

Borough of Palmyra
Regular Council Meeting, 7:00 PM
Monday April 17th, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra was called to order by Mayor Michelle Arnold at 7:01 pm.

ROLL CALL

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

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:

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

INVOCATION

Prayer was given by Mr. John Gural

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve the Budget Meeting Minutes of March 11th, 2017, and a motion to approve the Council Caucus Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Minutes of April 3rd, 2017.

Mr. Cosky made a motion to approve the Budget Meeting Minutes of March 11th, 2017. Mr. Yetter 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. Cosky made a motion to approve the Council Caucus Meeting Minutes and the Executive Session Minutes of April 3rd, 2017. Mr. Yetter second 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 letters received from Mrs. Falcone and Mrs. Michael's fourth grade class regarding the Charles Street School Tea. Mayor Arnold also acknowledged thank you notes received from Josephine, Leena, Alexis, Jazzmine and Riayn of Charles Street School.

Mayor Arnold also accepted Sgt. Joseph Osinski's letter indicating he will be retiring from his position as First Sergeant of Palmyra Police Department on May 31st, 2017.

PUBLIC PORTION

This public portion is for discussion on professional updates, resolutions and ordinances listed on the agenda. **Please sign in at the podium, 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. Tait made a motion to open the public portion, President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

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

Mrs. Tait second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING (public hearing May 15th, 2017 at 7:00 pm)

Ordinance 2017-4, An Ordinance Of The Borough Of Palmyra To Provide for and Determine the Rates and Ranges of Compensation of Each Employee and Officer of the Borough of Palmyra For Years 2017 and 2018. This Ordinance expires December 31st, 2018 unless otherwise amended.

Mr. Gural explained this ordinance is a requirement of the State of New Jersey, which requires the municipality to list ranges of compensation for every employee listed in the Borough of Palmyra, additionally the auditor uses this ordinance to ensure employees are not being paid more or less than what they should be.

A motion was made by Mrs. Russell to approve Ordinance 2017-4 as read. Mr. Cosky second 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

Ordinance 2017-5, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra Amending Chapter 197 Of the Borough of Palmyra Code Captioned "Peddling And Soliciting".

Mrs. Tait inquired is this to add the sticker which goes into the window or on the door? Chief Pearlman indicated yes. Mayor Arnold indicated the ordinance also amends some of the time frames to make it more uniform.

A motion was made by Mrs. Russell to approve Ordinance 2017-5 as read. President Howard second 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

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING (Public Hearing).

Ordinance 2017-03, An Ordinance To Exceed Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits And To Establish A CAP Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14).

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

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

No one from the public wishing to be heard, Mr. Cosky made a motion to close the public portion. Mrs. Russell second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

A motion was made by Mr. Cosky to approve Ordinance 2017-03 as read. Mr. Yetter second 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

Ordinance Adopted 04/17//2017

2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

Resolution 2017-104, Resolution to Read the 2017 Budget by Title Only

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-104 to read the 2017 Budget by Title Only. Mr. Cosky second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

PUBLIC HEARING ON ADOPTION OF 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Resolution 2017-105, Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the 2017 Municipal Budget

Mrs. Russell made a motion to open to the public, President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

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

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

A motion was made by Mrs. Russell to approve Resolution 2017-105 Adopting the 2017 Municipal Budget. President Howard second 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

Budget Adopted 04/17/2017

Mayor Arnold stated the 2017 Budget is \$8,073,578.00 that is the total to be raised by taxation, it equates to a tax rate of \$1.20 per hundred of the access valuation which is an increase of 1.22 cents over last year approximately a 1% increase. The local purpose tax on the average home owner this year is \$1,171.51 on a home assessed at the Borough average valuation of \$147,600.00. This is an increase of \$16.19 per year, \$4.05 per quarter or \$1.35 per month over last year, \$865,000.00 was used from the fund balance/surplus in the 2017 Budget.

