

Borough of Palmyra
Regular Council Meeting, 7:00 PM
Monday, September 17th, 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 7:00 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 Minister Jimmy Lindsay of Evergreen Baptist Church

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Arnold requested a motion for approval of the August 6th, 2018 Council Caucus Meeting Minutes.

President Russell made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 6th, 2018 Council Caucus Meeting Minutes. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

At the call of the roll the vote was.

AYES: Mr. Allmond, Mrs. Tait, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Howard, President Russell

Mayor Arnold requested a motion for approval of the August 20th, 2018 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

President Russell made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 20th, 2018 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Mr. Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Allmond, Mr. Howard, Mr. Yetter

NAYES: Ms. Weiner

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Tait, President Russell

Mayor Arnold asked Ms. Weiner if she voted no because there was a mistake or something wrong with the minutes. Ms. Weiner replied, "No I would like to maybe get together with Rita, sometimes I don't feel like the points I bring up are well represented in the minutes, so it makes me uncomfortable to say yes". Mayor Arnold inquired if the information presented was accurate. Mr. Weiner indicated "maybe incomplete in my opinion". Mr. Gural stated the time to address that is at this portion of the meeting. Mr. Gural stated the clerk's job is to do the minutes as she sees fit, so if you are going to have a conversation it should be now with the entire governing body present. Ms. Weiner indicated she felt the clerk does a good job, however she feels like some of the points she makes are valid and she would like them to be represented in the minutes. Mr. Weiner indicated she did not presently have an example, but if it's helpful she could share those thoughts with the clerk. Mr. Rosenberg stated the minutes are exclusively in the purview of the clerk, any person has the right to file their own personal addendum with the clerk representing how they believe that the minutes are incorrect and that would be for subjective issues not punctuation or misspellings.

Mayor Arnold requested a motion for approval of the August 20th, 2018 Executive Meeting Minutes.

President Russell made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 20th, 2018 Executive Meeting Minutes. Mr. Yetter second the motion.

At the call of the roll the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Allmond, Mr. Howard, Ms. Weiner, Mr. Yetter

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Tait, President Russell

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Arnold acknowledged a letters received from Scott Coffina of the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office regarding forfeitures of property.

Mayor Arnold also acknowledged a letter received from Yellowbook indicating Yellowbooks would be delivered to the Palmyra area between October and December of 2018.

Mayor Arnold acknowledged a letter and petition received from RJ Ragomo and the residents of West Spring Garden Street regarding speeding on West Spring Garden Street.

Mayor Arnold also acknowledged a letter received from the residents of the 700 block of Morgan Avenue regarding a vacant home at located at 713 Morgan Avenue.

Mayor Arnold also acknowledged an email received from the residents of Morgan Avenue thanking Mayor and Council for their quick action on 713 Morgan Avenue noting the property had been secured.

Ms. Weiner acknowledged an email received from Michael Deffner of Parry Avenue thanking the musicians, homeowners and organizers of the Poarch Festival held on September 15th, 2018

1ST 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. Mrs. Tait second the motion

All members present voted in favor of the motion

Mr. Rader- Harbour Drive- Mr. Rader indicated he had some questions about Resolution 2018-227. Mr. Rader asked in any of the funding for the award was provided by a grant and if any of the funds for the award were to be provided for by the taxpayers. Mayor Arnold indicated yes to both questions. Mr. Rader asked for the breakdown of the funding for the project. Mr. Gural explained the current award to the contractor how it would be paid. He stated we received a grant for \$115,000.00, we are also using money received from a previous grant for the Palmyra Promenade in the amount of \$12,424.00, and capital funds are available in the amount of \$155,000.00 thus far for payment of that resolution. Mr. Gural explained in addition to this award there is another approximately \$40,000.00 dollars of cost for the project, which include the decorative archway and bike racks. These items are being purchased directly from the metal fabricator/sculpture and will also be funded thru the grant. Ms. Weiner asked if the pavers were included in the bid. Mr. Gural indicated part is and the others will be paid for from the Borough. Mr. Gural indicated there are some additional funding sources which we have available if need be in clean communities money for the trash receptacles and funds available from the community center capital ordinance passed a few years back which can be used for replacement of the electronic sign in front of the building. Ms. Weiner noted we are also looking to do the sidewalk outside of this project. Mr. Gural noted yes the sidewalk was taken out of this project and added to the 2018 road improvement project. Ms. Weiner stated we are looking at a \$240,000.00 project plus some other items which can be budget elsewhere and we have a grant for \$115,000.00, so even thou money is coming from other places it will still cost the taxpayer between \$125,000.00 and \$140,000.00. Mr. Rader asked how many LED signs were in the project. Mr. Gural indicated the governing body has not yet discussed it, as appears later on the agenda however there are two in the specs. Mr. Rader asked are two signs really necessary. Mr. Rader asked what the purpose of the archway was and do we really need six picnic tables at a cost of \$14,000.00 or two decorative trash receptacles for \$4,770.00. Mr. Rader stated that seems like a lot of money for those items. Mr. Gural and Mayor Arnold indicated many of those items are paid for from the grant.

