

**Borough of Palmyra**  
**Regular Council Meeting, 7:00 PM**  
**Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra is hereby called to order by Mayor Michelle Arnold at 7:04 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mr. Brandon Allmond, Mr. Timothy Howard, Mrs. Gina Tait, Ms. Mindie Weiner, Mr. Lewis Yetter, President Bernadette Russell, Mayor Michelle Arnold

The pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT**

Mayor Arnold read the open public meetings statement into the record. 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, 2018.
- Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post Newspaper on January 10, 2018.
- Notice to All Council Members.

**INVOCATION**

Prayer was given by Palmyra Police Department Chaplin Ella Graham

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Arnold requested a motion for approval of the May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Council Caucus Meeting Minutes and the Closed Session Minutes of May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. President Russell made a motion to approve the minutes from the Council Caucus Meeting of May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and the Closed Session Minutes of May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Mr. Howard second the motion.

**At the call of the roll the vote was.**

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

**NAYES: None**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS**

Chief Scott Pearlman and Lieutenant Megan Campbell presented the following various awards and thanked all the personnel for the great job they do every day.

### **Service Awards**

5 Years of Service Award – Sargent Stephen Coveleski

5 Years of Service Award – Detective Arek Arargil

10 Years of Service Award – Patrolman Alex Alven

### **Top Gun Firearms Award**

Det. Benedict

### **Meritorious Service Award.**

Sargent Josiah Murphy

Patrolman Brian Johnson

On July 15, 2017 Sgt. Murphy while on patrol observed what he believed to a fire in the rear of 800 Morgan Ave. On closer inspection Sgt. Murphy found a fire in the kitchen of a lower apartment. After calling for fire department and assistance Sgt. Murphy and Ptlm. Johnson were able to safely evacuate the remaining apartments in the building.

### **Honorable Service Award.**

Sargent Timothy Leusner

Patrolman Alex Hubel

Detective Shawn Benedict

On February 19, 2017 Sgt. Leusner and Ptlm. Alex Hubel responded to a residence on Veterans Drive with the fire department for a noise coming from the residence. On location officers found what appeared to be a large marijuana grow facility inside the residence. Det. Benedict responded to the scene and when the property owner was not cooperative a search warrant was obtained. Upon search of the property officers recovered over 150 plants and equipment used in the growing and distribution of marijuana.

### **Honorable Service Award.**

Sargent Jeremy Jankowski

On February 7, 2017 Sgt. Jankowski responded to the Rt. 73 Auto Mall for a subject on location who was armed with a handgun and threatening the manager. On location Sgt. Jankowski was able to find the subject and then locate his weapon inside of the subject's car.

### **Honorable Service Award.**

Sargent Timothy Leusner

On December 10, 2017 Sgt. Leusner made a motor vehicle stop during which the odor of marijuana was detected. The driver was detained on drug related offenses; during this investigation Sgt. Leusner was able to ascertain that the subject was also wanted by the NYPD for Homicide.

### **Honorable Service Award.**

Patrolman Josh Lillagore, Cinnaminson PD

On April 18, 2017 Ptlm. Johnson and Quintero were attempting to arrest a subject on the Light Rail platform. The subject became extremely combative and was actively resisting arrest. Patrolman Lillagore was off duty and driving by the Light Rail platform and he saw our officers and did not hesitate to assist. With Patrolman. Lillagore's assistance the suspect was restrained without injury to anyone involved.

### **Officer of the Year 2017:**

Detective Arek Arargil

Detective Arargil exemplifies the true meaning of this award. He gives 120% to all of his investigations which have led to the closing of an armed robbery and a shooting investigation in 2017. He assists the department where ever needed.

### **PROFESSIONAL UPDATES**

#### **Dave Gerkens, CGP&H**

Mr. Gerkens notified Borough Council of the Grants which we have currently been awarded, they included.

\$115,000.00 from Burlington County Dept of Resource Conservation- Municipal Parks Development Grant Program for the redesign of the Bandshell area.

\$250,000.00 from New Jersey Dept. of Transportation- Municipal Aid Program for the reconstruction of Temple Blvd, Firth Lane, Leconey Circle, and East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

\$2,000.00 from PSE & G – Sustainable Jersey for the Borough of Palmyra's Green Team to develop a website, public information handouts and to distribute them.

Mr. Gerkens also noted we have applied for and are awaiting an answer for a request of \$52,000.00 from the Department of Agriculture to expand the existing Farmer's Market Program. Funds would provide for the hiring of a part-time Farmer's Market Manager and the development and distribution of marketing materials for the Farmer's Market.

Mr. Gerkens stated our requests to the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission- Summer Expansion Program in the amount of \$10,500.00 and NJ Dept of Community Affairs – Small Cities Public Facilities Program in the amount of \$400,000.00 were denied.

Mr. Gerkens indicated he is currently working on the update/ reexamination of the Borough's Master Plan. CGP&H is currently working with the Burlington County Department of Economic Development and Regional Planning to develop an on-line public survey and post it on their survey monkey account, which the draft should be complete, in the next week or two, for review and comment by the Land Use Board Master Plan subcommittee. Mr. Gerkens indicated the outdoor dining and seating ordinance review is also in the process and a draft should be available for Council review in June.

Mr. Gerkens stated the Redevelopment Plan for the former PNC Bank parcel is almost complete and a draft will be available for the Redevelopment Agency's review prior to the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Gerkens also indicated CGP&H had a redevelopment meeting last week and is prepared to begin work

on the Request for Proposals for the development/redevelopment community at large for the Southside of Route 73 redevelopment area.

**William Kirchner, ERI**

Mr. Kirchner stated he was asked to give an update on the Legion Field Improvement Project. Mr. Kirchner indicated the immediate safety concerns which they were made aware of at the Legion Field was addressed the day following that meeting. Mr. Kirchner stated the contractor has changed out the siding and has completed everything in the original contract with the exception of some painting which will have to wait until the raining/ weather is permissible. Mr. Kirchner stated there were also some concerns regarding the placement of the dugout lights. Mr. Kirchner indicated he was just given the price today to relocate those lights over the top of the structure in protective covers, so he will be getting back to Mr. Gural with that pricing, which can be done with a change order to the contract. Mr. Kirchner indicated in the meeting with Pal/RIV last week, they requested some infield mix. Mr. Kirchner indicated he had located a potential place in Cherry Hill which had the same infield mix as we have so he is verifying that and will get back to Mr. Gural when he knows. Mr. Kirchner indicated a new meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday morning with PAL/RIV, the School District, Borough representatives and ERI regarding the dragging of the fields and general maintenance. Mr. Gural stated, a frost free water hydrant was installed at the little baseball field and will prove to be helpful with the maintenance of the fields.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Arnold acknowledged a thank-you note received from Reverend Dr. Guy and Deaconess Dorothy Campbell, Evergreen Baptist Church regarding the anniversary, additionally Mayor Arnold acknowledged several thank-you letters and cards received from Charles Street School regarding the Arbor Day Celebration. Mayor Arnold also acknowledged a thank-you note received from Mr. Brian McBride and family.

