

Borough of Palmyra
Council Caucus Meeting Minutes, 7:00 PM
Monday December 2nd, 2019

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 7:13 PM

ROLL CALL

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

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

Mayor Arnold read the following: OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

Public Notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given

By the Municipal Clerk in the following manner:

- Posting written notice on the official bulletin board at the Palmyra Borough Hall on January 11th, 2019.
- Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post Newspaper on January 11, 2019.
- Notice to All Council Members.

Invocation was given by Reverend Jimmy Lindsay.

Mayor Arnold stated on the day of the General Election there was some question regarding the residency of Council President Timothy Howard. Mayor Arnold stated it was confirmed that Mr. Howard does not reside at 600 W 6th Street where he signed an affidavit indicating that he did reside there in Apt B. Mayor Arnold stated the building is vacant and there was an eviction process which was completed and he has not resided there since March of 2019. Mayor Arnold explained a challenge was filed at the general election challenging his right to vote. Mayor Arnold indicated he filed a response indicating his address was 600 W 6th Street and he resided in Apt B, which was not true. Mayor Arnold noted that all paperwork was submitted to the county board of elections for them to take appropriate action. Mayor Arnold stated, "Given all of that she respectfully request, that Council President Howard step down and not attend the Brownfield Conference, until this can be resolved."

President Howard asked if she wanted a vote on the matter as paperwork has been submitted to the county which we have not heard back from.

Mayor Arnold indicated the county challenger has confirmed all the information which was just relayed to council.

Mrs. Russell asked Mayor Arnold if she had documentation of that information.

President Howard stated "that is not part of this meeting, at all".

Mayor Arnold stated it had to do with Mr. Howard having the authority to conduct Borough business. President Howard indicated he had the authority and until she could prove otherwise we should move forward and conduct Borough business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 18th, 2019– Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve the minutes from the, Regular Council Meeting Minutes of November 18th, 2019 with the changes noted by Mayor Arnold. Mrs. Tait second the motion.

At the call of the roll the vote was.

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

NAYES: None

November 18th, 2019, 2019 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve the minutes from the Executive Session Meeting of November 18th, 2019. Mrs. Tait second the motion.

At the call of the roll the vote was.

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

NAYES: None

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Arnold acknowledged the following correspondence.

Letter- Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti NJ Department of Transportation

E-mail – Allie Rossignol- Palmyra Democratic County Committee

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATION

Chief Pearlman indicated the Citizens Police Academy is run once a year from September thru November and really gives insight into what the police department actually does. Chief Pearlman indicated this is year four for the Academy. Chief Pearlman, Lt. Campbell, Public Safety Director, Gina Tait and Mayor Arnold gave certificates to and congratulated the following graduates.

Tom McElwee

Mr. Tom McElwee presented Chief Pearlman and the department with a plaque and thanked them for their efforts.

Jen Rawlins

Win Garrison

Sharon Clark

Jeff Clark

Carol Foell

Kathleen Rix

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Arnold then read to following proclamation into the record.

SUPPORTING THE DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER 2019 YEAR END HOLIDAY CRACKDOWN

Whereas, approximately one-third of all fatal traffic crashes in the United States involve impaired drivers; and

Whereas, impaired driving crashes killed 10,551 people in the United States in 2018; and

Whereas, impaired driving crashes cost the United States almost \$44 Billion a year; and

Whereas, during the past five years New Jersey's roadways experienced 36,778 crashes and 679 fatalities involving impaired drivers; and

Whereas, an enforcement crackdown is planned to combat impaired driving; and

Whereas, the yearend holiday season is traditionally a time for social gatherings which include alcohol; and

Whereas, the State of New Jersey, Division of Highway Traffic Safety, has asked law enforcement agencies throughout the state to participate in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2019 Year End Holiday Crackdown; and

Whereas, the project will involve increased impaired driving enforcement from December 6, 2019 through January 1, 2020; and

Whereas, an increase in impaired driving enforcement and a reduction in impaired driving will save lives on our roadways;

Therefore, be is resolved that the Borough of Palmyra declares its support for the

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2019 Year End Holiday Crackdown from

December 6, 2019 through January 1, 2020 and pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving.

