

Borough of Palmyra
Regular Council Meeting Minutes, 7:00 PM
Monday November 20th, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra was called to order by Mayor Michelle Arnold at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Michelle Arnold, Mrs. Bernadette Russell, Mrs. Gina Tait, Ms. Mindie Weiner, Mr. Lewis Yetter

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a 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 Deacon Tom Bell from Evergreen Baptist Church.

Timothy S. Howard was sworn in by Mr. Ted Rosenberg as Councilmember of the Borough of Palmyra to finish the unexpired term of Councilmember Shelby Tucker. Term to expire December 31, 2018.

The new council was convened and roll was taken.

PRESENT: Timothy Howard, Bernadette Russell, Gina Tait, Mindie Weiner, Lewis Yetter, Mayor Michele Arnold

Councilwoman Weiner then announced the three names which the Palmyra Democratic Committee submitted to fill the vacancy on Borough Council created when Mr. Howard resigned his current seat to

assume the unexpired term of Shelby Tucker which he won during the general election. The three names submitted are as follows, Brandon Allmond, Kathleen Russell, and Karen Scheffler. After some discussion, Ms. Weiner made a motion to nominate Brandon Allmond to fill the vacant seat on Borough Council. The motion was second by Mrs. Russell.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: Mr. Yetter

Brandon Allmond was sworn in by Mr. Ted Rosenberg as Councilmember of the Borough of Palmyra to finish the unexpired term of Councilmember Timothy Howard. Term to expire December 31, 2017.

The new council was convened and roll was taken.

PRESENT: Brandon Allmond, Timothy Howard, Bernadette Russell, Gina Tait, Mindie Weiner, Lewis Yetter, Mayor Michele Arnold

Mayor Arnold then opened the floor for Council Presidency nominations.

Mrs. Russell nominated Timothy Howard for Council President. Mrs. Weiner second the nomination.

Hearing no more nominations, the Mayor close nominations.

Mayor Arnold then called for a vote on the nomination of Councilman Howard's nomination as Council president.

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

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

NAYES:

ABSTAIN: Mr. Allmond

Congratulations! Mr. Howard, our new Council President.

Mr. Rosenberg then swore in Councilman Timothy Howard as Council President

Ms. Weiner then stated now that we have a complete Council we still have vacancies on various council committees which the previous councilman was working. Mayor Arnold indicated that would be addressed a little later in the meeting.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve the Council Caucus Meeting Minutes of October 2nd, 2017, October 16th, 2017, and November 6th, 2017. Mrs. Russell indicated she would like to have the minutes

of October 16th, 2017 held until the next meeting, as she had not had the opportunity to read them. Mayor Arnold then indicated we would approved them separately due to different attendances.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve the Council Caucus Meeting Minutes of October 2nd, 2017. Mr. Yetter made a motion to approve the Council Caucus Meeting Minutes of October 2nd, 2017. Mrs. Russell second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Brandon Allmond, Mrs. Tait

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve the Council Caucus Meeting Minutes of November 6th, 2017. Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve the Council Caucus Meeting Minutes of November 6th, 2017. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Brandon Allmond

Mayor Arnold acknowledged an email received from Frank Sisto regarding the speediness of the repair of a light on a utility pole, and he thanked Mr. Haines for his efforts and quick response.

Mayor Arnold also acknowledged a letter received from Bruce Garganio, Freehold Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Burlington County advising the Borough of Palmyra that the Freeholder Board had approved the awarding of a grant in the amount of \$115,000.00 to the Borough of Palmyra under the Burlington County's national award winning Municipal Park Development Program.

President Howard made a motion to Authorize Mayor Arnold to execute the agreement between the Borough of Palmyra and the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Burlington to accept the Burlington County Municipal Park Development Program 2016 Grant in the amount of \$115,000.00. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Brandon Allmond

Chief Scott Pearlman then held the Citizen's Police Academy Graduation. Chief Pearlman stated this is the second graduating class of the Citizen's Police Academy. Chief Pearlman stated this year's class was about 10 weeks and the enrollment increased over the first class. Sargent Jeremy Jankowski, who ran this year's Academy stated, this year the candidates had the opportunity to experience ride alongs so they could see exactly what the Palmyra Police Department does, they spent time with our detectives, went to court, and also visited to the Public Safety Center in Westhampton. Sargent Jeremy Jankowski also stated the class doubled in size this year. Chief Pearlman and Sargent Jeremy Jankowski then congratulated and presented Certificates to the following individuals: Mayor Michelle Arnold, Thomas McElwee, Pamela Golas, Sandra Veitenheimer, Ruth Yetter, Jennifer Rawlins, Brad Rawlins, and Jamal Walker for their successful completion of the second class of the Citizen's Police Academy. Mr. McElwee then presented Chief Scott Pearlman and Sargent Jeremy Jankowski with a plaque from the graduating class of the Citizen's Police Academy.