RESOLUTIONS Consent Agenda

Resolution 2017-106 to Resolution 2017-119 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 2017-106**, Resolution to Cancel Unclaimed Tax Sale Certificate Redemption Monies Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-57.1
- **Resolution 2017-107**, Resolution Authorizing A Refund of Tax Overpayment on Block 62 Lot 11 in the amount of \$167.74
- **Resolution 2017-108**, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra Establishing the Annual Rates of Compensation and/or Hourly Rates Paid to Borough Employees
- **Resolution 2017-109**, Resolution Amending the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, Rev. Date October 12th, 2016 Eliminating Advance Payments for Authorized Travel
- **Resolution 2017-110**, Resolution Amending the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, Rev. Date October 12th, 2016, to Provide Credit for All Full-time Service When Calculating Vacation Entitlement

- **Resolution 2017-111**, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with YMCA of Burlington and Camden Counties for the 2017 Palmyra Summer Camp Program at the Palmyra Community Center
- **Resolution 2017-112**, Resolution Appointing Ernest McGill as Foreman for the Public Works and Sewer Departments for the Borough of Palmyra at the hourly rate of \$25.00 retroactive to February 3rd, 2017
- **Resolution 2017-113**, Resolution Awarding a Contract to V-COMM, LLC for the Evaluation of the Public Works/Sewer Plant property to support an Antenna Support Structure in the Amount of \$11,000.00 per their proposal dated March 20th, 2017
- **Resolution 2017-114**, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a MOU with Cinnaminson Township and the Borough of Riverton for the Tri-Boro CERT Services
- **Resolution 2017-115**, Resolution Awarding a Contract to CME Associates for the Security Camera Improvements Project in the Amount Not-to- Exceed \$20,000.00 per their proposal dated March 15th, 2017
- **Resolution 2017-116**, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement Accepting \$1,500.00 in Exchange for Discharging a Palmyra Housing Rehabilitation Program Mortgage on the Property Located at 34 Pear Street, Palmyra, NJ Provided Title to the Property Remains in the names of the Present Owner's Until July 29th, 2017
- **Resolution 2017-117**, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills Submitted by Capehart & Scatchard in the Amount of \$9,842.50 per statement dated February 22nd & 23rd, 2017
- **Resolution 2017-118**, Resolution Appointing Ernest McGill Code Enforcement Officer for the Borough of Palmyra at the Hourly Rate of \$25.00 Retroactive to February 3rd, 2017
- **Resolution 2017-119**, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills for the Month of April 2017 In the Amount of \$1,856,489.71.

Ms. Weiner requested Resolution 2017-111 and Resolution 2017-115 be removed from the consent agenda for additional discussion.

Mrs. Russell requested Resolution 2017-117 be removed from the consent agenda for additional discussion.

Mr. Cosky made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-106 thru 2017-110 and 2017-112 thru 2017-114 and 2017-116 and 2017-118 and 2017-119. Mr. Yetter 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 2017-111, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with YMCA of Burlington and Camden Counties for the 2017 Palmyra Summer Camp Program at the Palmyra Community Center

Mr. Gural indicated to council that currently we wish to table this resolution, as we had hoped to have the revised agreement from the YMCA but have not received it as of yet, so currently we cannot move forward. Ms. Weiner stated to council the original agreement with the YMCA indicated our Palmyra residents would receive a 10% discount when asked if the discount could be larger they agreed to make that discount 15%, so our residents attending the YMCA Summer Camp Program will receive the 15% discount this year.

Resolution 2017- 111 tabled to a later date.

Resolution 2017-115. Resolution Awarding a Contract to CME Associates for the Security Camera Improvements Project in the Amount Not-to-Exceed \$20,000.00 per their proposal dated March 15th, 2017

Discussion was heard regarding Resolution 2017-115,

Ms. Weiner inquired if this proposal is for CME to research all the camera locations? Mr. Gural indicated it was more than research and camera location, we work with professionals to establish a scope of work and develop a cost estimate for the project. Those professionals establish potential locations of cameras, the types of devices needed for which location, how the information is relayed from the camera to our secure location, etc. When the scope of work is completed and we have developed a cost estimate we would contact those state contractors for proposals/ quotes under state contract to complete the scope of work we developed. When prices are finalized and we have found a contractor we would like to do business with, we would come back to the governing body with a proposal for awarding of the project via state contract; that scope of work could possibly be in and around the amount of \$350,000.00 or more. Ms. Weiner indicated that 75 to 100 cameras seems like a lot of cameras to be put in the Borough of Palmyra. Mr. Gural indicated that are over 30 cameras in the community center alone and we are talking about cameras in borough hall, public works, at the Legion Field, in the police department etc. Mr. Gural indicated we have some systems which do not connect or interface with others, we are looking for one comprehensive system which will cover all and can be viewed 24/7 by the police department and whatever other locations we desire for particular cameras.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-115. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES. none

