and further indicated the radio cabinets are at least 12 to 15 feet above ground. Mr. Morgan explained the technology involved with the installation and usage of the equipment. Larry indicated the typical installation takes about 6 hours each and Verizon is prepared to pay for any necessary permits and any type of traffic control which is necessary or required. Mr. Cosky asked how many does Verizon intend to install, and how long will it take to complete the installation? Mr. Morgan indicated it could be anywhere from 1 to maybe 15, Verizon will identify the location of each installation based on desired signal strength; which is partially driven by customer complaints. Once the number is determined, the Borough will be notified, and each installation takes about 6 hours.

Mr. Rosenberg asked if other companies would be requesting the same sort of upgrades. Mr. Morgan indicated he did not know. Mr. Rosenberg inquired if there were any studies relating to any problems with the public in regards to RF emissions. Mr. Morgan indicated a study was done in Sea Girt regarding the RF emissions which was included with the information presented earlier. Mr. Howard asked how many municipalities have these been installed in and what made them choose the Borough of Palmyra. Mr. Morgan indicated he did not know exactly, however he will be visiting all 565 municipalities in the state of New Jersey. Mr. Cosky asked if any municipalities had denied their proposal. Mr. Morgan indicated he was not aware of any that did, however he noted that some have change it a little but still approved it. Ms. Weiner asked what the down falls are. Mr. Morgan indicated none. Mayor Arnold inquired does it still allow for healthy competition? Mr. Morgan indicated yes. Additional discussion was had regarding the installation, compensation, legal issues and it was noted that all that was needed from the Borough of Palmyra was a resolution indicating permission is granted.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Arnold read a Proclamation declaring May 21st, 2017 thru May 27th, 2017 as Emergency Medical Services Week, into the record

PROCLAMATION

2017 EMS Week May 21st, 2017 thru May 27th, 2017

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services has grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, I Michelle Arnold, Mayor of The Borough of Palmyra, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 21st, 2017 thru May 27th, 2017, as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

With the theme, **EMS Strong. Always in Service**, I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Present to accept the Proclamation on behalf of the EMS Squad were, Eva Schultz, President, a member for 49 years, Sue Kenny, Vice President, a member for 39 years, John Quigg, Captain, and others.

PROFESSIONAL UPDATES

William Kirchner, ERI – Mr. Kirchner reported miscellaneous electrical upgrades are ongoing. The installation at the concession stand is complete and we are waiting for final inspections. The canopy under lights on the car port are almost complete. Mr. Kirchner also indicated they are finishing up the extra traffic counts for the Harbour Drive evaluation and asked the Chief if he would have the officers keep an eye on their traffic counting lines as the lines were cut last week when it was on Cinnaminson Avenue.

The road inventory field work is complete there are currently compiling the information for the 139 intersections and 189 street segments with the hopes of having the report complete and to the administrator by June.

Mr. Kirchner also indicated that the resolution on the agenda for tonight which deals with the potholes repairs has also been referred to our on call contractor for some of the more substantial repair work which need to be completed; also capital funds can be used for the cost of those repairs. Mr. Gural indicated because of the significant repair of these potholes we can use capital funds, the smaller ones will be completed by the public works department as usual. Mr. Kirchner stated, list is growing as there are many potholes in town. With the approval of Borough Council they will be starting on those major potholes next week with the hopes of having them complete within a week. Mr. Kirchner indicated the streets which are repaired will be noted in the street inventory report. Mr. Yetter inquired if New Jersey American Water was finished with the work they were completing. Mr. Kirchner indicated no.

PUBLIC PORTION

This public portion is for discussion on professional updates, resolutions and ordinances 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

Mr. Yetter made a motion to open the public portion, Mr. Cosky second the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion

Mr. Zoll – Oregon Avenue –Mr. Zoll inquired why the gentleman who lives on Maryland Avenue is being allowed to park his commercial limo vehicles on the street, where it obstructs the view of traffic, instead of being made to park them in the garage he has on 5th Street and Rt. 73 North. Mr. Zoll indicated he thought it was a safety issue as it is hard to see around the corner when the vehicles are parked there. After some discussion Chief Pearlman stated if the cars, limos are legally registered and insured and parked on the street legally, there is nothing that we can do legally, to make them move them, they are just like any another car. Mr. Gural indicated it should be referred to the zoning officer. Mayor Arnold stated to Mr. Zoll “your concern is well noted”.