Mr. Gural stated everyone has seen the correspondence recently concerning the fields at Legion Park, and noted those concerns are being addressed.

**PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Arnold read the following Proclamation into the record.

**Supporting the Click It or Ticket Mobilization of May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 thru June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**

**Whereas**, there were 626 motor vehicle fatalities in New Jersey in 2017; and

**Whereas**, a large percentage of the motor vehicle occupants killed in traffic crashes were not wearing a seat belt; and

**Whereas**, use of a seat belt remains the most effective way to avoid death or serious injury in a motor vehicle crash; and

**Whereas**, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 135,000 lives were saved by safety belt usage nationally between 1975-2000; and

**Whereas**, the State of New Jersey will participate in the nationwide *Click It or Ticket* seat belt mobilization from May 21<sup>st</sup>,2018 – June 3<sup>rd</sup>,2018 in an effort to raise awareness and increase seat belt usage through a combination of high visibility enforcement and public education; and

**Whereas**, the Division of Highway Traffic Safety has set a goal of increasing the seat belt usage rate in the state from the current level of 94% to 95.5%; and

**Whereas**, a further increase in seat belt usage in New Jersey will save lives on our roadways;

**Therefore**, be is resolved that the Borough of Palmyra declares its support for the ***Click It or Ticket*** seat belt mobilization both locally and nationally from May 21<sup>st</sup>,2018 – June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 and pledges to increase awareness of the mobilization and the benefits of seat belt use.

#### **First Public Portion**

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to open the Public Portion. President Russell made a motion to open the public portion for comments. Mr. Howard second the motion

**All members present voted in favor of the motion**

**Mrs. Clayton – Marlton, NJ.** – Mrs. Clayton spoke out on behalf of New Jersey residents against puppy mills. Mrs. Clayton stated her organization was in support of the governing body passing the ordinance on the agenda which bans pet stores from selling dogs and cats from puppy mills. Mrs. Clayton thanked council for considering the ordinance and encouraged them to join the over 120 other municipalities in the State of New Jersey who have passed similar ordinances.

**Mrs. Holloway – Broad Street** – Mrs. Holloway inquired about Ordinance 2018-04, Mayor Arnold indicated there would be a public hearing portion for comments which would specifically address Ordinance 2018-04.

**Mrs. Scott – Front Street** – Mrs. Scott inquired about the house on the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Arch Street which is burnt out and the lawn needs to be cut. Mr. Gural stated that property is the next on the list to proceed with potential demolition. Mr. Gural indicated we have been in communication with the property owner, and we are proceeding with the public hearing process. Mr. Gural indicated it is a process to complete all the legalities but during the process we will make sure the property is maintained.

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

**All members present voted in favor of the motion.**

**ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING (Public Hearing to be held June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018)**

**Ordinance 2018-08**, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra, County Of Burlington, State Of New Jersey Banning The Sale of Dogs and Cats from Pet Shops.

Mr. Rosenberg stated the Ordinance bars the sale of puppies or kittens for any source other than a rescue organization. Mr. Rosenberg asked if there are any sellers of dogs or cats that sell those animals based upon human conditions. Mr. Gural indicated there are none in Palmyra. Mr. Gural stated this ordinance doesn't prohibit a private breeder at their home from raising a litter for resale as they are not selling to pet shop, they would be selling directly to other individuals.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve ordinance 2018-08. President Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-08. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

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

**NAYES: None**

**ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING (Public Hearing)**

**Ordinance 2018-04**, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra, Amending Chapter 70, Alcoholic Beverages – Hours of Operation, of the code of the Borough of Palmyra

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to open to the Public for comments regarding Ordinance 2018-04. President Russell made a motion to open the public portion for comments. Mr. Yetter second the motion

**All members present voted in favor of the motion**

**Ms. Holloway – Broad Street** – Mrs. Holloway asked what the current code is. Mayor Arnold stated the sale of alcoholic beverages is currently not permitted until 12:00 noon on Sundays. Mayor Arnold stated this ordinance would allow alcoholic beverages to be sold at 10:00 am on Sunday instead of 12:00 noon Sunday. Mrs. Holloway stated she has lived here all of her life and there are churches all around this community which she did not feel would appreciate having to see people out consuming alcohol while they are on their way to and from Church. Mrs. Holloway stated she is very much against it.

**Ms. Shea – Harbour Drive** – Ms. Shea stated she did not understand why this ordinance was being proposed as she thought Council was trying to clean up this town, especially with the rental requirements, now you are encouraging tenants would like to drink on Sunday morning to move into town. Ms. Shea stated this seems to be in opposition to what Council indicated it was trying to do. Ms. Shea asked if anyone on Council could give a good reason for this, other than somebody just wants to make some money on Sunday morning, I'll like to hear it. Ms. Weiner indicated she appreciated Ms. Shea's comments and thoughts however there is a lovely event called Sunday Brunch which she happens to enjoy and she feels there are a number of people in town who would like to go to Sunday Bruch and have a mimosa with breakfast. Ms. Weiner stated that just because we open a couple of hours earlier on a Sunday does not mean we are going to have a lot of problems, many towns have ordinance which allow alcohol sales earlier than we currently do. Ms. Weiner indicated a local business

owner came to council and asked if we would consider changing the sales hours on Sundays as he was losing customers to establishments in neighboring towns.

**Reverend Lindsay- Front Street** – Reverend Lindsay indicated he come to express his opposition to this proposed change as what is it you are trying to present Palmyra as. Reverend Lindsay stated this is not a religious thing, it is about doing what is right and in the best interest of the residents of this community, it's not about one person or a business wanting to make a few more dollars in a couple of hours on a Sunday morning.

**Ms. Johnson – 4<sup>th</sup> Street** – Mrs. Johnson stated a she wanted to echo the earlier comments and did not feel a change was necessary. Mrs. Johnson stated this is a Christian community and with the changing values of the world today it is nice to be able to say I live in a Christina community.