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 October 15th, 2018

Ordinance 2018-15, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra, County Of Burlington, State Of New Jersey, Prohibiting Smoking in Certain Locations.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-15. President Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-15. 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

Ordinance 2018-15 passed first reading

Ordinance 2018-16, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey Appropriating the sum of \$40,000.00 now available from the Capital Improvement Fund (\$20,000.00) and General Fund Balance (\$20,000.00) for the Improvements to the Bandshell located in Grove Park

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-16. President Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-16. Mr. Howard 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

Ordinance 2018-16 passed first reading

ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING – PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 2018-12, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, Amending Ordinance 2016-19 Regulating Towing and Towing Operators

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to open To the Public for comment on Ordinance 2018-12. Mrs. Tait made a motion to open the public portion for comments. President Russell 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, Mrs. Tait second the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-12. President Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-12. 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

Ordinance 2018-12 passed

RESOLUTIONS Consent Agenda

Mayor Arnold indicated Resolution **2018-221** to Resolution **2018-229** 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.

Ms. Weiner requested Resolution 2018-227 be removed from the consent agenda for additional comment.

Resolution 2018-221, Resolution Authorizing the award of a Non-Fair and Open Contract for air piping modification at the sewer treatment plant in the Borough of Palmyra to RTW Construction in the amount of \$17,500.00

Resolution 2018-222, Resolution Approving Brian Gindville as an Active Member of the Palmyra Fire Department

Resolution 2018-223, Resolution Authorizing the Borough of Palmyra Police and Court to Utilize the New Jersey Treatment Incentive Program "NJTIP"

Resolution 2018-224, Resolution Appointing Joanne Logue as a Substitute Crossing Guard for the Borough of Palmyra effective September 6th, 2018

Resolution 2018-225, Resolution Awarding a contract to American Crane & Equipment Corp for Emergency repairs and /or replacement of Sewer Department lifting hoists per PEOSHA site visit and pursuant to Pay-to-Play requirements in the amount of \$21,317.00

Resolution 2018-226, Resolution Approving Kenneth R Keisler as an Active Member of the Palmyra Fire Department

Resolution 2018-227, Resolution awarding a contract to Think Pavers Hardscaping for the Grove Park Improvements Project per CME's Award Letter dated September 14, 2018 in the amount of \$151,623.25 for the Base Bid plus Additional Items A, B, C, D & F in the amount of \$87,410.00 for a total award of \$239,033.25, subject to the Solicitor's and Chief Financial Officer's review.

Resolution 2018-228, Resolution to Affirm the Borough of Palmyra's Civil Rights Policy with Respect to All Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors and Members of the Public that come into Contact with Municipal Employees, Officials and Volunteers

Resolution 2018-229, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills for the Month of August 2018 In the Amount of \$1,357,703.88

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda Resolutions 2018-221 thru Resolution 2018-226 and Resolution 2018-228 and Resolution 2018-229.

President Russell made a motion to approve Resolutions 2018-221 thru Resolution 2018-226 and Resolution 2018-228 and Resolution 2018-229 as read. 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 2018-221 thru Resolution 2018-226 and Resolution 2018-228 and Resolution 2018-229 were approved.

Mayor Arnold then went back to **Resolution 2018-227**, Resolution awarding a contract to Think Pavers Hardscaping for the Grove Park Improvements Project per CME's Award Letter dated September 14, 2018 in the amount of \$151,623.25 for the Base Bid plus Additional Items A, B, C, D & F in the amount of \$87,410.00 for a total award of \$239,033.25, subject to the Solicitor's and Chief Financial Officer's review.