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

All members present voted in favor of the motion.

RESOLUTIONS Consent Agenda

Resolution 2017-111 and Resolution 2017-120 to Resolution 2017-123 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.

- **Resolution 2017-111**, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement Between the Borough of Palmyra and the YMCA of Burlington and Camden Counties for the 2017 Palmyra Summer Camp Program at the Palmyra Community Center.

- **Resolution 2017-120**, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with AT&T to Extend License Agreement Dated December 13th, 1996 for the use of the Borough's Cell Tower.
- **Resolution 2017-121**, Resolution Authorizing on Call Contractor Neri's Construction and Rental, Inc. to Proceed with Pot Hole Repairs throughout the Borough Utilizing Capital Improvement Funds in the approximate amount of \$35,000.00.
- **Resolution 2017-122**, Resolution Authorizing/Approving an Installment Payment Plan for Back Billed Inactive Sewer Account for Block 133 Lot 4
- **Resolution 2017-123**, Resolution Requesting Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriations N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159) 2017 Distracted Driving Crackdown U Drive U Text U Pay.

Mrs. Russell requested Resolution 2017-122 be removed from the consent agenda for additional discussion.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-111 and 2017-120 thru 2017-121 and 2017-123. President Howard seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

Resolution 2017-122 Resolution Authorizing/Approving an Installment Payment Plan for Back Billed Inactive Sewer Account for Block 133 Lot 4

Mrs. Russell wanted more information regarding why we were allowing a payment plan, asking "is this standard practice"? Mr. Gural stated this is a residential property which had two sewer connections, they property owner had failed to make payment on one account as we failed to bill for it, in accordance with our ordinance we can back bill for those payments, thus this person is requesting a payment plan, which is something we have done in the past under these circumstances. Ms. Johns indicated the account will be paid before the end of the year. Mrs. Russell asked why the account was not being billed. Ms. Johns indicated the account was placed on an inactive list, because it was vacant, thus no bill generates, when it was noticed the account was properly back billed.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-122. Mr. Cosky seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

The Palmyra Community Center Program Board will be holding its Annual Art Show on May 5th, 2017 at 7:00pm at the Community Center.

Palmyra Day is May 6th, 2017 and we will be partnering with the Independence Fire Company #1, who will be the host.

The Evergreen Baptist Church invited and hosted an appreciation service, where they honored the Palmyra Police Department, The Fire Company, the EMS Squad, The CERT Team, Borough Council and the Mayor.

Coffee with a Cop was held at WAWA this past week and they were very gracious and have indicated they would like to be involved in other projects.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Gural indicated we are still waiting for a signed agreement from Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Gural reminded Borough Council that we will most likely have to extend the date for Habitat for Humanity to seek the approvals from the Land Use Board.

Mr. Gural indicated the CFO will be opening the recreation trust account as we already have the necessary approvals in place. What we would like to do is hire the scheduling coordinator in advance of hiring the assistants so that we can get that person trained. The coordinator and assistants will report to the Municipal Clerk. We are still working out dates for funding the trust account and when we will begin applying revenue that we receive for the community center to the account. We would like to advertise and hire over the next several weeks. Ms. Weiner asked if we had ideas of hours and times. Mr. Gural indicated we are currently working that out and anticipate some overlap with our hours of operations, we are looking at having someone there from around 4:00 pm thru 10:30 pm Monday thru Friday and on Saturdays and Sundays for about 8 to 10 hours. Mrs. Tait inquired, when did it become several people, she thought we were only looking for a scheduling coordinator. Mr. Gural indicated during the budget process the documents presented explained and we budgeted for as many as three people, all the positions are part time no one working more than 28 hours per week. Ms. Weiner inquired will this person work out of the community center office and will they take over the scheduling. Mr. Gural indicated they will be doing the scheduling and they will work from the office in the community center. Ms. Weiner inquired will you come back to council for approval of that person? Mr. Gural indicated that we will advertise the position for a period of time and at some point he will report to the appropriate committee to set up interviews. Ms. Weiner indicated she would be willing to help.