**Mrs. Nowicki – Morgan Avenue-** Mrs. Nowicki stated Palmyra has a reputation of not being business friendly, many people go to church and are out of church before 10:00 am in the morning and they do want to have a mimosa or bloody mary with breakfast. Ms. Nowicki stated anything that is supportive of our businesses, she felt should be done. Ms. Nowicki stated parking on Broad Street is one hour maybe the police should enforce those rules a little more stringently. Ms. Nowicki again stated Palmyra is known as not being business friendly, are were going to chase another business out of town.

**Ms. Jones – 5<sup>th</sup> Street** – Mrs. Jones stated she could remember when we had the Sunday Blue Laws and no one could sell any type of alcohol on Sunday. Mrs. Jones noted if you wanted to drink on Sunday then you prepared on Saturday or you were at someone else's home all the bars and liquor store were closed. Mrs. Jones stated she is against this and if someone wants to have a mimosa or bloody mary you find that place which allows you to do what you want or do it from the privacy of your home. Mrs. Jones indicated most of the people in this room currently are not in favor of this; 12:00 is early enough on a Sunday to have alcoholic sales.

**Mrs. VanEmburch – Garfield Avenue** – Mrs. VanEmburch state she is a member of Christ Episcopal Church on Parry and she indicated the Church is not happy about this proposed change. Mrs. VanEmburch stated it is hard enough to get the younger people involved in church we don't need this.

**Minister Roberts – Broad Street** – Minister Roberts stated he was present tonight, with members of his Church, Holy Spirt Cathedral right across the street and within a short distance of Curran's to let the governing body know that they stand in solidarity in opposition to the proposed Ordinance change. Mr. Roberts indicated the currently ordinance is fair and works within the community, and they believe it is fair to the businesses and the churches so why is there a need to change it. Mr. Roberts also noted that if the ordinance was changed to allow alcohol sales at 10:00 am and with the possibility of outdoor dining becoming a reality, when children or parishioners get off the train and are on their way to church they would be subject to passing people consuming alcohol. Minister Roberts noted when people consumer

alcohol their charter sometimes change so people may be subject to hearing and seeing things they otherwise would not.

**Mrs. Rix – Harbour Drive** – Mrs. Rix stated many people here tonight stand in position to the proposed ordinance change. Mrs. Rix stated perhaps a referendum should be put to the public and let them decide.

**Mr. Schmidt – Temple Blvd.** – Mr. Schmidt stated he did not object to the ordinance change for religious reasons as he is not a religious person however he does object as this is a big issue which the entire community should vote on not just council. Mr. Schmidt stated to protect yourselves; you should put it to a referendum.

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

**All members present voted in favor of the motion.**

Mayor Arnold stated because of the comments which were made and the presences in the room tonight the governing body could have done a better job at informing the public regarding our intentions and gaining comments from the public before moving forward with Ordinance 2018-04. President Russell stated she disagreed with Mayor Arnold as that was done. President Russell stated there are a lot of youth in our town which drink alcohol and that is their parents' responsibility. President Russell noted this is not about Curran's it's about revitalizing our main street. President Russell noted it's not about having the alcohol on the street, it's about being able to serve it. President Russell stated this has nothing to do with religion it is about revitalizing our town and bring business to this town. Mr. Howard stated a gentleman came before council and asked for the ability to be able to serve alcohol at a Sunday brunch, he indicated the time we currently had in our ordinance would not allow him to do so and he was losing customers to other establishments which allowed them to serve alcohol earlier than we did. Mr. Howard stated previous discussions were had regarding the potential changes to the ordinance. Mr. Howard stated it is great to see everyone out tonight voicing their opinions. Additional discussion was had regarding the ordinance change, why it was considered, and the possibility of a referendum to the voters.

**Additional people wishing to speak, Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to reopen the public portion for comments regarding Ordinance 2018-04.**

President Russell made a motion to reopen the public portion for comments regarding Ordinance 2018-04. Mr. Yetter seconded the motion.

**Mr. Morris– Jefferson Street**– Mr. Morris indicated he has resided in this town for a long time, and he is not opposed to things which would help the businesses. Curran's has done a great business since they came here, if they were truly concerned about this ordinance they would be here tonight. What other

business are here to represent/ request this change. Mr. Morris asked who is council representing those few businesses or the people of this community.

**Mr. Smith – Van Sant Drive**– Mr. Smith inquired of council who wanted to pass this tonight? Mr. Smith then stated, “Remember when it time to vote.” Some additional discussions were had.

**Mrs. Scott – Front Street** – Mrs. Scott inquired that someone indicated a survey was taken. President Russell stated not formal survey was taken but there were several conversations with various residents regarding adding the time for alcohol sales on Sundays. Mrs. Scott stated she was unaware of the ordinance change or possibility of change until this morning. Mrs. Scott indicated something needs to be done about the one hour parking in the down town area.

**Pastor Roberts– Holy Spirt Cathedral Church**– Pastor Roberts shared a personal story with council regarding his experiences with alcohol, he stated that there is no way you can convince him that alcohol sales will help increase the business community. It just won’t.

**Mr. Scott– Front Street** – Mr. Scott inquired how many establishments will be affected by the changes to this ordinance. Mr. Howard stated anyone with a valid license to sell alcohol, 5. Mr. Scott asked how is it for two business you would change an ordinance, which you can see most people here tonight are against. Put it out for referendum and see how the community feels about it.

**Ms. Harris – Orchard Avenue** – Ms. Harris stated she has listened to everyone here today that everyone has their mind made up and no one is really listening to the other side. If someone can go to the liquor store and purchase their alcohol on Saturday and consume it on Sunday morning, still be intoxicated and still go outside, what would be the difference if they went into an establishment and consumer their alcohol got intoxicated and came back outside, you get the same result.

**Mrs. Butler – Arch Street**– Mrs. Butler noted what is most important her is how we feel individually and collectively as a community about changing the atmosphere of Broad Street. Mrs. Butler stated someone spoke about trying to build up and support the business in Palmyra, on that agenda it should include ways to improve our schools so people will want to move here to educated their children, ways to cut taxes so seniors can stay in Palmyra and not have to move, and yes we need to beautify and clean up Palmyra. However, opening two hours earlier for liquor sales on a Sunday morning is not going to bring a business into Palmyra, it’s not going to sell a house, it’s not going to clean up any street, it’s not going to educate our children and it will not enhance our main street. Mrs. Butler stated that extra two hours is not going to benefit the community, we will see no revenue and the revenue which is being raised will be going into the pocket of one business or very few people.