Mayor Arnold then read the following Proclamation into the record.

Veterans Day Commemoration

WHEREAS, throughout the history of our nation, our men and women in uniform have risked their lives to protect the interests of our country and defend our freedoms; and

WHEREAS, Americans throughout the United States enjoy freedom because of the contributions and sacrifices made by those who have served and by those who continue to serve; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the contributions our service members have made to the cause of peace and freedom around the world, Congress has provided that November 11 of each year shall be set aside as a legal public holiday to honor our Nation's Veterans; and

Whereas, we recognize the sacrifice of those who have served in defense of this nation and support the loved ones who stand beside them, memorializing the heroes who gave the ultimate sacrifice and all those who have not returned home; and

WHEREAS, On Veterans Day, we salute the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who have rendered the highest service any American can offer, and we rededicate ourselves to fulfilling our commitment to all those who serve in our name; and

WHEREAS, on Veterans Day, we remember that we are forever indebted to the service members who have fought and died in defense of our country; and we pay tribute to America's sons and daughters who have answered our country's call; and

WHEREAS, we are reminded of our obligation to them; to serve our veterans as they have gallantly served us, Let us not forget that freedom is never free, and our nation and our community is evermore indebted for their courageous service,; and

WHEREAS, I encourage all Americans to recognize the valor and sacrifice of our veterans through appropriate public ceremonies and private prayers. I call upon Federal, State, and local officials to display the flag of the United States and to participate in patriotic activities in their communities. I call on all Americans, including civic and fraternal organizations, places of worship, schools, and communities to support this day with commemorative expressions and programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michele Arnold, Mayor of the Borough of Palmyra do hereby recognize November 11, 2017, as **"VETERANS DAY"** in the **Borough of Palmyra**.

After the reading of the Proclamation Mayor Arnold and Thomas McElwee presented Mr. Thomas Locke with his Military Service Medal for Honorable Service. Mr. Thomas Locke and his wife Roberta Locke on the day of our celebration November 11th, 2017 were representing our community in a different manner; they were traveling to Woodsboro, Texas delivering much need supplies to Woodsboro and the Woodsboro Volunteer Fire Department after devastating hurricane Harvey. Mr. and Mrs. Locke delivered a truck load of supplies the Palmyra Fire Department had collected to aid with the hurricane relief effort.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Rosenberg stated the governing body authorized the Borough Engineer ERI, to prepare specifications for the Legion Field 2017 Improvement Project. The specifications were prepared requesting a base bid amount, which is the work which must be completed and the governing body also requested an add alternate bid for some additional Landscaping improvements which may or may not be completed with the project. Sealed bids were solicited; with three reputable companies responded to the bid offering. The sealed bids/proposals were open on November 1st, 2017. Mr. Rosenberg explained with this bid opening the contractor who submitted the lowest base bid is not the contractor who submitted the lowest overall bid (base bid and add alternate bid total). Mr. Rosenberg explained his was asked by Mr. Gural and Mr. Kirchner to review the bids submitted for completeness. Mr. Rosenberg stated that he assumed that council would be awarding the entire project, base bid and the alternate bid. Mr. Rosenberg indicated that currently he did not know how the governing body wanted to proceed and therefore referred back to council to ask how the governing body wished to proceed as it could effect the outcome of the award of the bid. Mr. Gural stated he would like Mr. Kirchner to explain exactly what was included in each portion of the bid. Mr. Kirchner stated the base bid includes rehab work on Legion Field including the fencing, painting, some electrical work and lighting which need to

be replaced. The alternate bid is landscaping work which replaces some trees which have died and installing twelve new evergreen trees and some other additional trees throughout the complex. Mrs. Russell inquired, the alternate bid is to replace trees in November. Mayor Arnold indicated yes and to award the contract to install trees in November does not make a lot of sense, so we are looking for a consensus to award on the base bid only so the repairs can be done.