Resolution 2017-117, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills Submitted by Capehart & Scatchard in the Amount of \$9,842.50 per statement dated February 22nd & 23rd, 2017

Discussion was heard regarding Resolution 2017-117;

Mrs. Russell asked if this was part of billings from last year. Mrs. Russell asked what the bills were for. Mr. Gural explained they were from last year and they are for various things we asked them to do. Mr. Gural stated there was some question regarding the \$6,000.00 appraisal fee which was performed on a

property on the south side of 73 as it is reimbursable from the Burlington County Bridge Commission and vouchers have not been submitted for these particular bills as of yet.

Ms. Russell indicated she was “ok” and ready to proceed.

Mr. Yetter made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-117. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

AYES: Mrs. Tait, Mr. Yetter, President Howard

NAYES: None

Abstain: Mr. Cosky, Mrs. Russell, Ms. Weiner

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Mayor Arnold announced “Coffee with a Cop” will be held on April 25th, 2017 at Wawa from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The Governor’s, Occupational Safety and Health Award Program Dinner is tomorrow April 18th, 2017.

Mr. Gural indicated Tracy Kilmer will be getting an award, fourth year in a row, regarding her efforts at keep us all safe at work.

Mayor Arnold indicated on Sunday May 21st the Porch Club of Riverton will be hosting “Paint the Porch Pink Breast Cancer Walk” in Riverton at 2:00 pm.

Mayor Arnold indicated free mammograms are available March 25th, 2017 thru April 28th, 2017 with Virtua for Life.

Mayor Arnold stated the Smithville Art Show displayed the art work of Natalie Belton a Palmyra High School student at the Smithville Mansion on April 9th, 2017.

Mayor Arnold also announced the 2017 Congressional Art Competition is currently accepting entries from South Jersey high school students, entries must be in by May 3rd, 2017. Winning entry will hang at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC for one year. Mayor Arnold stated for additional information regarding this program and the before mentioned programs please see our website for details.

Mayor Arnold also announced the Burlington County Sheriff and Freeholders and are holding a Senior Expo on May 24th, 2017 at the Masonic Village in Burlington Township, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm., additionally they will be having a shredding event from 10:00 to 1:00 on the same date.

The Seniors Program is having an eight week workshop for individuals 55 plus, called “A Matter of Balance” focused on managing the fear of falling, it will run from May 4th thru June 22nd, 2017.

The Palmyra, Riverton Cinnaminson Lions Club will be hosting their annual Flea Market on April 29th, 2017 at the Cinnaminson Middle School.

Mayor Arnold also indicated The Palmyra Harbour Condo Association will be having a Flea Market on April 22nd, 2017 in their parking lot.

Mayor Arnold stated she was contacted by the Relay for Life for the river towns. Mayor Arnold stated she is challenging Borough Council to get involved. The event is being held at Delran High School on June 3rd, 2017 from 4:00 pm to 12:00 am. More information will be coming and President Howard was asked to be the point person that event.

The Earth Fair is May 7th, 2017 at the Burlington County Resource Complex.

Mayor Arnold also announced, that The Burlington County Footlighters is hosting a raise the roof fundraiser on April 22nd, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Mrs. Russel indicated the Palmyra Cove is offering a class on Wildlife photography on May 21st, 2017. Mrs. Russell also announced the Riverton Steam Boat Landing Festival will be held on May 13th, 2017. Mrs. Tait indicated, Palmyra High School is hosting a softball tournament this Saturday April 22nd, 2017 at the Legion Field beginning at 8:00 am and the Palmyra Soccer Booster Club will be having its annual hoagie sale Saturday April 22nd, 2017 at the Legion Field beginning also at 8:00 am.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Chief Pearlman stated Sargent Osinski will be retiring after 27 years of service; May 31st, 2017 is officially his last day. Chief Pearlman explained the process, which has started, to replace Sargent Osinski. Chief Pearlman indicated he hopes to have a recommendation for his replacement to council by the end of May.