Mr. Gural gave the governing body copies of the latest version of the question and interpretive statement for the potential referendum to be placed on the ballot in November. Mr. Gural indicated the County Clerk would need your authorization by mid-august however we would like to get it to them as soon as possible. Ms. Weiner indicated she like the revision. Mrs. Russell indicated that comes to 409.50 over 15 yrs. for a resident who has a home has the valuation of \$140,000.00. Is that correct? Mr. Gural indicated the numbers are correct given that scenario. Mr. Gural asked if you are satisfied with the

format then Mr. Rosenberg and Mr. Gural will finalize it and put together a resolution. Mayor Arnold indicated we are fine with the wording however are we sure we want to move forward with the referendum, it has not been finalized that we are going to do the referendum. President Howard stated let's move forward with the discussion of whether or not we do the referendum. Mr. Cosky indicated he was concern about doing a referendum because Borough Council routinely purchases fire trucks as well as any necessary other equipment to support the daily operations of the municipality, when the police need a new vehicle or the sewer department needs a new dump truck are we going to put them out for referendum? Mr. Cosky stated he realizes this is a large expense however he did not feel the referendum was the correct for something we routinely do. Mrs. Russell stated her concern was that we just purchased a fire truck within a relatively short period on time, and there is a huge difference between a 30,000.00 vehicle and one million dollar plus truck. Mrs. Russell indicated she would like to hear what the public thinks and would be willing to vote according to their wishes. President Howard stated yes it is routine business however, for the sake of transparency it is just better to let residents see how their money is being spent. President Howard stated here is your opportunity, we give you all the information up front allow you to ask questions and voice your opinion instead of waiting until after it's done and then having questions. Ms. Weiner stated Mr. Howard made a great point regarding transparency, this allows people to be involved and be heard. Mrs. Tait stated we are not saying yes or no however this has been a topic of conversation around town and people are asking and we want to hear what people think. Mr. Yetter indicated it is being advertised and talked about so people are aware. Mr. Yetter stated what he does not want to see happen is it get kick down the road so that it winds up costing more that it has to because of our inaction ,somethings just need to be done, there is no harm in a referendum however I don't see the need for it. Additional discussion was had regarding the referendum and how and why it should be done and also why it was not needed. Mayor Arnold indicated we were all elected to make the difficult decisions regarding what is needed for our residents, we all have had the opportunity to speak with the fire department and review the details of the purchase. Everyone realizes that this is a non-binding referendum and the decision will still need to be made by the governing body. Mayor Arnold indicated maybe we should have a public forum so the public can come if they so desire and ask questions and get the same information we have. Ms. Weiner stated the public forum is a great idea, is that something we can do sooner rather than later and postpone this discussion until after we have had that opportunity. President Howard indicated he did not feel why there was a need to postpone the discussion. Mr. Gural indicated he would ask Mr. Rosenberg to prepare a resolution for council consideration for the next meeting. Mr. Dreby stated he would like to still see the public forum suggested.

Mr. Gural indicated we are also installing emergency type panic buttons in various different locations throughout the building as well as in the community center office. We are also installing an electrical door release in the community center so someone in the office can open the door from the office.

Mayor Arnold then asked Mr. Rosenberg for his opinion regarding messages being passed back and forward on the dais, along with cell phone usage on the dais, the appropriate use of laptops during the meeting and how it all relates to the sunshine law regarding open public meetings act. Mr. Rosenberg

indicated there are no laws which deal with these issues, however there are internal rules which the governing body can adopt regarding their conduct and the use of electronic equipment during Borough Council meetings. Mayor Arnold asked everyone to refrain from using cellphones and passing notes at the council meetings.

Mr. Gural indicated we currently provide life insurance for the active members of the fire department as well as life members of the fire department. We have currently not be able to find a company willing to continue providing that insurance coverage. Mr. Gural recommended that we scale back the program to provide coverage for the LOSP eligible members only. Currently we are self-insuring which is something we cannot continue to do. Discussion was had regarding insurance policies, coverage and LOSP eligibility. Mr. Gural stated a resolution will be on the agenda for next meeting regarding the acceptance of his recommendation regarding the program.

The student volunteer's discussion will be tabled until further discussion can be had with Mr. Rosenberg regarding some additional questions.

Mr. Gural indicated he had nothing to report regarding the Fuel AST as we are still waiting to set up a meeting with BCBC.