Whereas, an increase in impaired driving enforcement and a reduction in impaired driving will save lives on our roadways;

Therefore, be is resolved that the Borough of Palmyra declares its support for the

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2019 Year End Holiday Crackdown from

December 6, 2019 through January 1, 2020 and pledges to increase awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Arnold then asked for a motion to open the Public Portion. Mrs. 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

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

All members present voted in favor of the motion.

RESOLUTIONS Consent Agenda

Mayor Arnold indicated Resolution **2019-251 to Resolution 2019-273** 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. Mayor Arnold asked if anything needed to be removed. There were no requests to remove any resolutions.

Resolution 2019-251, Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Checks from Borough of Palmyra Municipal Court General Account

Resolution 2019-252, Resolution Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Checks from the Borough of Palmyra Municipal Court Bail Account

Resolution 2019-253, Resolution Authorizing the Chief Finance Officer to Pay Vendor Bills during the Month of December 2019

Resolution 2019-254, Resolution Requesting Approval of Item of Revenue and Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87(chapter 159) 2019 Drive Sober or Get Pulled over Year End Holiday Crackdown in the amount of \$5,500.00

Resolution 2019-255, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra Authorizing Cancellation of Unexpended Balances of Improvement Authorizations

Resolution 2019-256, Resolution Approving Andrew Gula as an Active Member of the Palmyra Fire Department.

Resolution 2019-257, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 99 Lot 14 in the amount of \$650.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-258, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 29 Lot 13 in the amount of \$575.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-259, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 20 Lot 11 in the amount of \$725.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-260, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 87 Lot 16 in the amount of \$425.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-261, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 1 Lot 7 in the amount of \$800.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-262, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 94 Lot 26 in the amount of \$800.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-263, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 63 Lot 2 in the amount of \$975.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-264, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 126 Lot 12 in the amount of \$575.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-265, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 68 Lot 9 in the amount of \$775.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-266, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 62 Lot 5 in the amount of \$200 .00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-267, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 74 Lot 20 in the amount of \$200.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-268, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 3 Lot 11 in the amount of \$200.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-269, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 104 Lot 7 in the amount of \$200.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-270, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 89 Lot 12 in the amount of \$275.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-271, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 130 Lot 11 & 12 in the amount of \$950.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-272, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington Authorizing a Lien be placed on Blk. 81 Lot 13.01 in the amount of \$550.00 for Failure to Comply with Obnoxious Growth and Property Maintenance Violations

Resolution 2019-273, Resolution Supporting the Borough of Palmyra's and Palmyra Improvement Association's Application to the Community Foundation of South Jersey's Initiative Transform South Jersey Community Heart and Soul Program.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda Resolutions 2019-251 thru Resolution 2019-273. Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolutions 2019-251 thru Resolution 2019-273. President Howard seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None

Resolution 2019-251 thru 2019-273 were approved.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

PRESENTATION

Ashley Griffiths from Habitat for Humanity explained the Neighborhood Revitalization Program which Habitat for Humanity launched over one year ago, which works in conjunction with the “Rock of Block” event. Ms. Griffiths explained the “Rock the Block” event which Habitat for Humanity is promoting and indicated she would be working with the PIA and Central Baptist Church on the event. Ms. Griffiths noted the event will be April 25th, 2020 in conjunction with the PIA’s Clean-up Day and should include the blocks from Horace Avenue to Race Street on 4th Street and 5th Street. Ms. Griffiths left her contact information for anyone interested in participating. There was some additional discussion regarding the project and participants.

Mayor Arnold and various members of the governing body announced the following upcoming events: Red Sand Project regarding Human Trafficking scheduled for December 14th, 2019 at 12:00.

Ms. Weiner indicated the Palmyra High School Band Annual Craft Fair is December 7th, 2019 at 10:00 am. Ms. Weiner also noted the PIA Winter Market was held this past weekend and was a great event.