Mr. Gural stated per your instructions, in your council packet are some proposed referendum questions and an interpretative statement additionally attached is an amortization analysis, regarding potentially possible financing of the ladder truck and Mr. Rosenberg memo which was also sent to you previously. Mr. Gural stated these are draft documents so they are open for suggestions. Mr. Gural stated the question and interpretative statement must be sent to the County Clerk, at least 81 days prior to the election, so there is still a little time. Rosenberg explained, there is no charge to the municipality to do this. Mr. Rosenberg inquired that Pierce Manufacturing in Appleton, Wisconsin is pursuant to state contract? Mr. Gural indicated yes. Ms. Weiner inquired where the interpretative statement goes. Mr. Gural indicated on the ballot near the question, to help explain what the question is about. Mr. Cosby inquired will the voters know that this referendum is non-binding. Mr. Gural indicated at the end of the interpretative statement it reads; "By law this referendum is non-binding meaning the Governing Body is not obligated to act in accordance with the results." Mr. Rosenberg suggested instead of having that notation at the end of the statement perhaps the interpretative statement could lead with that statement. Additional discussion was had regarding the fire ladder truck referendum, useful life of equipment, financing, etc. Mr. Gural indicated these numbers are hypothetical and we won't have actual numbers until we were to actually get into the financing process. Mrs. Tait asked when the decision regarding the referendum needs to be made. Mr. Gural indicated by June at the latest, so we can meet the required deadlines. Mayor Arnold asked for it to be placed back on the agenda at our next Council Caucus meeting. Mrs. Russell inquired, when the old ladder truck is sold, where does that money go? Mr. Gural indicated into the general fund as MURA (Municipal Unanticipated Revenue Account). Ms. Weiner asked if we have any idea of what the old ladder truck is worth. Mr. Gural indicated not at this time. Mayor Arnold asked Deputy Chief Roun if he could have additional information regarding the worth of our current ladder truck for the next meeting. Deputy Chief Roun indicated he would.

Mr. Gural indicated, Chief Pearlman's report regarding traffic counts and speed information on Morgan Avenue and East Fourth Streets was given to Mr. Kirchner. Mr. Gural stated there are a number of criteria which must be considered when evaluating an intersection for a four way stop, this intersection unfortunately in our engineers opinion does not meet that criteria however there are a number of things which they recommend could be done including installing new stop signs with the correct reflectivity requirements in the correct places and stop bars to reinforce the stop condition of the

intersection. Ms. Weiner asked, if the intersection does not meet the criteria, can we error on the side of caution and do it anyway, who sets the criteria? Mr. Gural indicated, the criteria and standards are set by MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) for NJDOT roadway design. The governing body cannot just change an intersection without meeting the standards and conditions in the MUTCD for NJDOT; our engineer needs to inspect it and certify that the improvements meet MUTCD requirements. Additional discussion was had regarding the requirements of MUTCD and Council's ability to change the intersection. Mr. Gural stated in order to change anything at that intersection an engineer's report and recommendation to the change is required as someone must be accountable to NJDOT for action which may or may not take place at that intersection.

Mr. Gural indicated after some discussion with some members of the governing body and Mr. Rosenberg regarding parent permission slips for minor children, he has asked Mr. Rosenberg to stop preparing the slip he was working on so we could get more clarification from the governing body. Mayor Arnold indicated that when children are volunteering to work on behalf of the Borough we should have permission slips from their parents or guardians. Mayor Arnold indicated the hope she and Mrs. Tait had, was to fine tune those permission slips when the question was presented to pay the student volunteers. Mayor Arnold indicated if they are paid they are no longer volunteers, they become paid employees of the Borough of Palmyra, which opens a whole different realm of responsibilities for the Borough. Mayor indicated she would like to move forward with the permission slip however paying children to be volunteers is beyond our ability. Mrs. Tait indicated that the children which she utilizes to help with events are from the Interact Club or children from the Student Council, which sign permission slips in the beginning of the year with the school allowing parents to give permission for their children to work on various projects and events which the clubs decides to participate in. Additional discussion was had regarding permission slips, and paying students to work on behalf of the Borough. Ideas were shared from putting the permission slip on the website, sharing the permission slips the children sign with the School with the Borough, not implementing the new slips until next year, etc. Some additional discussion was had regarding paying the children to work at the Farmer's Market. Mr. Rosenberg explained just because the parents sign permission slips for the children to be able to participate in various events does not dissolve the Borough of our responsibility, once we ask children to volunteer we have a responsibility to make sure they are in a safe environment. Mr. Rosenberg stated the wording of the document is very important. Mayor Arnold indicated she would like Mr. Rosenberg to continue with preparing this document and at a later date we can determine how and when it will be disseminated; Mrs. Tait indicated she would get him a copy of what the school has in place. Mr. Rosenberg also asked Mr. Gural to check with JIF regarding kids volunteering and being covered while participating. Mr. Rosenberg also advised Borough Council to tread very carefully regarding hiring children to volunteer and paying them as that opens up many issues.