Resolution 2017-231, Resolution Awarding a contract to Thor Construction Group, LLC for the Legion Field 2017 Improvement Project for the Base Bid Work in the amount of \$68,460.00 which included Alternate #1.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-231 as previously stated. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Allmond

Mr. Rosenberg stated that based upon the consensus of council to award only the base bid, the lowest responsible bidder would be Thor Construction Group, LLC of Long Branch, New Jersey. Mr. Rosenberg stated that if Council accepts their bid there is no reason for a public hearing because Borough Council has the right to award to the lowest bidder without any public hearing. Mr. Gural indicated Mr. Coia from All Vinyl Fencing is present and perhaps would like to comment. Mr. Coia inquired, why he received an email from the engineer last week with a totally different reason why the contract was not being awarded to All Vinyl Fencing. Mr. Coia stated the reason it stated was because we did not include a licensed electrical contractor in our bid packet. Mr. Coia responded back to the engineer explaining that the electrical work that is called for in the bid does not require a permit or a licensed electrician for a light which is less than 20 amps. Tonight that entire reason was not even brought before council and now it's because you can't plant trees in late November. Mr. Coia also stated the bid specs call for exterior painting, which also should not be done in late November or December. Mr. Rosenberg stated the company bid presented by All Vinyl Fencing was not disqualified by the governing body. Mr. Rosenberg stated the correspondence you received came from the Engineer's office and or my office in regards to the bid packet received, neither the Engineer's office nor my office can control how the governing body decides to award a contract. Mr. Rosenberg also stated that the governing body does not have to consider the issues which you raised and which were brought to your attention, as you make very well be correct; however because the governing body decided to award only on the base bid and you are not the low bidder of the only portion of the contract with which they wish to proceed. The issue is mute.

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 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

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

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING Public Hearing November 20th, 2017

ORDINANCE 2017-12, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 121 of the Code of the Borough of Palmyra Governing "Fire Prevention" to Include Key Lock Box Installation

Mayor Arnold advised Council that information was still being gathered regarding Ordinance 2017-12 and asked Council if the public hearing could be continued to December 4th, 2017. Council agreed. Ordinance 2017-12's public hearing will be continued to December 4th, 2017

RESOLUTIONS Consent Agenda

Resolution **2017-227** to Resolution **2017-230** 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 2017-227, Resolution Awarding a contract to Environmental Resolutions (ERI), Inc. for engineering services for the On Call Contracting Services project per their proposal dated October 3, 2017 in the amount of \$4500.00.

Resolution 2017-228, Resolution authorizing Application for Permit submitted by Palmyra Improvement Association for two wood burning fire pits at the Band Shell during Winter Night Market subject to

satisfaction of all conditions as required by Fire Marshall, Palmyra Fire Department, Chief of Police and Borough Administrator

Resolution 2017-229, Resolution Canceling Unclaimed Tax Sale Certification Redemption Monies pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-57.1

Resolution 2017-230, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills for the Month of November 2017 In the Amount of \$1,799,265.37

Mayor Arnold requested Resolution 2017-228 be removed from the consent agenda for additional discussion.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-227 and 2017-229 thru 2017-230. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Allmond

As requested by Mayor Arnold, **Resolution 2017-228**, Resolution authorizing Application for Permit submitted by Palmyra Improvement Association for two wood burning fire pits at the Band Shell during Winter Night Market subject to satisfaction of all conditions as required by Fire Marshall, Palmyra Fire Department, Chief of Police and Borough Administrator, was pulled for additional comment and discussion.

Mayor Arnold stated this is the resolution which authorizes permission for the permits submitted by the PIA for two wood burning fire pits at the band shell during Winter Night Market and the dates for that are December 15th, 2017 with a rain date of December 22th, 2017 and this resolution and authorization are for the fire pits only.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-228. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Allmond

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Reports dated October 2017. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Allmond