Mrs. Russell indicated the National Honor Society induction is December 3rd, 2019 at Palmyra High School. Mrs. Russell noted the Palmyra high School concert choir performance in on December 12th, 2019. The PIA fundraiser concert is December 14th, 2019 at Central Baptist Church and the Charles Street School Winter Concert is December 18th, 2019. Mrs. Russell also thanked Ms. Weiner for all her work and efforts during her time on Borough Council.

PUBLIC REMINDERS

No public reminders where noted.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Arnold indicated the Tree Lighting will be held on Friday December 7th, 2019 and Santa should arrive at Chief Payton Flournoy Park about 7:00 pm. Mrs. Russell asked council if they would consider having professionals come in and put up the tree, light up and decorate Chief Payton Flournoy Park, Borough Hall and the Community Center. Mrs. Tait thanked Mrs. Sykes and Mr. Howard for coming out with the students to decorate the tree in the bandshell.

Mayor Arnold indicated the MLK Day of service will be held on Monday January 20th, 2020.

Mayor Arnold indicated the crossing guards are not available for the students on half days coming from the high school, they only cover Charles Street on the half days. Mayor Arnold indicated she asked Chief Pearlman and he indicated it would take additional funding to have crossing guards out for the high school on half days. Mayor Arnold asked him to provide the information for the upcoming budget.

Mayor Arnold indicated the business meeting scheduled for December 16th, 2019 was cancelled by the governing body.

Old Business

Mr. Gural update the governing body regarding the Transform South Jersey Grant/ Heart & Soul application which is due Friday December 6th, 2019. Mr. Gural indicated everyone is working on it so it will be submitted as required.

Mayor Arnold indicated she emailed the paver company to see what their availability was for the nineteen pavers which need to be placed and engraved. Mayor Arnold indicated she was trying to have them done before the holidays. Ms. Weiner asked if the font size of the Mayors brick and the placements could be addressed when they come out. Mr. Howard asked that council be notified when the date was given so everyone would know what was happening, when.

Mr. Gural indicated Mr. Rosenberg and he were in the process of making changes to the Palmyra Riverfront Municipal Services Act agreement for salting/brining. Mr. Gural indicated nothing new to report currently.

Mr. Gural indicated the fire department has always decorated the light poles however this year we wanted to move in another direction. Mr. Gural indicated we will only have snowflakes this year and look for something different earlier next year. Mr. Gural indicated all the corn stalks should be down now.

Mrs. Russell inquired about the status of the wall plaques for Tony's Barber shop. Mayor Arnold indicated they just need to be ordered. Mrs. Russell asked if the information could be handed over to someone so it could be taken care of in the budget for next year. Mayor Arnold indicated it was already in the budget. Mr. Gural stated there was no time left this year to address those plaques. Mrs. Russell asked if the information could be given to Mr. Gural so council would not have to begin all over again.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gural stated the Elected Officials Liability Seminar will be held on Thursday, December 5th, 2019 at O'Connor's in Eastampton.

Mr. Gural indicated the transition to Office 365 is complete and so far is working great.

Mr. Gural again noted the Reorganization Meeting will be held January 4, 2020 at 11:00 AM.

Mr. Gural again noted we received the \$250,000 grant for road improvements on 5th from Arch to Delaware and Race from 4th to 6th from the Municipal Aid Program.

Mr. Gural stated the court date to formalize the COAH Settlement with Special Mt. Laurel Court Master and Fair Share Housing Center is scheduled for late January 2020. Our COAH obligation is 116 units.

Mr. Gural indicated the requests/worksheets for the 2020 budget are due December 16th, 2019.

Mr. Gural indicated the 2020 RFPs/RFQs for professional services are due December 6th by 2:00 PM.

Mr. Gural noted the Palmyra Ambulance Squad signed an agreement with Riverside Township.

Mr. Gural noted the BAN sale proposals are due December 16th, 2019.

Mr. Gural stated Reed v Borough of Palmyra et al has finally been resolved in the Borough's favor and all charges have been dismissed and the Borough has no liability.