Mayor Arnold indicated the mural at Toney's Barber shop is moving forward, Ms. Weiner and Mayor Arnold have spoken with three artist/painters and have spoken with Joe and they are working on a concept which is coming together, more information will follow.

Ms. Weiner stated she had an updated information regarding the farmer's market which is handed out to the governing body. She indicated they had additional information regarding student volunteers, vendors and obtaining the proper permits required from Tracy's office regarding fire issues. Mr. Weiner then indicated what they would like to do. The Farmers Market will be held at bandshell on Thursday evenings from 4:00 to 8:00 pm June thru September, up to 10 vendors, 3 food vendors, registration fee and vendor fee we can be discussed later. Ms. Weiner has spoken with some local businesses regarding staying open during the time the Farmer's Market is open. Discussion was had regarding the fees, local business, the process for selecting vendors, the purchasing of banners signs etc. Mayor Arnold and the governing body indicated they did not see the need to charge the ten dollars registration fee initially as it could be revisited at a later date once we see how it is going. The Governing body has decided to move forward with the Farmer's Market.

Mayor Arnold indicated at the next meeting we will be awarding the Police Department awards.

The public safety committee will be meeting and we will be discussing a potential new hire.

Mr. Gural indicated he had received the donation requests from the War Memorial Committee, and a request from American Legion Post #156, which is a donation of the attendance fee for one boy and one

girl to attend Boy's State and Girl's State, each is \$300.00. This request does not to benefit that organization it is simply to pays the attendance fees for those two children and simply passes thru the organizations account. Mr. Gural indicated all the required paper work has been received and these requests will be on the bill list for final approval.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gural stated a pre-construction meeting will be held on Monday May 8th, 2017 at 10:00 am in the Borough regarding the Riverfront project. Mr. Gural indicated the contracts should be available that day and hopefully the engineer will be able to issue the notice to proceed that day. Mr. Gural indicated the new bike racks are in and at public works, if you would like to see them you can make arrangements with Mr. McGill to do so. Mr. Gural also indicated he would be sharing what they look like on our website. Mrs. Russell asked how we know what information we can or cannot release to the public. Mr. Rosenberg indicated usually items which should not be released are indicated as so, most things of a general nature you can release however if you have a question regarding whether or not it should be released you can always inquire from Mr. Gural.

Mr. Gural indicating the Tri-Boro CERT Shared Service Agreement has been signed by Mayor Arnold and Riverton and is almost ready to move on to Cinnaminson Township.

Mr. Gural indicated the Burlington County JIF Quarterly Loss Ratio Report, which is quite lengthy was emailed to everyone, if there are questions feel free to contact him.

The changes to the towing ordinance should be complete in the next week or so, it is being prepared by Mr. Burns and Chief Pearlman and will be on the agenda for introduction at our next meeting May 15th, 2017.

Mr. Gural indicated that the 2017 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant proposal in your packs, a project has been designed to utilize those funds. The project being proposed is the purchase and installation of smoke detectors in homes which do not currently have them, it should benefit a number of our residents. The proposal from C G P & H to complete the application is \$5,000.00, per the proposal sent to you. Some discussion was had regarding the grant and Mayor Arnold asked Chief Dreby of the Fire Company if this was something they would be willing to help with in regards to the installations if the grant was approved. Chief Dreby indicated yes.

Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-124 Authorizing Community Grants Planning & Housing a Contract to prepare the 2017 FEMA Fire Prevention & Safety Grant Application in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 per the proposal presented. Mrs. Russell second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

Mr. Gural indicated we came across a very interesting application for the public works/sewer superintendent. This person has a significant amount of experience and educational background and Mr. Gural scheduled a pre-interview appointment with them to determine some key questions before all applications are turned over to committee for formal interviews. Mr. Gural stated after he has completed this task he will notify the committee and they may move on with the formal interview process.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Frank Cosky indicated the construction committee met last Wednesday and the fees are now posted on the website and the fines will be coming soon. The construction committee will be having another meeting later in this month.

Lew Yetter stated the sewer department will be having a meeting on this coming Friday. The green team will be meeting next week.

Bernadette Russell indicated the shade tree committee will be meeting on Wednesday. Crape Myrtles were planted down on Broad Street at the end going towards Rt. 73, which should add some color to the line of sight when they bloom. Mrs. Russell also indicating the Palmyra School Board will be meeting on May 5th, 2017 and will be holding their public hearing on the proposed school budget for 2017. Mrs. Russell also indicated the PEA will be hosting the Red Carpet Event, classroom close-up on May 17th, 2017 at the community center at 7:00 pm.