Mayor Arnold then asked Mr. and Mrs. Locke if they would comment on the relief trip heading off our Community Spotlight portion of the meeting. Mrs. Locke stated the fire company had a very good response from our community in regards to the relief effort in both products and monetary donations. Mrs. Locke stated the fire company rented a truck and left on November 8th, 2017 headed for Scarborough School with donations from Charles Street School students and staff and friends. When they arrived at the school the entire 4th grade class was outside to welcome them. Mrs. Locke stated, it was a wonderful experience and the Charles Street School students intend to continue the work of getting them the supplies that they need. Mrs. Locke indicated, they then went on to Woodsboro Fire Department; a volunteer department of 16 members; with supplies which were donated from our Fire Department, community and some other local fire departments as well. They were so happy to receive the 40 sets of turn out gear, 50 set of boots and helmets along with gloves. Indian Mills donated 600 feet of 3 inch hose and 600 feet of brand new one inch hose. Mr. Locke stated this is a town of 1,500 people with twelve volunteer firefighters. Mr. Locke indicated their building was almost completely destroyed in the hurricane and they have about 60 calls a year; the nearest first engine is a mile away and the next second engine is 21 miles away with a ladder truck being about one hour away. Mrs. Locke also noted that they were given a \$2,100.00 cash donation, monies received during the Hurricane Relief Drive and from the Harbour Association who also help collect supplies and donations. Mrs. and Mr. Locke donated the cost of the truck rental for the trip to deliver those donations. Mr. Locke highlighted some of the memorable moments and places which they experienced while on that relief mission and thank everyone for all their help in making it happen.

Mayor Arnold indicated the Community Center Program Board held a special event this past Friday and keep an eye out for additional classes and events they have coming.

Mayor Arnold stated the Palmyra Panthers Pop Warner Cheerleaders Jr. Varsity squad has won 1st place in the Pop Warner New Jersey State championship competition three years in a row beginning in 2015, again in 2016 and on October 29, 2017. On November 5, 2017 they competed at the Pop Warner Eastern Region Competition and placed 2nd in their Jr. Varsity Division they will now move on to compete at Pop Warner National Cheer Competition in Florida on December 5, 2017. This is the first

time in the history of Pop Warner Cheerleading, Palmyra's squad (which has been a part of Palmyra's youth activities for over 20 years) has advanced to the National Championship Competition.

Mrs. Tait stated she would like to see the house decorating event back up and running. Ms. Weiner indicated she would help get that off the ground.

Mr. Kirchner stated at the last meeting there was a request for a sign at the intersection of Rt73 and Broad Street. Thanks to Mr. Haines of the Public Works Department that sign is currently up. Mr. Kirchner indicated that in looking in to the placement of the sign he located an old right of way, 25 ft. wide in front of Rodger Wilco for the potential placement of a monument sign if that is something which council was interested in, he has forwarded the information to Mr. Gural. Mr. Kirchner stated PSE&G and NJ American Water Co have both indicated they will not be able to perform the work with us regarding the new paving and curbs for Horace, Leconey, Third, W. Second, Berkley, Maple, Fifth and Fourth Streets, so that work will have to go to bid. Mr. Kirchner stated Mr. Gural asked him to prepare a proposal for council consideration. Ms. Weiner asked if the residents could be notified. Mr. Gural indicated yes. Mr. Kirchner indicated he had a meeting with New Jersey American Water Co and they gave him their construction forecast for the next two years which include areas of Sixth and Fifth Streets in front of the High School and on Temple Blvd, Jefferson and Van Sant streets. Ms. Weiner asked how the Temple Blvd traffic study is coming along, Mr. Kirchner indicated well, the traffic counts are complete and the speed study is in and they are currently going thru the date.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

NEW Business

Mayor Arnold indicated the PCR EMS agreement and the potential shared service agreements are in your packets for review however Mr. Rosenberg is still working on some of the language. Mr. Gural indicated the public safety committee should take a look at both documents.

Mr. Howard asked that we table the discussion regarding the Community Center potential use by Palmyra based organizations only until next year.

Mr. Gural stated we received a number of applicants for the Code Enforcement Officer position, some very qualified meeting all the criteria, however we need direction as to the next step in the process as Councilman Cosky was the Chairman of the Construction committee.

Mrs. Russell stated she did not want to see this held up. Mrs. Russell made a motion for Mr. Allmond sit on the committees which Mr. Cosky sat on until the New Year. Mrs. Tait second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

Mrs. Russell then asked if she could Chair the Construction Committee until the New Year. Mayor Arnold suggested the committee meet and decide who they wanted to chair the committee. Mr. Russell asked is that the best way to go or should we take care of it now.