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

**All members present voted in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Rosenberg stated the governing body can by resolution asked the county clerk to place on the ballot of the general election a referendum. Mr. Rosenberg noted referendums are not binding it is just a pulse of the community and how they feel about a certain matter. After some additional discussion regarding a referendum, council made a recommendation to Mayor Arnold to withdraw ordinance 2018-04. President Russell made a motion to withdraw Ordinance 2018-04. Mr. Allmond second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

**AYES: Mr. Allmond, Mr. Howard, Mrs. Tait, Mr. Yetter, President Russell**

**NAYES: Ms. Weiner**

Mr. Gural noted he and Mr. Rosenberg will come back to council with some ideas and wording for the referendum.

**Ordinance 2018-05**, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra Amending Chapter 121 of the Borough of Palmyra Code captioned "Fire Safety"

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to open to the Public for comments regarding Ordinance 2018-05.

President Russell made a motion to open the public portion for comments. Mr. Howard second the motion

**All members present voted in favor of the motion**

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

**All members present voted in favor of the motion.**

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve ordinance 2018-05. Mrs. Tait made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-05. President Russell second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

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

**NAYES: None**

**Ordinance 2018-06**, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra Amending Chapter 95 of the Borough of Palmyra Code captioned "Construction Codes, Uniform"

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to open to the Public for comments regarding Ordinance 2018-06. President Russell made a motion to open the public portion for comments. Mr. Yetter second the motion

**All members present voted in favor of the motion**

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

**All members present voted in favor of the motion.**

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve ordinance 2018-06. President Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-06. Mr. Howard second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

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

**NAYES: None**

**Ordinance 2018-07**, An Ordinance Appropriating the sum of \$31,300.00 now available from the Capital Improvement Fund, of the Borough of Palmyra, for the purchase of outdoor displays, holiday & general decorations, public events/recreation furniture/equipment and for equipment for the Fire Department.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to open to the Public for comments regarding Ordinance 2018-07. President Russell made a motion to open the public portion for comments. Mr. Yetter second the motion

**All members present voted in favor of the motion**

**Mrs. VanEmburch – Garfield Avenue**– Mrs. VanEmburch inquired what the furniture was for and is it for outside our inside. Mayor Arnold indicated this is a general sum of money to be spent and each individual purchase would come back to council in the form of a resolution to approve a particular purchase.

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

**All members present voted in favor of the motion.**

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve ordinance 2018-07. President Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-07. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

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

**NAYES: None**

#### **RESOLUTIONS Consent Agenda**

Mayor Arnold indicated Resolution **2018-131** and Resolution **2018-137 to Resolution 2018-148** 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. Mr. Gural noted Resolution 2018-131 and Resolution 144 need to be pulled as additional discussion is necessary, which should be in closed session. Mr. Gural noted Resolution 2018-142 should be tabled as additional information was obtained just before the meeting which may require changes to the Agreement. Mr. Gural also indicated two (2) items have been added to the bill list, Ron Jakubowski reimbursement CDL Testing Fee \$140.50 and Active 911 Inc. subscription \$562.50 therefore the new total for Resolution 2018-148 is \$1,788,135.21.

Mayor Arnold indicated Resolutions 2018-145 and Resolution 2018-146 were voted on earlier in the meeting.

**Resolution 2018-131**, Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a New Phone System, Which is a Capital Improvement Exceeding \$15,000.00 from AV Business Communication Systems per their Proposal Dated April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Resolution 2018-137**, Resolution Requesting Insertion Approval of item of Revenue and Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A:-4-87 (Chapter 159) PSE&G Sustainable Jersey Grants Program for \$2,000.00.

**Resolution 2018-138**, Resolution to Establish the Borough of Palmyra Green Team as an Official Borough Council Committee

**Resolution 2018-139**, Resolution Approving Mark Bankowski as a Member of the Junior Firefighters Auxiliary to the Palmyra Fire Department

**Resolution 2018-140**, Resolution Approving James Fries, Jr. as a Member of the Junior Firefighters Auxiliary to the Palmyra Fire Department

**Resolution 2018-141**, Resolution Authorizing CGPH to Prepare the Outdoor Dining Ordinance per their proposal of May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in an amount not to exceed \$6,000.00

**Resolution 2018-142**, Resolution Authorizing the Funding of the Borough of Palmyra's Share of the MACCS Contract Administrator Agreement with AVR Resource Group, Inc.

**Resolution 2018-143**, Resolution Awarding a non-fair and open contract to Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. in the amount of \$25,880.60 for the Purchase of a 2018 Dodge Charger 4 Door Police RWD, further Award a Contract to Emergency Accessories Install under State Contract #81336 in the Amount of \$9,697.16 for the Upfit of said Vehicle with total purchase in the amount of \$35,577.76 which shall be financed thru Ford Motor Credit with 3 annual lease payments in the amount of \$12,864.15 which includes Financing Fees.

**Resolution 2018-144**, Resolution Awarding a Contract to Telesystems (formerly Line Systems) for voice services per their proposal dated April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in the Amount not to exceed \$1,429.11 per month for 36 months.

**Resolution 2018-145**, Resolution Appointing Brian Stovall to the Borough of Palmyra Police Department Effective May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 with an Annual Salary of \$37,643.74

**Resolution 2018-146**, Resolution Appointing Allan Burg as a SLEO II Officer for the Borough of Palmyra Police Department at the rate of \$16.38 per hour Effective May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**Resolution 2018-147**, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra Establishing the Annual Rates of Compensation and/or Hourly Rates Paid to Borough Employees

**Resolution 2018-148**, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills for the Month of May 2018 In the Amount of \$1,788,135.21.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2018-137 thru Resolution 2018-141, Resolution 2018-143 and Resolution 2018-147 thru Resolution 2018-148.

President Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-137 thru Resolution 2018-141, Resolution 2018-143 and Resolution 2018-147 thru Resolution 2018-148. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

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

**NAYES: None**

#### **MOTION TO APPROVE TREASURERS REPORT**

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Reports of April 2018. President Russell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2018. Mr. Howard second the motion.