Ms. Weiner indicated she had made her opinion clear and she felt the bandshell renovations are out of hand and she did not support the project. Mrs. Tait indicated she felt a lot was done to cut back the price especially from the last bids numbers we received. Mrs. Tait indicated the items included in the bid are needed but we don't have to have all of them. President Russell indicated it is an amazing idea to renovate the band shell and we understand the cost is not where we had hope, however, "I personally would like to see the project move forward". President Russell indicated this is the spot that everyone sees when passing thru town and we want to put our best foot forward. Ms. Weiner indicated she is very much attached to the bandshell area and realizes what a central location it is for the community. She noted the grant does not cover a lot of the bare necessities which we need, but she has a hard time moving forward. Ms. Weiner indicated a thirty thousand dollar archway is extravagant and the project does not address the bandshell itself except for a power wash. Ms. Weiner indicated there are walkways thru it and the way she sees the bandshell area being used it is more of a general togetherness not a go thru place, it's not that type of park. Ms. Weiner indicated she could not support it. There was additional discussion regarding the cost and the archway. Mr. Yetter indicated there are other items which we do not have to approve which could also reduce the cost. Mrs. Tait asked was not some sort of match required when we applied for the grant. Mr. Gural noted when the project was applied for the cost of the project was about \$200,000.00 but the county only awarded \$115,000.00 for the project. Mr. Gural noted it's been two years since we applied for the grant for this project, the archway which seems to be a concern, could be eliminated however when the grant was approved we requested two archways but the county only approved one. If we were to eliminate it, which we could, it would not reduce the impact to the taxpayer as that archway and the decorative bike racks were approved by the county and are included in the funding which they are providing; if we eliminating the archway; the possibility of losing the grant funding is probable. Some additional discussion was had regarding the county and the availability of funding from them. Mrs. Tait asked if some items could not be done at this time and could be done at a later date. Mr. Gural stated you cannot delete anything from the components of the project as it has already been bid and this is not a redesign now, however you can choose which add alternate items are completed with this award. Mr. Gural stated, council could reject the bid and rebid it again. Mr. Rosenberg stated if we rejected the bids we could get sued as when bids are placed that is an offer and when contractors respond that is an offer. Mr. Rosenberg explained there are reasons which allow you to reject a bid or withdraw your interest in a project, such as when the engineer's estimate is exceeded or if there was a catastrophe and the municipality did not have the funds, but to just decide to not do the project without a valid reason after it has been bid, you more likely than not will get sued.

Mr. Gural stated at this point council's options are to award the base bid only or to award the base bid with some number of alternates. Mr. Gural and council went over and discussed the various alternates to the project. After a lengthy discussion regarding the various alternates, the existing LED sign at the community center, then new LED sign to be installed, pavers and concrete in the project and various guarantees on the items of the project council decided to award the base bid and add alternates #A, #B, #E, and #F. Mr. Gural stated the revised Resolution 2018-117 is as follows: **Resolution 2018-227**, Resolution awarding a contract to Think Pavers Hardscaping for the Grove Park Improvements Project per CME's Award Letter dated September 14, 2018 in the amount of \$203,548.75 for the Base Bid of \$151,623.25 plus Additional Items A, B, E & F in the amount of \$51,925.50 for a total award of \$203,548.75 subject to the Solicitor's and Chief Financial Officer's review.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2018-227 as amended. President Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-227. Mrs. Tait 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

Resolution 2018-227 passed

MOTION TO APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORTS

President Russell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for August 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

MOTION FOR APPROVAL

President Russell made a motion to approve the Bingo License application for Independence Fire Co #1 for Basket Bingo on October 21st, 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

Independence Fire Co #1 Basket Bingo License was approved

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Mayor Arnold stated Independence Fire Co #1 will be holding a basket bingo on October 21st, 2018. Mayor Arnold stated the free mammograms will be done on October 6th, 2018 at the Christ Episcopal Church from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Mayor Arnold noted the YMCA Camp is holding a fundraiser on October 19th, 2018 at the Mansion in Voorhees.

Mayor Arnold also noted Alpha Baptist Church is holding a gun buy back on September 22nd, 2018 on Rose Street in Burlington.

Mayor Arnold announced a Veterans Day Celebration on November 10th, 2018 at the Wyndam in Mt. Laurel at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Arnold also announced the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life will be held Saturday September 29th, 2018 at Cinnaminson High School.