Mayor Arnold made the following Land Use Board appointments:

Lew Yetter is moving to the vacant regular seat and Kenneth Keisler is being appointed to a regular vacant seat, David Confer is appointed as an alternates. Ms. Weiner stated she was happy to see Mayor Arnold finally appoint members to the Land Use Board but she felt it should have been done some time

ago as it was holding people up from being able to be seen by the board because there was not enough people to hear applications submitted. Ms. Weiner indicated this was a disservice to those who wished to be heard. There was some additional discussion regarding the timing of the appointments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Arnold then asked for a motion to open the Public Portion. Mrs. 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. Yetter- Garfield Avenue – Mr. Yetter stated that perhaps we would get volunteers to help with the lighting for the park. He indicated perhaps we could collect donations of lights to decorate the park. Mr. Yetter indicated perhaps that could be looked into before a lot of money was spent. Mr. Yetter asked if we anticipated some disputing our number for COAH. Mr. Rosenberg indicated that is unknown.

Mrs. Rossignol – Washington Avenue – Mrs. Rossignol indicated she has resided in Palmyra since she was 5 years old, she attended Charles Street School, graduated from Palmyra High School and now has two children in the school district. Mrs. Rossignol indicated she participates in many volunteer opportunities in town but tonight she is here in regards to her role as chairperson to the Palmyra Democrats Club. Mrs. Rossignol stated recently the club held an event to raise money for school supplies to be donated to Charles Street School. She indicated after meeting with school officials the club purchased and donated food for children. Mrs. Rossignol stated hunger can have physical and psychological effects on young people that make learning difficult. Mrs. Rossignol stated Mayor Arnold initiated a meeting with the school superintendent to complain about the fund raiser. Ms. Rossignol noted the mayor personally believed there to be a misappropriation of funds even though all proceeds raised were for supplies to be donated directly to the school to accomplish the exact mission of the event. Mrs. Rossignol stated she failed to see the connection between the Mayor's duties as Mayor and a private fundraiser by their group. By misusing the access to the superintendent provided by the Mayor's current position as Mayor to discuss this issue, which is clearly not Borough business, you (the Mayor) abused the powers of your office. Mrs. Rossignol indicated she is exhausted, indicated she works full time in center city and has two children and she is spending as much time as she can to make Palmyra a great place to live. Mrs. Rossignol stated it was unsettling to her that the Mayor was putting her personal grievances and politics above the needs of our neighbors, all while trying to actively dismantle all the good things that other people have worked so hard on. Your actions may well be the end of these donations, not because of impropriety but because no one else has the time or energy to fight this battle the way you do. Why do you think it's appropriate to use your office as Mayor to oppose donations to hungry children in our community? Is it because the Democrats made the donation? Hunger and poverty have no political party and I expect more Palmyra Pride from our elected officials.

Mayor Arnold noted that if Mrs. Rossignol would like to have a conversation to know the truth she would be happy to have a conversation with her.

Mr. Alturo – New Jersey Avenue – Mr. Alturo indicated he wished to complain about the potholes on New Jersey Avenue. He inquired if council had any idea of when they would be filled. Mr. Gural indicated the Borough is eliminating the pump station on Public Road and re-piping everything to the

New Jersey Avenue pump station. Mr. Gural indicated part of that project is to completely reconstruct New Jersey Avenue which will be taking place next year in 2020.

Mrs. Taylor– Leconey Avenue– Mrs. Taylor indicated three times in the last two years she has almost gotten into an accident at the corner of 4th and Leconey Avenue. Mrs. Taylor indicated it is a two way stop. She indicated she has notified the residents at the house on the corner that they are blocking the ability to see by parking large cars directly on the corner. Mrs. Taylor indicated she has notified the police department. Mrs. Taylor asked if two curbs could be painted disallowing parking that close to the intersection or can stop signs be placed at all four corners. Chief Pearlman indicated he would take a look at it but it probably would not meet the need for a four way stop. Chief Pearlman indicated he could work with public works to have the 25ft of curb from the corner painted yellow.

No one else from the public wishing to be heard, Mrs. 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

Mrs. Russell thanked everyone for coming out and again thanked Ms. Weiner for her service to the community. Mrs. Russell wished all a safe and happy Holiday.