**At the call of the roll.**

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

**NAYES: None**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **NEW Business**

Mayor Arnold indicated this item is not on your agenda but is in need of discussion. Mayor Arnold stated at the last council meeting council decided to hire an investigator. Mayor Arnold noted that they reason that was done was the unethical and conflict of interest of behavior of the Mayor. This was voted on by council and approved. Mayor Arnold indicated she would like to know the perimeters of the charges, what codes, ordinances or laws were violated, what the scope of this investigation entails and also what the expected cost to the taxpayers is going to be. Ms. Weiner stated I do not believe anyone was hired but we were looking into who the proper person is to handle it. Mr. Gural noted in accordance with Mr. Rosenberg's discussion and the decision of council we have placed an advertisement on the Borough website and in the newspaper requesting proposals for an ethics attorney. Mr. Howard stated we are looking for someone who can tell us what is ethical and what is not ethical by the law of the State of New Jersey, this person would investigate what we thought was unethical and would determine if it is. Mr. Howard stated she is not being charged with anything. Mr. Rosenberg stated one or more council member have raised some concerns about a number of issues. Mr. Rosenberg indicated he is the Solicitor for the Borough appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of council; it is a conflict of interest to investigate any allegations which involves the people which have appointed me. In all other instances where there is an ethical issue raised the governing body generally asks an attorney with experience, to consider if they is an ethical issue, what should be done about it and to process the inquiry to its logical conclusion. Mayor Arnold asked if it was reasonable to ask what the issues are and to have them identified. Mr. Howard stated unethical to him is anyone in our position uses that position to gain anything monetary or non-monetary to further their position along or to gain favor in any type of way, and that is what we wanted this person to investigate. Mayor asked what is it that council believes she has done to warrant this. Mr. Howard noted this was brought up before as you behavior being a realtor and the Mayor of the Borough during different situations. Mr. Howard asked who you are representing at various functions and events Ms. Arnold the realtor or Ms. Arnold the Mayor. Mr. Howard stated he would like someone to clarify if this is ethical or not. Additional discussion was had between Mayor Arnold and Mr. Howard regarding this matter.

Mr. Gural noted all discussions regarding public events must take place at our meetings so everyone is on the same page with the same information. Mr. Gural indicated he wanted to clarify the expectations of the governing body for the staff at the Farmer's Market and the Memorial Day celebration. Mr. Gural

noted there was a request for tables and chairs which was not on our previous list of requests. Mr. Gural again indicated the entire governing body should be aware of any and all requests of the staff for public events and approval of those requests should be made here at council meetings so everyone is aware of what is going on. Ms. Weiner requested 6 tables and an appropriate number of chairs from the community center be added to the list to be brought t to the Farmer’s Market until we get chairs and tables. Council agreed.

Mr. Gural indicated the 2017 Audit is complete, with no findings noted and a date is needed for the Exit Conference. Mr. Gural indicated he would set up a date and notify all as to that date and time.

Mr. Gural stated the salary resolution was approved earlier and in keeping with what has been done in the past those increases are effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Mr. Gural noted however there are some employees who during the budget process were granted merit increases; those employees do not receive the two percent increases. Mr. Gural indicated he needed the opinion of the governing body regarding how those merit increase should be made effective, January 1<sup>st</sup> or April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. After some discussion the governing body decided all increases would be effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Mr. Gural stated earlier the governing body passed the ordinance to purchase outdoor furniture for our public events via the capital improvement fund. After some discussion regarding the style, cost, color, storage and weight it was decided we would purchase 10 sets. President Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-149, a resolution authorizing the purchase of capital equipment being outdoor furniture from BizChair.com to include 10 sets in mint green at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.00 utilizing the capital improvement fund account. Mrs. Tait seconded the motion.

**At the call of the roll.**

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

**NAYES. None**

Mr. Rosenberg inquired if the potential sale or consumption of alcohol is going to be part of any potential outdoor dining or seating ordinance does the governing body wish that included as part of the referendum regarding extending the alcohol sales hours on Sundays. After some discussion the governing body agreed it should. Mr. Gural indicated Mr. Gerkens is working on the outdoor dining and seating ordinance and will report back to the governing body with the proposed changes. Mr. Yetter asked the committee if they included little Broad Street when the proposed zones were designed. Mayor Arnold asked if the outdoor café barriers were taken into consideration when the proposed setbacks were proposed. President Russell indicates yes. Mr. Gural noted, Mr. Gerkens stated he felt that outdoor dining and outdoor seating were two separate issues and should be handled as such. Some additional discussion was had regarding outdoor seating and ownership.

Mr. Gural indicated the donation requests have been received for, American Legion Post #156 – Boys & Girls State for six hundred and the War Memorial Committee request for five thousand. The organizations have submitted the appropriate paperwork and we are seeking approval from the governing body. The governing body approved those requests.

## **OLD Business**

Mr. Gural indicated the Legion Field Improvement Project and Block 24, Lot 1 & 2 Redevelopment Plan were updated earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Gural stated the marketing plan for Rt. 73 South redevelopment area was discussed at length with Mr. Rosenberg, Mr. Hogue and Mr. Brewer. Mr. Gural indicated two scenarios were look into, the RFP process and or hiring a broker. The broker process was determined would be very cumbersome as it would be hard to try to develop an interest in the area, because we don't own all the property; however the RFP process requesting developers, we would be asking the developers to give us their ideas for the potential redevelopment of the area and how to address ownership issues. Mr. Gural indicted the RFP process is the manner in which they are proceeding.

Mr. Gural stated previously was passed the Knox box ordinance, which requires business in our community to have Knox boxes installed for access of the fire department and the police department in the event of an emergency. Mr. Gural noted there had been some negative feedback regarding the cost of the boxes. Mr. Gural stated he spoke with Mr. Dreby and they reached out to the manufacturer to see if we could get a discount if we purchased a number of these units which we could then resell to the business owners at our cost. We were told we would have to purchase at least 25 units and the cost would be about \$7,800.00, less than the individual cost would be( about 100.00 dollar savings) however those funds were not inclusive in our budget. Mayor Arnold and Ms. Weiner asked if we could look into the joint purchase with Cinnaminson Township and Riverton Borough for those units as both municipalities have similar ordinances. Mr. Gural stated he would ask Mr. Dreby to look into it.

Mr. Gural indicated he is looking into a couple of different programs for customer service training seminars. Mr., Gural noted all employees which deal with the public will be required to attend this training, additional information will be forthcoming.

Mr. Gural noted the final payment for Whirl Construction , the contractor of the Promenade was approved tonight however he is requesting the payment not be released until a conversation is have with the governing body in closed session and at that time the decision can be made whether to release the check or not.

## **ADMINISTRATOR S REPORT**

Mr. Gural stated a on the day of the public hearing Mr. Jonessen signed an agreement with terms indicating her would demolish the house and remove the cars.

Mr. Gural indicated the uncollectable taxes report was in your packet, it indicates a list of uncollectable taxes. We are happy to report there are none.