Mayor Arnold also noted Palmyra High School is looking for all members of the 1978 Palmyra Group 1 State Championship Team who will be honored at the Palmyra High School Thanksgiving Day football game November 22nd, 2018.

Ms. Weiner announced PHSFEE is holding a Casino Night on this Saturday at Sacred Heart School in Riverton, tickets are \$60.00

Ms. Weiner also noted the Palmyra High School Band won first place in all five categories of their first competition of this year.

Ms. Weiner stated the River Clean- up was August 24th, 2018 and had a great turn out.

Ms. Weiner also noted the PIA held its first Porch Music Festival last weekend and it was great.

Mayor Arnold also noted the KIA Flag was raised at the Borough Hall and was attended by many veterans and residents.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

NEW Business

Ms. Weiner stated the Green Team was requesting permission to from Council to extend the Diversity Survey to Council and various organizations. President Russell stated she felt the survey was not anonymous enough and was unaware of how it would be distributed to the public and perhaps it should be conducted thru survey monkey or that type of solicitation. Ms. Weiner stated the survey is diversity on various boards' survey. Mayor Arnold asked what the purpose of the survey was. Mr. Yetter indicated by doing the survey the Green Team earns points toward its accreditation with Sustainable New Jersey. Ms. Weiner stated we wanted to send it out to Council, Community Center Programing Board, Board of Education, Land Use Board and the Green Team. Ms. Weiner stated diversity is a big thing and the information obtained might be interesting for council to know regarding how these boards feel about diversity in our town. Mayor Arnold indicated she was opposed to the survey as she felt it was invasive, the questions were personal in nature and not necessarily something everyone may wish to share. Mayor Arnold asked what the guidelines were for choosing what boards would be inclusive for the survey. Mayor Arnold asked who gets the information. Ms. Weiner indicated the information is returned to the Green Team placed on a spread sheet and then would be disseminated to Council where they can look it over and use or not use the information. Ms. Weiner indicated the survey is anonymous and anyone can answer as many questions as they are comfortable with, it will just help the Green Team towards its accreditation. Mayor Arnold inquired why the changes recommended by Mr. Rosenberg where not implemented. Ms. Weiner indicated Mr. Rosenberg indicated he did not see the reason for asking for care giver status, religion, and marital status but we

feel we feel they are important when discussing diversity, so we kept them in and added you don't have to answer every question if you do not want to. President Russell asked Mr. Rosenberg about the basis of his recommendations. Mr. Rosenberg indicated his recommendations were based upon two primary concerns. Mr. Rosenberg stated there is a constitutional right of privacy and legally perhaps the governing body shouldn't allow questions on personal things such as family income, religion, care giver status etc. to be asked of its volunteers. Mr. Rosenberg indicated his concerns, that if government asks its board members these questions some members may misinterpret and think they are required to give that information. Mr. Rosenberg stated although the Green Team may get some points does the Borough benefit by asking its board members, who receive no compensation, to reveal information which is protected and confidential. President Russell indicated in light of what Mr. Rosenberg has indicated her suggestion was to look at other avenues to obtain the points from accreditation. Mr. Yetter indicated a shorter version could be done and we may still get the points. Mr. Howard indicated for ten points we could look in another direction. Ms. Weiner stated perhaps we could bring the survey back and pose the questions in different ways. Mr. Yetter stated he felt it meant deleting some of the questions and perhaps it would still be possible. Mayor Arnold suggested it return to the Green Team Committee for further consideration.

Mr. Gural stated the staff would like to work on Columbus Day, in exchange for that day to be used on Christmas Eve and on New Year's Eve making the Borough closed the entire day on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve which are usually half days in accordance with the personnel manual. Borough Council agreed.

Mr. Gural stated he met with the committee regarding amendments to the Legion Field Ordinance and he and the committee agreed that they should meet with members of our youth organizations before making any changes to the current ordinance regarding terms and conditions of use of the facilities of Legion Field. Mr. Gural indicated they would be scheduling that meeting soon.

Mr. Gural indicated we are currently opening the restroom at Legion Field at five o'clock at most programs are in the evening at the fields additionally around Thanksgiving weekend we will begin the closing process for the winter season.

Mr. Gural indicated the 93rd Annual New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Conference is coming and anyone who is interested in attending should contact Marie for scheduling. President Russell indicated the theme for the conference this year is "Planting the right Tree in The Right Place".