Mrs. Russell made a motion that she take the Chairman position of the Construction committee for the remainder of this year. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

All voted in favor of the motion

Mayor Arnold asked council to email their suggestions in for the 2018 Reorganization Meeting date, and the date would be finalized at the next meeting.

OLD Business

Mayor Arnold stated the Vacant Property Ordinance amendments (Ordinance 2013-20) needs to be addressed by the construction committee and there was some additional information given us from the JIF which you will need to be aware of in consideration of this Ordinance amendment.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Gural indicated the Bond anticipation note sale is in December for our outstanding BANS. Ms. Weiner asked how often this is done. Mr. Gural indicated this is our first BAN sale since last year. He explained we are borrowing the money to pay for the things in the 2015, 2016, 2017 capital projects in the amount of about \$3,000,000.00.

Mr. Gural stated new carpeting will be installed in the Police Department due to the leak /water damage. And also new carpet will be installed upstairs in the offices mostly due to tripping hazards and wear of the existing carpets.

Mr. Gural stated the next project is the replacement of the court room chairs. Over the years we have received violations from the County court regarding the chairs in the court room. We have been told that they either have to be replaced or something has to be done to them to prevent them being able to be used as a weapon, for example tied or nailed together so they can't become projectiles. Mr. Gural stated this year JIF our insurance company has also indicated that we must do something with the chairs to secure them to one another or replace them. Mr. Gural stated we are proposing new chairs which he gave them a copy of the proposed potential new chairs. Mr. Gural indicated the chairs all snap together and would cost about \$8,000.00. Mr. Gural also noted that the money is in the court security capital purchase line in the existing capital ordinance to purchase the new chairs. Mr. Gural noted if this is not

done then we will have to either strap them together or connect them all to a metal strip. After much discussion, Council was polled by the Mayor for their opinion regarding purchasing new chairs or securing the old chairs together by some means. All councilmembers were in agreement to purchase the new chairs except Ms. Weiner. New chairs will be purchased. The old chairs may be donated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmen Yetter – Public Works and Sewer – Mr. Yetter indicated the public works/sewer committee had a meeting earlier this afternoon. Leaf pick-up is in full swing, this week they are in Zone 3. Mr. Yetter also notified Council that most of the Public Works department will be in training, for snow plowing on November 28th, 2017. Mr. Yetter indicated \$16,000.00 was spent on repairs at the Berkley Avenue pump station. Mr. Yetter also noted the Green team met and talked about a lot of things they are working on.

Councilwoman Russell – Shade Tree /Board of Education – Mrs. Russell stated on November 3rd, 2017 she, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Austin and Mr. Gural attending the seminar presented by PSEG and the New Jersey Tree Federation, regarding the right tree in the right place and why tree are pruned the way. Mrs. Russell stated it was a very educational presentation.

Councilwoman Weiner – Business & Community Development, Administration & Finance – Ms. Weiner stated the Admin and Finance Committee met and talked about the 2017 budget and where we are coming up on the end of year. Additional the committee talked about the preparation for the 2018 budget. Ms. Weiner indicated the Business & Community Development committee is still working on the outdoor seating and are close to bring something to council. Ms. Weiner also indicated she would like to see more decorations in the downtown area. Ms. Weiner stated she had priced some wreaths and was wondering how Council felt about spending some money on wreaths, bows and lights to add to the rope lights on the poles in the down town area. Ms. Weiner indicated she would put together a project to get the wreaths done and public works could put them up. After much discussion regarding the poles, lighting of the poles and PSE & G, placing various types of decorations on some poles or all poles, noting a decision needed to be made tonight as time is right upon us and the cost, Ms. Weiner indicated the cost would be about \$1,200 to \$1,400.00 dollars. Mr. Gural indicated the cost of \$1,200.00 is under the threshold and the purchase could be made administratively without any problems, we would just need to know if that is the wish of the council. More discussion was had regarding the decorations and purchasing those items. Ms. Weiner made a motion that we purchase some Christmas decorations in an amount not to exceed \$1,600.00 dollars. Mrs. Tait second the motion.

At the call of the roll.

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

NAYES: None

Councilwomen Tait – Public Grounds and Buildings – Mrs. Tait stated some of the Board of Education Board members approached them regarding having a council member as liaison/representative on the Clarence B Jones Institute Board. Mrs. Tait suggested whom every is the liaison for the Board of Education also assume that responsibility. Mayor Arnold asked if Ms. Tait could get some clarification as to exactly what they are looking for and get back to council so a decision can be made. Mr. Tait stated the building and grounds committee did not have a meeting.