Mr. Gural indicated he sent letters to Santander Bank regarding the parking lot potential use and to Riverton Borough regarding the jetter use but has not heard back of either.

Mr. Gural stated the onsite inspection of the new ladder truck is July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and shortly thereafter will be delivery.

Mr. Gural indicated he has not yet received the YMCA Summer Camp agreement, however is looking for it any day, when received it will be forwarded to the governing body.

Mr. Gural indicated the requirement for being able to work in the right of way around the railroad is an onsite safety class which is given in Camden. The class is free but is required by NJ Conrail to work in the right of way. Also required is our drug and alcohol policy, a flagman which we could supply and insurance, which is quite costly from a small businessman's perspective. Mr. Gural noted all staff of public works will be taking the class.

Mr. Gural stated the BURL CO JIF Quarterly Loss Ratio report is in everyone's mailbox for your reading. Chief Pearlman indicated the security camera project is almost complete; we are still waiting for the Ethel B Hardy Park and the Promenade Park to be connected to our internet. Chief Pearlman indicated the cameras have been useful in helping to solve some recent acts of vandalism and crimes.

Mr. Gural indicated the NJT/Bombardier Railroad tracks maintenance will be starting tonight.

Mayor Arnold asked Mr. Rosenberg to look into whether or not the logos for the Farmer's Market and the Green Team should be registered.

Mr. Gural indicated the June 4<sup>th</sup> council caucus meeting will begin at 6:30 PM not 7:00 PM and there will be no Redevelopment Agency meeting before it.

### **COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

Mr. McElwee indicated the Memorial Day Celebration at the War Memorial will be held at 10:00 am on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and should it be raining it will be held in the Community Center.

Mayor Arnold indicated the Free Interfaith Event will be held at the Islamic Center of South Jersey on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:45 pm.

Mayor Arnold indicated we attended and received the Sustainable Jersey Grant check and are ready to move forward.

Mayor Arnold indicated she attended the Mayor's Roundtable and was presented with a Legislation Resolution regarding her record and service to the Palmyra community during Women's History Month by Assemblywoman Carol Murphy.

Ms. Weiner stated the Palmyra High School Foundation For Educational Excellence applied and was awarded a grant for \$5,000.00 which they will be purchasing 24 chrome notebooks for the school.

Mrs. Tait indicated the girls' softball team will be entering the third round of the playoffs.

### **Mayor Arnold**

Mayor indicated the Land Use Board met on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and granted final approval for sign variance for Dunkin Donuts on Rt. 73.

Mayor Arnold indicated she attended the Harbour Condo Association where they talked about some landscaping improvements, and vacancies. Mayor Arnold indicated a yard sale was scheduled for Saturday which some did not Sunday however additional information will be coming regarding the rescheduling of the event.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Mr. Howard – Youth and Recreation, Public Building, Grounds and Parks** – Mr. Howard indicated the committee, our engineer, Mr. Gural and Pal/Riv AA will be meeting at 9:00 am on Wednesday, regarding our fields and the maintenance and upkeep of those fields.

**Mrs. Tait – Public Safety Director, Board of Education Liaison, and Public Events**– Mrs. Tait indicated she attended the Board of Education meeting last week and they were trying to figure out how they were going to restructure the programing in the school. More information will be coming. Mrs. Tait thanked Mr. Gural for his efforts with Mr. Longo regarding the fields. Mrs. Tait stated the company which fixed the lip on the softball field did a fantastic job.

**Ms. Weiner – Administration and Finance, Business and Community development, Homeowner Association** – Ms. Weiner indicated the business and community development committee met and spoke about some issues regarding some businesses in town. Ms. Weiner stated the committee is still working on holiday lights for the downtown area and will be back with potential ideas at a later date. Ms. Weiner additionally noted the Farmer’s Market is opening this Thursday and she hopes to see everyone out and enjoying the market.

**Mr. Allmond –Communications and Public Relations Committee**– Mr. Allmond stated the communications committee is focusing on the next issue of the Borough Newsletter.

**Mr. Yetter – Public Works, Redevelopment and Negotiations** – Mr. Yetter indicated he intended to spend \$3,100.00 for the summer concert series, which included one band playing for free. Mr. Yetter indicated the public works committee met and covered everything which needed to be done for the Memorial Day Celebration and Mr. Haines explained the new pothole repairing process. Mr. Yetter noted the Green Team met and had a demonstration from Rutgers regarding mosquito control. Mr. Yetter indicated they are looking at a way to get that information into the hands of the public. Mr. Yetter stated he met with Chief Pearlman about the no smoking ordinance and they would like to set up a meeting with Mr. Rosenberg to further discuss that ordinance. Mayor Arnold indicated public works beginning with Wednesday will be open until 6:30 pm.

**President Russell – Construction, Housing and Code Enforcement Committee**– President Russell noted the shade tree committee notes some trees have been planted. President Russell indicated the construction committee met and is looking at a way to put out some sort of communication regarding what need to be done for a new business. President Russell stated the committee is focusing on the outdoor seating codes at this time. President Russell noted that the committee is also looking at the vacant and abandon property ordinance. President Russell stated our code enforcement is doing a great job.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to open the Public Portion. President Russell made a motion to open the public portion for comments. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

**All members present voted in favor of the motion**

**Mrs. Furrer – Harbour Drive** – Mrs. Furrue asked if the governing body hires and attorney to look into this ethics matter would we the taxpayers have to pay for an attorney for the Mayor as well. Mr. Rosenberg explained if it were decided charges were to be brought up against the Mayor for some sort of ethical violation, yes the Mayor could request that the cost for an attorney to represent her become the liability of the Borough. Mrs. Furrer inquired is there not as manner in place with the State of New Jersey to investigate and resolve matters of this kind, which bear no cost to the taxpayers. Mr. Rosenberg explained there could be by ordinance a local ethics board which we do not have or the default is to utilize the Department of Community Affairs which is triggered by a formal inquiry, meaning someone would write to the DCA and explain that they believe there is an issue and ask them to render an opinion. Mrs. Furrer asked if that service was free. Mr. Rosenberg indicated it was. Mrs. Furrer asked council why that was not being considered, as it would save taxpayer monies.

**Mr. McElwee – Columbia Avenue**– Mr. McElwee asked if we received the letter from PSE&G regarding 703 Pennsylvania Ave and if would hold up the demolition of the building. Mr. Gural stated Mr. Lunneman spoke with PSE&G and they have assured us that the power has been turned off to the building and will confirm in writing. Mr. Gural stated that will not holdup anything and we are expecting the building to be demolished within the time frame agreed. Mr. McElwee stated that many years ago when Curran’s was Mitchells the owner tried a Saturday brunch and within 3 weeks he stopped because no one came. Mr. McElwee stated he was not for or against it but the owner should have been here tonight to explain his desires. Ms. Weiner indicated the gentleman is on the school board and their meeting was also tonight. Mr. McElwee stated this effects his business and he should have been here.