OLD Business

Mayor Arnold indicated it rained on both days of the Town-wide Yard Sale and many people have inquired if that event would be rescheduled. After some discussion it was decided to reschedule the event for October 6th 2018 with a rain date of October 7th, 2018.

Mayor Arnold indicated the last Farmer's is on 9/27 and the last summer concert was August 28th, 2018 Mr. Gural stated we were looking to nail down the date for the Holiday Tree Lighting and Santa Claus's visit. Mrs. Tait indicated it is usually held on the first Friday in December. Mayor Arnold indicated she thought of making a change and having either a breakfast or lunch with Santa indicating by the time the Fire truck goes thru town and gets back to the Grove to light the tree then over to the community center for the visit with Santa it can be very late for the younger children. Mayor Arnold stated perhaps

the tree lighting and Santa's visit could be done separately. Mrs. Tait indicated there have been some suggestions as to how to control the children and speed up the process. Mrs. Tait stated she was asking all of council to participate and she was meeting with Ms. Sykes regarding some ideas which she has. Mrs. Tait indicated the theme they thought of was "Polar Express" with various controlled stations of projects. Mayor Arnold indicated that's what was done last year. Ms. Weiner indicated it is a Friday night and she did not feel parents were rushing home to get their children into bed. Mr. Yetter indicated we can do the tree lighting on Friday and a separate breakfast with Santa on the following Saturday. Mr. Allmond stated more adults are definitely needed to help with the control of the children. After some additional discussion it was decided it will be December 7th, 2018 and hopefully the park improvement will be complete and we can reopen the park with this event.

Mayor Arnold indicated we have already spoken about the Grove Park Improvements.

Mr. Gural indicated Outdoor Cafes and Dining and Outdoor Furniture Ordinances are in your packets.

Mr. Gural noted they are on schedule for second reading and public hearing on October 1st, 2018. Ms. Weiner inquired if the Land Use Board would be holding their meeting for review of the ordinance. Mr. Gural indicated yes, on Wednesday of this week.

Mr. Gural indicated the discussion regarding Vacant Property Ordinance is for closed session.

Mr. Gural indicated a local business owner is very interested in acquiring that property and entering into a redevelopment agreement with regards to the redevelopment area on Highland Avenue. Mr. Gural indicated there would be additional discussion in closed session.

Mr. Gural stated at the last meeting there was significant discussion regarding the no truck signage on Temple Blvd. Mr. Gural stated he and Chief Pearlman inspected the signage and feel there is significant signage regarding the truck traffic and therefore cannot recommend any additional signage be placed.

Mr. Gural indicated there was discussion regarding the flashing solar LED stop lights after speaking with Chief Pearlman it was decided they could be used at the Charles Street and Park Avenue intersection by the school that would be a safety improvement. The cost of each sign is \$1,750.00 each so if council is amenable we can have those signs placed on Charles Street at Park Avenue for a cost of about \$3,500.00. Mr. Allmond asked is that because it is a new intersection? Chief Pearlman indicated yes. Council agreed and Mr. Gural noted they would work on having them installed.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Gural stated the public hearing was held for 400 Arch Street and the findings should be in from Mr. Kirchner in the next day or so which would then be forwarded to the governing body. Mr.

Rosenberg asked that the Municipal Clerk send copies of the findings report to the property owner and lien holder via regular mail and certified mail when it is received. Mr. Rosenberg indicated it is not necessary to post the property or advertise the findings.

Mr. Gural indicated the new Fire Truck is in New Jersey at the local dealer and is being serviced and checked for delivery. Mr. Gural indicated we should have it soon. Mr. Gural noted the old fire truck did not sell on GOV Deals so shortly we will own two. Mr. Gural indicated we will be listing it again on Gov Deals and reduce the price.

Mr. Gural indicated the plaintiff's attorney withdrew most of the charges regarding the Borough in the Reed V Borough of Palmyra, et al case. Mr. Gural indicated he would have more to share in closed session.

Mr. Gural stated he wanted everyone to be aware that the Edgewater Park EMS donated an ambulance to Tri-Boro EMS. Mr. Gural noted it will not immediately be painted like the traditional EMS vehicle but the PCR EMS logo will be placed on it.

Mr. Gural indicated we will be having the Borough Hall rear roof reroofed in the upcoming days.

Mr. Gural stated the ICMA Conference he request to attend in Baltimore next week he will not be attending.