Mindie Weiner stated the Finance committee will be meeting next week. Her focus has been on the Farmers Market with the hopes of having the proposal complete for next meeting from the committee.

President Timothy Howard – no report

Mrs. Tait indicated she attended the signing day at Palmyra High School, organized by Mike Papenberg, another great event showcasing our graduating students and where they are going to college. Mrs. Tait also thank everyone for their participation in the clean-up and indicated how nice it was to see so many people out working together and just talking and interacting with one another.

Mayor Michelle Arnold indicated she and the 6th grade students planted the pinwheels in front of Charles Street School in observance of child abuse prevention month and also planted a tree in observance of Arbor Day. Mayor Arnold indicated The New Jersey Conference of Mayor gave out so much information which once she has had a chance to go thru will be disseminated to various applicable committees. Mayor Arnold also notified all that the public safety committee will be meeting as Chief Pearlman has some things he would like to discuss with us. Mayor Arnold also thanked everyone for all their efforts in clean-up day and thanked them for their participation, and the Borough looks fantastic. Mayor Arnold also mention that there is a new business opening in town on

Cinnaminson Avenue called Live, Love Donuts. They are hoping to be open the first part of June, please stop and welcome them to Palmyra.

Mrs. Russell indicated to date there has still not been a communications committee meeting. The last email indicated we would have a meeting on Good Friday which did not happen, so as of today we still have not had a communication committee meeting. Mayor Arnold indicated she will be contacting all committee members to get that set up.

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.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to open the public portion. Mr. Cosky second the motion

All members present voted in favor of the motion

Mr. Rader – Harbour Drive – Mr. Rader stated for 27 years the Palmyra war memorial has had one purpose to honor by name residents who have served in the military (1100) and those who died during that service to our county. (32) There is new memorial also with a very special meaning that honors all fallen troops and a history that goes back to the civil war. There are some interesting symbolic things on the new statue, some of which are, the fallen soldier's battle cross, the rifle, and combat boots. Mr. Rader then explained what each of those items symbolized. Mr. Rader then asked why the fallen soldier's battle cross statue is not a free standing monument instead of an addition to the existing monument. Both monuments are unique and their identity needs to be maintained.

Mrs. Lakes – Harbour Drive – Ms. Lakes indicated she was the liaison for the Palmyra Harbour Condo Association and meetings are held every third Thursday of the month. Mrs. Lakes also stated there were two new members to the board. Mayor Arnold indicated she along with Mrs. Russell and Ms. Weiner are all liaisons for the various associations, she has been attending the Palmyra Condo association meetings and intends to continue attending them. Mrs. Russell indicated she would also like to attend them.

Mr. B Norcross – Morgan Avenue – Mr. Norcross stated the chief of the fire department pointed out the need for the new ladder truck, if you put it out for referendum what are you going to do if the residents indicate they do not want it however you know there is a need and you know there's going to be a cost factor to maintain the current ladder? Mr. Cosky indicated he did not see the need for the referendum for this purpose. Ms. Weiner indicated she did not know what she would do, however liked the idea of seeing how other residents felt about it. Mr. Norcross explained the difference between the fire department and the fire company. Mr. Norcross also asked if we wait until after November to purchase

won't it cost an additional 10%? Mr. Gural indicated yes, and further indicated the cost increase is reflected in the question and the impetrative statement of the referendum. Council needs to educate themselves and think about how you are going to handle it when and if the residents indicated they do not want to spend the money and you vote not to purchase this ladder truck putting public safety is at risk.

Mr. H Norcross –Cinnaminson Avenue –Mr. Norcross indicated we are the oldest volunteer fire company in Burlington County, he was embarrassed that we are here discussing the fire company who's volunteer members give up their own time to educate themselves, fight fires, and put their lives on the line for the residents of this Borough. When was the last time someone stepped into the fire house and talked to a fireman to find out what they do, what they need in order to respond effectively to a fire. You need to educate yourselves about the Fire Company and Fire department. Mr. Norcross also indicated the public forum should be held and soon at the fire company so you can go and see what they do, what they need, what they have and understand that you have a volunteer company. Do you know what it would cost for a paid Fire Department? Educate yourselves.