**Mr. Adams – Temple Blvd.** Mr. Adams stated he had a conversation with Chief Perlman earlier tonight and he knows progress is being made regarding the signage on Temple Blvd and the surrounding areas. Mr. Adams indicated he had a friend who works for the Borough of Riverton and the document regarding the shared service is being taken to their next meeting. Mr. Adams also noted the Knox box ordinance has been in effect in Cinnaminson for the last three years. Mr. Adams stated he had the opportunity the drive three couples to the prom and then take them to the post prom event where he had the opportunity the watch Officer Kendall in action and wanted council to know Officer Kendal certainly is a professional with his job. Mr. Adams noted his granddaughter indicated she sure felt safe with his presence. Mr. Adams noted he greeted and talked to every child coming and going from the prom and he did an excellent job.

**Mrs. Norwicki – Morgan Avenue** – Mrs. Norwicki stated usually it’s the leader at the top which determines the quality of the people underneath them. Mrs. Nowicki stated Palmyra has been really lucky with Police Chiefs from Chief Flournoy, Fow, Dreby and Chief Pearlman we have had and have great Police Chiefs.

**Mrs. Jones – 5<sup>th</sup> Street** – Mrs. Jones stated that during their senior meeting a lady brought a chicken to our meeting. Mrs. Jones stated when she was younger we were allowed to have chickens, ducks and

rabbits and then those animals were prohibited. Mrs. Jones inquired if chickens were being brought back into Palmyra. Mrs. Jones indicated the presentation was excellent however she did not believe the seniors would be going out to raise chickens. Mayor Arnold asked if the chicken was brought into the community center. Mrs. Jones indicated yes. Mrs. Jones inquired about the tables and chairs being bought by the borough, asking a better price could not be obtained for 10 of the tables and chairs sets. Mrs. Jones indicated the Farmer's market was established to highlight the local farmers and introduce them to the community and foster healthy eating as well as supporting our local farmers and businesses. Mrs. Jones noted there are no local farmers at the Farmers Market. Mrs. Jones stated the Farmers Market should also be called the Borough of Palmyra's Farmers Market, and this is something which should be looked at. Mrs. Jones asked why doesn't the food trucks pay a fee to sell their products, the market also looks like a truck enterprise more than a fresh produce market. Ms. Weiner indicated we have reached out to Taylor's Farm, Lew's, Hunters and the local guys however they have indicated they don't have the manpower to do this, Taylor's Farm has indicated that they may be coming in the future but will not be here on opening day. Ms. Weiner indicated we also try to have at least two produce vendors. Ms. Weiner also stated when we began this market she wanted to charge every vendor \$10.00 fee, however the Mayor was not interested as she felt it would be too much administratively to process those payments. Mrs. Jones stated she felt it should be more than \$10.00. Mayor Arnold stated what was originally proposed was \$5.00 for local business and \$10.00 for anyone else and the processing of those fees would cost more than the fees being charged. Mayor Arnold also stated at the beginning it was stated that we were not going to compete with our local business so she felt we should not have food trucks at the market which compete with our local business.

**Mrs. Bullock – Arch Street** – Mrs. Bullock inquired if having chickens or livestock is still an issue in the Borough. Mayor Arnold stated not that she knew of currently and she was unaware that a chicken was brought into the community center as chickens are not permitted in the Borough and livestock or animals are not permitted in the community center. Mayor Arnold asked were chickens being proposed in the Borough at that meeting. Mrs. Bullock inquired if raising chickens has been an issue brought to council in the last six months. Mayor Arnold and Ms. Weiner answered not in the last six months but the issues has been presents before.

**Mrs. Holloway – Broad Street** – Mrs. Holloway stated she would like to commend the six people who vote as you are all on one accord, normally when the board votes there is a nay or opposing position but you all are all together. Mrs. Holloway asked Mr. Rosenberg if there was any way you can find out if the ethics charges are valid so taxpayer dollars are not spent if this is not unethical. Mr. Rosenberg indicated he could not, as you are asking him to consider whether his boss did something which was improper or unethical. Mr. Rosenberg indicated he was not comfortable with that task, as someone could come back and say he said this or that because he wanted to be reappointed again. Mr. Rosenberg again noted that if anyone had a concern regarding whether something was ethical or unethical they can take it to the State of New Jersey Dept. of Community Affairs, for free, have it investigated and have them made a determination. Mrs. Holloway asked if that only applied to the Mayor. Mr. Rosenberg stated that applies to anyone, anyone can ask for an investigation. Mrs. Holloway asked where are the

tables and chairs going to be placed. Mayor Arnold indicated the committee is considering tables and chairs in front of establishments, the committee has designed zones and different things would be allowed in different zones. Mrs. Holloway stated at the last meeting she attended she remembered something about tables and benches which was tried and there were a lot of problems with it. Mayor Arnold indicated they were speaking about a bench which was donated to the Borough, which was placed on Broad Street in front of some of their business which we got so many complaints, we had to relocate it away from the front of the businesses. Mayor Arnold indicated the establishments would pay for their own tables and chairs and they would have to be removed every night. Mrs. Holloway asked if the Borough would be considering some of the old proposals which were presented in the past. Mayor Arnold indicated everything is going to be considered. Mrs. Holloway stated the school presented a proposal for an athletic complex which was a wonderful idea, would it have to be presented again. Mr. Gural stated the school presented a sports complex however there was no one to build it. Mr. Gural noted that was an idea, what we are looking for is an proposal and the ability to complete the proposal presented, meaning a developer would present a proposal if accepted by council he would design, construct, complete and lease/rent if need be, the project with his own funding. Mayor Arnold again noted we will be looking at everything.

**Mrs. Roy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**– Mrs. Roy stated she wanted council to rethink this investigation regarding the Mayor. Mrs. Roy indicated if in your position you have the ability to receive the information you are seeking for free you should, any information you get for free which can be pass on she would like to have. Mrs. Roy stated if the information you are seeking you cannot get for free then a cap needs to be placed on how much taxpayer money you are going to spend. Mrs. Roy stated think about what you are about to do, when you put a person's charter in question you could be looking at defamation of charter and you could be sued. Mrs. Roy stated that this nonsense needs to stop, all the pettiness need to stop. Mrs. Roy stated she use to come to every meeting but stopped coming because there was just too much nonsense going on. Mrs. Roy stated if you start to think and really start to work on things she might just show up at the meetings again so she can relay the information back to those who can't.