Mr. Gural indicated EAP (Employee Assistant Program) for Staff with Cooper Hospital which was previously discussed; we are ready to sign the contract. Mr. Gural indicated the cost is about \$35.00 per employee annually and provides short term counseling for various things which may be affecting employees in their personal life and is also a JIF requirement.

Mr. Gural indicated the last Wednesday late night opening of Public Works was September 5th, 2018.

Mr. Gural indicated we are receiving quotes from Hardenberg Insurance for Dental & Vision Plans and hopefully they will be able to save us some money.

Mr. Gural indicated the 2018 Road Improvement Program is a little delayed due to the rain but are hoping to begin soon.

Chief Pearlman stated the Broad Street Striping project should be complete by the end on year if not by the first of next year. Ms. Weiner inquired when the crosswalks are done is that not something which public works can do. Mr. Gural noted indicated sometime we do from some smaller projects however if something is wanted a little more high tech like the thermal plastics it is contracted out, that tends to last much longer and is much brighter. Ms. Weiner indicated at the last meeting Mr. Clark was here regarding some stripping issues and the ramps on various corners, how is something like that done. Chief Pearlman indicated that they had recently sent public works a list. Mr. Gural indicated if we can do it, we get to it when we can, as there are some issues we are currently working out at Public Works. Ms. Weiner asked if the list could be shared with her. Mr. Gural indicated yes.

Mayor Arnold indicated she and Mr. Gural attended a redevelopment conference in Philadelphia.

Mayor Arnold indicated she and Mr. Gural at scheduled to attend a conference, Accelerate land Reuse for Community Revitalization.

Mayor Arnold stated she attended the Harbour Condo Association meeting and thinks they will be reaching out in the near further regarding discussion about Main Harbour Drive.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Yetter – Public Works, Redevelopment and Negotiations – Mr. Yetter stated the Green Team met last week and sent in a draft to Sustainable New Jersey of the items intended to be done for certification. Mr. Yetter stated they discussed the Diversity Survey, the smoking ordinance. Mr. Yetter indicated the public works committee will be meeting with Mr. Gural soon.

Mr. Howard – Youth and Recreation, Public Building, Grounds and Parks – Mr. Howard stated he the Youth and Recreation committee talked about a meeting with the members of the youth organizations regarding the use of Legion Field. Mr. Howard indicated they did not want to change the ordinance without getting some input from those organizations. Mr. Howard indicated public works did a great job lining the fields for football and will be continuing to line the fields for the season. Ms. Weiner indicated someone had asked about the fountain by the tennis courts and thought it would be a fun summer thing for kids to make the fountain kid friendly so kids could play in it. Mrs. Tait indicated there has not been water in it for some time. Ms. Weiner stated the fountain is barely used and if it needed adjusting to make it functional perhaps we could make it kid friendly so kids can play in it.

Ms. Weiner – Administration and Finance, Business and Community development, Homeowner Association – Ms. Weiner indicated the business and Community development committee met last week and discussed a variety of subjects. Ms. Weiner also stated the outdoor decoration which we have had for a very long time and are paying for storage. Ms. Weiner indicated moving forward council may wanted to have a conversation regarding cost and continued storage of those items and many wish to make a decision regarding what to do with them.

Mrs. Tait – Public Safety Committee, Board of Education, Public Events– Mrs. Tait indicated the public safety committee met earlier. Mrs. Tait indicated Mr. Allmond attended the School Board meeting this month. Mrs. Tait inquired if a new tree was purchased last year. Mr. Gural indicated there was some conversation regarding the purchasing of a new tree with lights last year, but would have to follow up to see if that was done. Mr. Gural noted if it wasn't we can purchase a new one.

Mr. Allmond –Communications and Public Relations Committee– Mr. Almond indicated there was nothing new for the communication committee and the Board of Education meeting was short but they wanted to pass along their gratitude for the paving done on 4th Street by public works.

President Russell – Shade Tree Liaison – President Russell indicated she forwarded the name of a person to be added to the Shade Tree Advisory Board, Emma Melvin. President Russell indicated the construction dept. has been quite busy and there have been a lot of issues in town. President Russell stated if someone could notify us that there is a problem, it could be addressed from there. President Russell indicated we are currently looking at 801 Washington Avenue and a home on Morgan Avenue.