Mayor Arnold explained a public works sewer committee meeting is needed to resolve some issues relating to Block 108 Lot 10, regarding the continued questions about the sewer billing of this business. Mr. Yetter asked if this issue could be discussed in open session. Mr. Rosenberg indicated out of respect for the citizen perhaps we should inquire of him if it is ok to discuss in a public session. Mr. Gural indicated that prior to any discussion with this individual or having any discussion in public session,

perhaps the committee should review with the appropriate personal and professionals so they can understand everything which took place in regards to that property in prior years, including prior litigation, which has brought us to this point. Mayor Arnold asked the committee to review the documents meet with the appropriate people and professionals prior to meeting with the citizen. Mr. Yetter indicated the committee will meet.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gural informed the governing body that Chief Pearlman has notified the Executive Director of the County that we will not be participating in the Municipal Alliance Program for the next fiscal year. Ms. Weiner asked if it was possible for us to send a letter to the county explaining how difficult the program was to navigate and why we are leaving it. Chief Pearlman indicated they know why we are leaving.

Mr. Gural stated Ms. Jackson has sent everyone notification that the 2017 Financial Disclosure Statements are due by April 30th, 2017; because of the lateness in opening the system to allow people to file their 2017 Financial Disclosure Statement; enforcement of the April 30th statutory filing deadline, is expected to be delayed by the local finance board until May 30th, 2017.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Arnold

Mayor Arnold indicated Coffee with a Cop will be held April 25th, 2017 at Wawa, The police department awards will be given out at our May 15th, 2017 meeting. The Senior Police Academy is currently ongoing. Mrs. Branch indicated it is going well although a few dropped out for various reasons, it is moving right along. Mayor Arnold noted in the monthly police report warrant services are higher, is that a direct result of bail reform? Chief Pearlman indicated no it is more an effect of productivity of the officers. Chief Pearlman did however indicated the amount of overtime and comp time paid out has increased due to paper work having to be completed for the county and jail runs to the county is a result of bail reform. Chief Pearlman then explained how bail reform works and how it is affecting our Police Department. Mayor Arnold indicated an email was sent asking the availability of the communications committee for a meeting on April 14th or April 21st, 2017 and is awaiting a response so that may be set up. The Palmyra Condo Association is holding elections tonight for new officers. Mayor Arnold stated for Palmyra Day a meeting was held Saturday of last week with PCCPB whom we working together with and we have 30 plus vendors signed up so far, additionally the car show will be here, the fire department will have crafters and vendors set up, and Tracy will be doing a CPR demonstration and will have kid zone obstacle course called "leaps and bounds" set up for the kids. Mayor Arnold indicated she attended a meeting with the Burlington County Reginal Chamber of Commerce. The pin wheels, for Child Abuse Prevention are to be planted at Charles Street School, just waiting for the kids to come back to school so the date can be set up. Mayor Arnold indicated she will be attending the Conference of Mayors from April 26th, thru April 28th, 2017. Additionally Mayor Arnold attended the Habitat for Humanity, "No Place like Home" seminar, where Palmyra and the newly constructed home on 6th Street were featured in their presentation. Mayor Arnold stated we are still working on the Tri-Boro Vets property with Habitat for Humanity arranging the sale agreement signing. Mayor Arnold also visited the seniors program when they hosted a defensive driving class

which was provide by the Sherriff's Department of Burlington County. Mayor Arnold stated she spoke with Tony regarding the mural and the idea regarding the use of a wrap is cost prohibitive, so we are look for local painters and coming up with so ideas so we can move that project forward. Mayor Arnold asked Ms. Weiner if she would be willing to help with that project and finding painters.