President Howard – Parks and Playgrounds – President Howard stated the parks and playgrounds committee had not had a meeting. Mr. Howard stated the PAL/RIV AA basketball league is up and running and we have joined the River Line League and will have a traveling team who will be playing Burlington City, Delanco, Riverside, and possibly Cinnaminson, Their games will be played on Mondays and Wednesdays at the community center.

Mayor Arnold – Mayor Arnold indicated public events is working on the store decoration and house decorating contest. Santa is coming to town on December 8th, 2017. Ms. Weiner indicated she would confirm with the High School Band that they would be attending. Mayor Arnold indicated she submitted her report to the Palmyra Harbour Condo Association. Mayor Arnold indicated the PBA negotiations are close and another meeting is needed to finalize some wording in the contract. Mayor Arnold also indicated she went to the National Foundation of Women Legislators last week and she has so much information to share. Mayor Arnold asked the communications committee if they could get together to finalize the newsletter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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. 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

Mr. Oberg – Broad Street – Mr. Oberg, owner of Curran's expressed concern that the current ordinance regarding liquor sales would require him to close his establishment on New Year's Eve and not sell liquor

after 12:00 midnight. Mr. Gural and Chief Pearlman indicated there was an exception to the ordinance with regards to holidays. Mr. Gural and Chief Pearlman checked the Borough of Palmyra Code and indicated he was ok to sell liquor until 2:00 am. Mr. Oberg also inquired about the ability to sell liquor on a Sunday prior to 12:00 noon. Mayor Arnold and Mr. Gural indicated that was something we can look into next year as it requires an ordinance change and there is not enough time this year to get that ordinance changed. Ms. Weiner indicated her committee will look into it.

Mr. Casparro – Morgan Avenue- Mr. Casparro talked about the businesses decorating for the holiday. Mr. Casparro indicated that as part of the scavenger hunt all the businesses that are participating are decorating their stores. Mr. Casparro stated the PIA is planning a Winter Night Market and are still pending things like insurance certificates and approvals. Mr. Casparro indicated the plan is to have a scavenger hunt along with a crafty type market downtown to highlight our businesses, most of the businesses have agreed to stay open to 8:00pm. Mr. Casparro indicated there will be crafters out on the street and five food trucks, three on Broad Street and two at Grove Park. Mr. Casparro indicated they have received approval from the county to place those trucks on Broad Street. Chief Pearlman indicated the trucks will be placed along the curb line.

Mr. McElwee- Columbia Avenue - Mr. McElwee asked if all of public works is going to snow plowing class, does that mean they will now plow curb to curb not down the middle of the street. Mr. McElwee thanked the Mayor and Adam Nowicki for stepping up and handing out the Military Service Medals on at our Veterans Day Celebration. Mr. McElwee also notified all that December 2nd, 2017 is the annual Cookie Drive for Deployed Troops. Please drop your cookies off at Borough Hall by November 30th, 2017 and they will pick them up to get them ready for shipping. Mr. McElwee stated last year they sent over 252 boxes of cookies to the troops in Afghanistan

No one from the public wishing to be heard, Mr. Yetter 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

Council Comments

Mrs. Tait – Mrs. Tait congratulated the Palmyra High School Soccer teams who both girls and boys made it to the playoffs, even though they did not win the competition, they have shown that this small school can compete with the bigger schools.

Mr. Allmond– no comments

Mr. Yetter – Mr. Yetter stated he saw a great article in the Palmyra Sun about Chief Payton Flournoy.

Mrs. Russell – Mrs. Russell welcomed Mr. Allmond to Borough Council and congratulations to the candidates who won.

Ms. Weiner – no comments

President Howard– no comments

Mayor Arnold– Mayor Arnold congratulated Mr. Allmond and welcomed him to Borough Council.

Mayor Arnold highlighted some items in the Police report and especially expressed pleasure in reading SRO Officer Omar Kendall's report regarding things going on at the schools. Mayor Arnold thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and participating and stated at this Thanksgiving time take time to be thankful for what you have. Mayor Arnold then stated, "Be kind to one another and be good neighbors".

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

Mrs. Russell made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Tait second the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:25 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Doretha R Jackson

Acting Municipal Clerk