Mayor Arnold indicated she had a few other things to discuss. Mayor Arnold indicated one of the contacts we made at the conference in Philadelphia approached us about fabric recycling. Mayor Arnold indicated they have bins similar to donation bids which we talked about placing down at public works. Mayor Arnold indicated she invited the gentleman to attend our next meeting to explain. Mayor Arnold indicated she is working on locating a sister city in either North Carolina or South Carolina who needs some help from the devastating floods which are occurring in those states. Mayor Arnold indicated is looking for a town about the same size as us who really need help; we could get the community involved in trying to help out another community which needs help.

Mayor Arnold asked Mrs. Tait about Palmyra Day and asked if she was there handing out food. Mayor Arnold asked was she there as a Borough person or something else. Mrs. Tait indicated she was just volunteering her time trying to help out in the community.

Mayor Arnold indicated something else has been brought to her attention. Mayor Arnold indicated no one on council has any independent authority anything that's done has to come thru council to be approved. Mayor Arnold indicated that Ms. Weiner asked someone from Bombardi to come to Palmyra and address our areas around the railroad tracks and say that you are the Mayor of Palmyra probably wasn't a good thing. Ms. Weiner asked who Bombardi was. President Russell indicated Bombardi is the company which maintains the burbs and such around the train tracks. Ms. Weiner told Mayor Arnold if she heard something like that she could reach out to her about it at any time. Mayor Arnold stated so if you didn't someone is telling stories.

2nd 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

Mr. Reed– Temple Blvd – Mr. Reed stated everyone had a good time on Saturday at the Porch Music Festival which he thought was great. Mr. Reed indicated the sign on Temple Blvd., VES Board appears to be making people slow down. Mr. Reed asked if anyone was looking into making Temple Blvd more bike friendly as seeing how we are about to make renovations to Temple Blvd this would be the time to do it. Ms. Weiner indicated she would love for Temple Blvd to be more bicycle friendly she inquired in the beginning of this process but was told that was not possible. Mr. Reed stated you all were taking about skateboarders; Temple Blvd is going to be a fun park for them. Mr. Reed stated if you can't make Temple Blvd more bike friendly don't make it more difficult for them by adding the bump outs.

Mrs. Smith – 4th Street– Mrs. Smith stated she noticed on Berkley Avenue where there were problems in the past things appear to be back to normal and she wanted council to know that she noticed and progress is being made. Mrs. Smith indicated there are a couple of crappy houses still on Berkley Avenue and who like for council to come up with an idea of how to sell these crappy houses. Mrs. Smith indicated her main concern is property values. Mrs. Smith stated we have a great town, the things being done with the Green team and recycling are really great innovative things. Mrs. Smith stated we should encourage our people to bicycle around its healthy. Mrs. Smith indicated it would be nice to install in our parks fitness stops. Mrs. Smith stated Temple Blvd could be parking on only one side of the street and a bike lane on the other side. Mrs. Smith indicated there is speeding on Spring Garden Street and the triangle could definitely use some attention. Mrs. Smith indicated she had a dead tree in front of her home which is losing branches and limbs. President Russell asked the address and indicated there is a form on line to fill out and the tree will be look at.

Mrs. Holloway – Broad Street – Mrs. Holloway asked what the Green Team you would do with the 180 points they are trying to obtain. Mr. Yetter indicated that is the number of points we need to be certified

at the bronze level with Sustainable New Jersey, thus making us eligible for various grants. President Russell indicated the key word is sustainable, anything that we can reduce or reuse, not just environment there are programs to get the town involved. Ms. Weiner stated we have been a part of Sustainable New Jersey for some time however some real effort has been put into the program in the last two years. Ms. Weiner stated we received a \$2,000.00 dollars grant just for being part of the program which gave us the funding for advertising and helping to promote that we exist. Ms. Weiner indicated there is a lot of opportunity for greater amounts of grant funding. Mrs. Holloway asked if the community center sign was going to be replaced. President Russell indicated yes. Mrs. Holloway inquired about 515 Race Street. Mr. Gural indicated he was not sure where we are with that property, however told Mrs. Holloway to call him tomorrow and he would have a better understanding of where we are.