Mrs. Yetter – Garfield Avenue – Mrs. Yetter first thanked the fire company for the outstanding job they do. Mrs. Yetter stated there was a fire at her home, and the fire moved so quickly. What will happen if we have to wait for a ladder truck to come from another town?

Mr. McElwee – Columbia Avenue – Mr. McElwee stated he was sorry he brought up the idea of a referendum, we need to educate ourselves. Mr. McElwee stated he apologized to Chief Dreby for bring it up. What is \$27 dollars and 30 cents a year for a household, about \$410.00 a family over the entire period for our safety? Do you have any idea of what it would cost to have a fire district? We don't need a referendum, look how many people come out to our meetings, and you think they are coming out to a public forum, they don't care. As for the war memorial, Mr. McElwee indicated he was on the committee from the very beginning and one of the things Mr. Tony Giampaolo wanted was the statue, where it is now, not someplace where it would not be seen. Mr. McElwee thanked Mr. Rader for his research however feels the statue is where it belongs.

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

All members present voted in favor of the motion.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Yetter stated his concern is not the money but that the old fire truck may not work when we need it.

Mrs. Russell indicated she is trying to get all the research available and to imply that people are not doing their job is not true. The chief was very helpful in answering some of her questions and extending the invitation to come out on Mondays however those Mondays we have meeting here so to date she has

not been able to coordinate that yet. Mrs. Russell also stated many people are talking about the amount of the ladder truck.

Mrs. Tait – no comment

Mr. Cosby thanked everyone for coming out and voicing their opinions.

Ms. Weiner thanked everyone for working Saturday with the cleanup of the downtown area. Mr. Weiner informed all that an article was in the Philly Burbs regarding the cleanup. The article also mentioned the Red Carpet Event coming to the community center on the 17th. Ms. Weiner also indicated she wanted to send a thank-you card to Evergreen Baptist Church for the wonderful service and plaque, she inquired what the protocol was for that. Mayor Arnold indicated it was ok to do so and to give the Clerk a copy so she can put it into our correspondence file.

President Howard indicated he wanted to clarify his position in regards to the referendum, he would just like to get the information out to everyone, so they know what was going on, and what the cost is. The referendum by no way means he does not want the ladder truck nor that anyone's life was not important or that we wanted to put anyone's life at risk. He just wants the public to know what is going on with the spending of their monies.

Mayor Arnold indicated Tracy Kilmer's JIF Public safety committee meetings are held quarterly in Borough Hall in the conference room, the next one is on May 5th at 2:30 pm. Mayor Arnold reminded everyone that "Paint the Porch Pink" is coming May 21st, 2017. Mayor Arnold also indicated May is National Military month and we will have a proclamation at the next meeting. Mayor Arnold thanked everyone for coming, sharing your ideas and passions as that's really what this is all about. She indicated some things to keep in mind; previously things were not taken care of in a timely manner and it has cost us more in various ways, that's why we try to plan for the things that are coming and handle them in a timely manner. Mayor Arnold also stated, "Be good neighbors and be kind to one another."

Mayor Arnold asked if Mr. Gural if there were items for closed session. Mr. Gural indicated there are some litigation matters we need to talk about, Palmyra Arms, The PERC matter and Fillit Litigation. Mr. Rosenberg indicated he felt those items could be discussed in open session.

Mr. Rosenberg notified council that we are working on a settlement agreement with Palmyra Arms, a draft has been circulated and we are just awaiting all final comments before presenting it to council, we expect to have the settlement agreement at the next meeting for council consideration.

Mr. Rosenberg indicated a conference has been scheduled for later this month in regards to PERC, the meeting should be attended by Mr. Rosenberg; the administrator, Mr. Gural; the Mayor and another member of Borough Council regarding Johnson and Deutsch litigation.

Mr. Rosenberg indicated the Fillit Litigation is scheduled for a mediation session on June 6th, 2017. We should have two decision makers available, Mr. Rosenberg suggested the Mayor, Mr. Gural and two other council members should be present. Mr. Rosenberg indicated he would get a memo out to everyone indicating how we should proceed.

Having no other business the Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Howard second the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 9:44 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Doretha R. Jackson
Acting Municipal Clerk