Councilmen Yetter indicated the Public works Committee had a meeting last week, and the new statue is installed at the war memorial. Additionally they are working with a new system for patching potholes which will hopefully let the patches last a little longer. Mr. Yetter also indicated the P S E & G is out trimming trees in the community, and we have had numerous complaints, however all must remember they are just clearing the lines, as they work for P S E & G. and they are not here to make the tree trimming pretty. Mr. Yetter stated we had a storm water drain inspection which went well and we received a good review on it from the state. Mr. Yetter also indicated the green team met earlier this week and we are concentrating on sustainable New Jersey, which is a lot of work.

Councilwoman Russell stated that the Shade Tree Advisory Committee met on April 5th, 2017. Trees were just delivered and there is a plan in place to get them planted. Mrs. Russell indicated she was not part of the tree selection however would like to know why we don't use more native trees in our selection process, she will discuss further with the Shade Tree Committee Mrs. Russell indicated Mrs. Tait when to the Board of Education meeting so she would defer that committee report to her.

Councilwoman Weiner stated the Business and Community Development Committee has been actively working on a farmer's market. Ms. Weiner presented some ideas which they have come up with to council in the hopes that council will want to move forward with this project. Ideas included using the Band Shell as the primary location, setting up tables and tents with food vendors. Ms. Weiner indicated they are look at Thursday evening's mid-June thru August from about 4 to 7.00 pm. Ms. Weiner spoke about the possibility of 10 vendors to start and 3 food trucks paying maybe a \$10.00 vendor fee for a spot, while local business would pay \$5.00. There was the potential for music and a sitting area. Additional discussion was had regarding various things about the potential farmer's market and processing of funds etc. Ms. Weiner asked council if they had any questions or suggestions about the project. Mayor Arnold inquired how many food and vendor trucks they were having. Ms. Weiner indicated the goal to start was about 10. Additional discussion was had regarding the cost and the necessity of obtaining permits if needed the potential of the need of a dedication by rider for the funds etc. Mayor Arnold asked for additional information to be gathered and for the Farmer's Market to be placed on the agenda for next meeting.

Councilwoman Tait indicated she attended the school board meeting and they are still in the process of deciding if they are going to bringing the 6th grade students over to the high school or if they will be staying at Charles Street School. They will be voting on the budget at the next meeting. Mrs. Tait stated that the Easter Egg Hunt was held last Saturday and was so enjoyed by the children. Mrs. Tait thanked F.C. Kerbeck for their donation to the Easter Egg Hunt which allowed us to purchase prizes and candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. Prizes were awarded from two local business. Mrs. Tait also thanked the Interact Club for their help with filling the eggs, spreading them around for the egg hunt and helping

the little children with the Easter Egg Hunt. Mrs. Tait also indicated a spring cleaning will be held on the 29th of April at the Legion Field. Additionally Mrs. Tait stated the War memorial and the Nature Cove are also planning cleaning events on that day.

Councilmen Cosky indicated everyone has a copy of Tracy's report; as indicated in the report there were 19 violation sited in March. Permit fees in the month of March totaled about \$7,800.00 and there was resale and rental inspection revenue of \$1,200.00. Mr. Cosky again stated if you have a question regarding where or not a permit is need for a project call the office and ask, they will guide you in the correct direction. Mr. Cosky also indicated he had spoken with Mr. Gural about getting more information on the website regarding the permit fees and penalties cost. Mr. Cosky also stated the next committee meeting is scheduled for April 26th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

President Howard indicated the infield dirt came in today and public works will be getting it spread around. Opening Day for Baseball went well and Ms. Weiner threw out the first ball to get it started.