Mr. Smith – Van Sant Drive- Mr. Smith indicated he like the idea of the flashing stop signs. Mr. Smith indicated a combination of concrete and pavers in succession, in Grove Park would discourage the skateboarders. Mr. Smith asked if we received permission from PSE & G for the use of the snowflake lights on Broad Street. Mrs. Weiner indicated we are just waiting for the spec sheets to submit the application for approval. Mr. Gural indicated he is working on it. Mr. Smith asked if anyone wanted to share what was going on with the ethics investigation and the Mayor. Mr. Weiner stated we have nothing to report. President Russell indicated we have not received any information yet.

Mr. Rader – Harbour Drive. – Mr. Rader asked if council had identified the alleged ethics violations. Mr. Rader stated it's been 97 days since the services of an Ethics Attorney have been awarded by Borough Council. Mayor Arnold stated she did not think that council could speak to that yet. Mr. Rader stated it is 51 days to the November elections and two seats on Borough Council should be ending soon. After a delay of 97 days with no explanation this agenda should be considered part of the Democratic Party election campaign agenda funded by the Palmyra taxpayers in the amount of \$3,000.00. Political agendas should not be paid for by taxpayers and the \$3,000.00 should be paid by the Democratic Party. Mr. Rader indicated that there are about one thousand homes that boarder on Main Harbour Drive which is not included on the Palmyra road map. Mr. Rader indicated the road is not included in any type of road signage or road striping project but there are one thousand taxpayers paying taxes. How can that be changed? Mayor Arnold indicated this has to do with the ownership of the road. Mayor Arnold noted we have applied for a grant several times, which we have not received, to upgrade the sidewalks and crosswalks making them ADA compliant. Mr. Gural indicated we have applied again as are hopeful that we will receive it, but you must keep in mind; Main Harbour Drive is a private road and is privately owned the Borough does not own the road. There was discussion about ownership of the road, placement of signs, striping the road, the cost to do the work, the taxpayers in that area and the impending grant application. Mr. Rader inquired if a resolution could be done to do the striping of a couple of walkways and some signs on Main Harbour Drive as a courtesy. Mr. Gural indicated we have provided signs in the past to the Harbour Board. Mayor Arnold noted the proper way to handle that would be for the Condo Association to ask for assistance, not saying it would or would not happen, but to ask the Borough for assistance with those things as they are the owners of the road and we cannot just go in and do whatever we want because it is private property. Mr. Gural indicated he was not sure

if the Borough could even go on the property to do the work as it is private property. Mr. Gural indicated that may have to be done by Harbour personnel.

Mr. McElwee – Columbia Avenue – Mr. McElwee noted as President of the War Memorial Committee they had already placed on Facebook that the Veterans Metals are available for Veterans of Palmyra and asked if it could be placed on the Borough's website. Mr. McElwee indicated instead of have a special ceremony perhaps the metal award could be done at a Borough Council meeting in November and suggested November 19th as the date to do that. Mayor Arnold indicated it should be ok. Mr. McElwee indicated he would get back to council in early November. Mr. McElwee stated he was glade we were using the grant money as there may not be grant money available next year. Mr. Gural noted there was a conversation regarding when the grant opened up again we could apply to do some improvements at the War Memorial. Mr. McElwee indicated they had someone who could write a proposal. Mr. Gural indicated we have professionals who can handle that and know exactly what to write to get the best results. Mr. McElwee stated he attended the public hearing regarding 400 Arch Street and our Solicitor is a great job; however he realized neither the homeowner nor the lien holder were present and were going to do anything with the property which means the Borough is going to have to pay to take the property down. Mr. Gural noted if the Borough has to take the property down we will lien the property for the cost.

Mr. Smith– Van Sant Drive– Mr. Smith inquired when Van Sant Drive would be repaved as it is sinking down in some of the areas where work was done. Mr. Gural noted it is not in the 2018 road project but will be include in the 2019 improvement project schedule, he also indicated they had been speaking with PSE&G about the repaving of those roads. Mr. Yetter indicated public works will check on the sinking.

No one else 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 AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Arnold indicated due to the lateness of the hour and still having to go into closed session for discussion of some pending matters we will forgo the council comments tonight.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve **Resolution 2018–2130** Mr. Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2018–230, Resolution Excluding the Public from Certain Meetings pursuant to section 89 of the Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P.L. 1975 regarding **Personnel, Litigation, Contracts**. 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

Resolution 2018-230 is approved

Borough Council went into closed session at 10:00 pm

Closed Session

Borough Council returned from closed session at 10:49 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

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

All voted in favor of the motion

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Doretha R Jackson

Municipal Clerk