**Mrs. Washington – Legion Avenue** – Mrs. Washington indicated there is a pothole in front of her home which when hit throws rocks onto her lawn. Mrs. Washington noted the other side of the street was paved and a concrete trench was done, Mrs. Washington asked why the other side of the street was not done accordingly. Mr. Gural noted he would have someone out to look at it tomorrow. Mrs. Washington stated when she came in there was conversation regarding ethics and the Mayor; and yes a lot of this is very petty and needs to stop. Mrs. Washington asked why she had to call the police regarding strange people with tinted windows park outside her home and why do people stop her child on the street and asked them where they live. Mrs. Washington indicated she thinks it's all because my brother Mr. Howard resides with her at 501 Legion Avenue. Mrs. Washington stated the pettiness need to stop.

**Mrs. Jones – 5<sup>th</sup> Street** – Mrs. Jones stated she stop Mrs. Washington's child and asked where he lived as she was unaware that he was her child. A conversation was had between Mrs. Washington and Mrs. Jones. Mrs. Jones then stated when you live someplace you should know who lives on you block. Mrs.

Jones noted she does this with all the children she sees on her block in an efforts to meet and introduce herself to them as well. Mrs. Jones apologized to Mrs. Washington if Mrs. Washington felt disrespected or threatened in any way.

A conversation then ensued between Mrs. Washington and Mrs. Jones. Mayor Arnold indicated this was not the forum for that conversation.

**Mrs. Rix – Harbour Drive** – Mrs. Rix asked Borough Council if they would be giving a public apology to the Mayor if they find the accusations to be untrue and there is no ethical violation. Mr. Howard stated Council was trying to learn what is ethical and what is not and does not feel an apology is needed. Mr. Yetter indicated you should read the minutes from the last meeting regarding the conversations had regarding this issue. Mr. Yetter indicated this is frustrating.

**Ms. Harris – Legion Avenue** –Ms. Harris stated this community should appreciate that you have a governing body who when they do not know something, will take the necessary steps to find out. Ms. Harris indicated the Mayor has not been accused of anything, council is taking the steps to find out if something which she did was ethical or not. Ms. Harris stated what she has been hearing is how, and ways to improve this town but what is being seen from this view is a mess a lot of bickering at the table and a lot of bickering in these seats. Ms. Harris stated if you are really concern with making this a better community, perhaps everyone should take a look at themselves and how they are behaving in public. “This is supposed to be a community and this is not the way a community acts.”

**Mrs. Shea– Harbour Drive** –Mrs. Shea indicated this ethics thing just keeps going on and on to the detriment of the community. Mrs. Shea indicated you should get an answer and move on to the business of the community.

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

**All members present voted in favor of the motion.**

#### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Gina Tait had** stated everyone should enjoy the upcoming holiday weekend and thanked all for their service.

**Brandon Allmond** had no comment

**Lewis Yetter** indicated he wanted everyone to understand what was being asked for regarding extending the alcoholic beverage sales hours. Mr. Yetter indicated the referendum was a good thought. Mr. Yetter stated nothing is written in stone, it can always be changed. Mr. Yetter indicated someone really rallied the troops tonight and he wished everyone would come all the time not just on some occasions so everyone would be informed and everyone would know what’s going on.

**Mr. Howard** indicated all should have a good holiday weekend and stay safe.

**Mindie Weiner** noted she like the way Mr. Yetter put it when speaking about extending the alcoholic beverage sale hours, and if it was given a chance it could be a positive thing. Ms. Weiner indicated she

was out in the community shopping and was pleasantly surprised that Schwering's had made special mention of Palmyra Day and they indicated they had received a thank-you note from the Borough of Palmyra regarding the gift giveaway donation which they made to the Borough to be given away for signing up for email notifications from the Borough of liking our page on Facebook which they have never received from anywhere else where they had given a donation. Ms. Weiner thanked everyone for their efforts on that project and especially thanked Tangy and Marie for their efforts.

**President Russell** stated there was a lot to reflect on from this evening. President Russell indicated everyone on the dais is trying to make this a better town that it already is. We don't like what the center of town looks like we want positive things happening. President Russell stated disappointed that the focus is not on the positive it is only on two issues. President Russell noted the Farmer's Market did not exist two years ago and last year brought more people together, the movie night coming back and am excited to see how it grows this year, and also the Summer concerts which have been a n ongoing thing. President Russell stated she would like to focus on the positive. President Russell thanked those who have given their lives and service to us indicating that's what this upcoming Monday is all about.

**Mayor Arnold** thanked everyone for coming and their participation tonight. Mayor Arnold asked that they keep coming and indicated we (meaning her and council) would get better she also reminded everyone to be good neighbors and be kind to one another.

Mayor Arnold then inquired of Mr. Gural and Mr. Rosenberg if there was anything for closed session. Mr. Gural stated there are some matters which need to be discussed regarding litigation, negotiations, and contracts. Mr. Gural also noted action may be taken after the closed session meeting.

Mayor Arnold requested a motion to exclude the public from certain meetings pursuant to section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P.L. 1075 in regards to Litigation, negotiations and contracts.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve **Resolution 2018-150**. President Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-150, Resolution Excluding the Public from Certain Meetings pursuant to section 89 of the Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P.L. 1975 regarding Litigation Negotiations and Contracts. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

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

**NAYES: None**

**Resolution 2018-150 is approved**

Borough Council went into closed session at 10:48 pm

President Russell made a motion to open to the public. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

**All voted in favor**

Borough Council returned from closed session at 11:15 PM

Mayor Arnold then asked for a motion to approve **Resolution 2018-131** Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a New Phone System, Which is a Capital Improvement Exceeding \$15,000.00 from AV Business Communication Systems per their Proposal Dated April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

President Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-131. Mrs. Tait second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

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

**NAYES. None**

Mayor Arnold then asked for a motion to approve **Resolution 2018-144**, Resolution Awarding a Contract to Telesystems (formerly Line Systems) for voice services per their proposal dated April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in the Amount not to exceed \$1,429.11 per month for 36 months.

President Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-144. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

**At the call of the roll, the vote was:**

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

**NAYES. None**

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

All voted in favor of the motion

**Meeting adjourned at 11.16 PM**

Respectfully Submitted

Doretha R Jackson

Acting Municipal Clerk