PUBLIC COMMENT Please sign in at the podium 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. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

Nicole Shipley –Highland Avenue

Mrs. Shipley stated that the Palmyra Community Center Program Board is hosting its Annual Art Show at the community center on Friday May 5th, 2017 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, they will be showcasing local artist along with art work of students of Charles Street School and Palmyra High School additionally they will be holding a canvas mixer fundraiser. Some local business will be selling snacks at the event and admission to the event is a donation to the food pantry.

Brian Norcross – Morgan Avenue

Mr. Norcross asked us to clarify how the War Memorial Ceremony is being handled for Memorial Day. Mrs. Tait indicated she and Ms. Weiner were in contact with Mr. McElwee and Ms. Veitenheimer regarding the ceremony and what the Borough can do to help with the program. Mrs. Tait indicated the Borough usually gets the program printed, makes sure the chairs and the sound system are in place, a band is there and water is available for all attending. Mr. Norcross indicated he had a potential speaker, a local resident who is a Lt. Commanded at the Naval Academy and a graduate of Palmyra High School. Mrs. Tait indicated that was great. Mr. Norcross also asked if we would be moving forward with the improvements on Morgan Avenue now that we have the engineer's report. Mr. Gural indicated it had

already been authorized. Mr. Norcross also stated he could forward a copy of the Sheriff's department permission slip to Mr. Rosenberg if it would be helpful. Mayor Arnold asked him to send it to Mr. Gural.

Mr. McElwee – Columbia Avenue

Mr. McElwee asked how much is the cost of the new ladder truck per household per year? Mayor Arnold indicated \$27.30 per year over 15 years. Mr. McElwee indicated the fire company should have given that information at the time they requested a million dollar ladder truck. If they had presented it with that information you would probably not be looking at placing a referendum question on the ballot. Mr. McElwee thanked Mr. Yetter and Mr. McGill for getting the statue mounted at the War Memorial. Mr. McElwee indicated he would give Ms. Weiner a copy of the program from last year. Mr. McElwee indicated they have a meeting scheduled May 4th, 2017 at 7:00 pm and they will be going over the details for the ceremony. Mr. McElwee inquired of Mr. Gural about the Borough taking ownership of Harbour Drive. Is there an advantage to the Borough to take it over? Mr. Gural indicated that is a decision of the governing body, currently all that is taking place is an evaluation being performed by the engineer to answer questions that the governing body may wish to know.

Chief Pearlman

Mr. Pearlman indicated the Police Department takes children from Charles Street School to a Phillies games every year. Mr. Rosenberg put together the permission slip we currently use, as a waiver for the Municipality perhaps that can be used making the appropriate changes to suit the current situation. Chief Pearlman also stated that the Evergreen Baptist Church will be recognizing some members of the Police Department, Fire Department, EMS, C.E.R.T. Team and the governing body at 11:00 am on Sunday April 23rd, 2017 at the Evergreen Baptist Church.

John Casparro – Morgan Avenue

Mr. Casparro stated in regards to the Farmers Market, kids are a cute idea but it's too difficult for them to handle, we have members who want to get involved and could perhaps help out with the Farmer's Market also. Mr. Casparro also indicated he submitted a proposal on behalf of the Palmyra Improvement Association in regards to a cleanup and planting flowers project in the downtown area on April 29th, 2017, and wanted to know how the Borough felt about it and if it was alright to proceed. After some discussion regarding the trees and the box out areas around the trees, the plans for planting, what public works is responsible for, what items are needed from public works the decision was made to allow the project to proceed. Mr. Casparro was advised to coordinate with Mr. McGill and Mr. Gural to work out the details.

Nicholas Sarracino – Cleveland Avenue

Mr. Sarracino stated if any trees are leftover he along with other members of the PIA would be willing to go door to door distributing them to anyone who would like them and would also be willing to help with the planting of those trees. Mayor Arnold indicated we will be receiving 500 tree seedlings to distribute on Palmyra Day and would appreciate any help that could be given that day with handing out of those tree seedlings. Mrs. Russell stated when planting trees, be careful with locations as you can't plant them in the easement. Mr. Sarracino also stated Ms. Weiner you're doing a good job with the

Farmers Market Project. Mr. Sarracino also indicated there are many positive comments in the community regarding the possibility of it coming.

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

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

Having nothing for executive/closed session Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

ADJOURNMENT at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Doretha R Jackson

Acting Municipal Clerk