Mrs. McCann also thanked Ms. Weiner for all her help and service

Ms. Weiner stated it has been a wonderful experience and she has enjoyed working with all of you. Ms. Weiner indicated she was grateful for the experience and was glad it was over.

Mrs. Tait wished everyone a safe and happy holiday and noted she looked forward to what can be done next year.

Mr. Allmond – no comment

President Howard wished all a happy holiday and thanked everyone for coming out. President Howard stated we are here to conduct Borough business. President Howard stated misappropriation of funds came into question regarding an order placed for a \$50,000.00 piece of equipment for the Borough; that's borough Business, a fundraiser given by a club for school donations has nothing to do with Borough business. President Howard indicated the problem which we have been encountering all along is the Mayor using her position and privileges in places which they don't belong. President Howard indicated we are her to work with and for our residents. President Howard asked that the information which council needs to continue to move forward with various projects, he hopes the Mayor will forward to someone, hopefully Mr. Gural, so those projects may proceed. President Howard noted the Borough is owed about \$824.00 from the Mayor, for not turning in the appropriate receipts from various trips. President Howard asked the Mayor to take care of that prior to her leaving. President Howard stated Ms. Weiner did a great job on a lot of projects, noting the Farmers' Market and the Green Team she and Mr. Yetter started and spearheaded.

Mayor Arnold stepped down from the dais, she indicated she wanted to share some of the things which have been implemented and accomplished in the past four years with the help of the staff, professionals, and Borough Council. Mayor Arnold stated she wanted to thank Ms. Weiner for her work and contributions and noted she would be missed. Mayor Arnold stated when she first got involved in

Borough Council she saw a need for improvement and that's why she stepped up to make positive changes in Palmyra. Mayor Arnold noted the following as somethings which have been accomplished. improvements to Borough Hall, installed security cameras thru out Borough Hall, the community and the Community Center, updated the phones system, we got out of the state mandatory oversight of the sewer department and are functioning very well now. Mayor Arnold noted many road improvements have been made and we still have a lot to do. Mayor Arnold stated went have received millions of dollars in grants, noting in 2019 we received 1.1 million dollars in grants for road improvements. Mayor Arnold stated we received the TAP grant which is going to help with the Temple Blvd road project which is also going to help with the flooding issues on Temple Blvd. Mayor Arnold indicated we have less vacant store fronts now and a lot of new business have come to Palmyra. Mayor Arnold stated the community garden was reinstated. The town wide yard sale we from 20 to 30 participants to over one hundred twenty participants. Mayor Arnold indicated the Borough has established the recreation trust fund and hired staff to make sure the property is secured and being taken care of by the users of the facility. Mayor Arnold noted the accordion door was installed along with the emergency back-up generator. Mayor Arnold stated the project was finished with the unexploded munitions. Mayor Arnold stated property values in the Borough have increased due to the improvement we have made. Mayor Arnold noted the many community outreach events she has participated in. Mayor Arnold noted the two new properties built on the old Vets building with the help of Habitat for Humanity. Mayor Arnold noted the various committees and groups she has served on and the relationships that have been established with other communities and other governmental agencies to benefit Palmyra. Mayor Arnold noted the Redevelopment Agreement which is now in place for the Southside of Rt. 73. Mayor Arnold indicated she, Mr. Rosenberg and Mr. Gural negotiated a \$300,000.00 lien on the Fillit property which is currently playing very well in the process of obtaining the Fillit property for the redevelopment. Mayor Arnold noted abandoned and vacant properties was something she address early on and now we have a person in place who is responsible for keeping the list of abandon and vacant properties. Mayor Arnold noted two properties have been demo as they were eyesores in town. Mayor Arnold spoke about cannabis and the possibilities once approved by the State. Mayor Arnold spoke about the improvements made to the Promenade and the Chief Payton Flournoy Sr. Park and noted the application pending at the County for the Veterans Memorial Park improvements. Mayor Arnold spoke about the extended hours at public works on Wednesday nights. Mayor Arnold noted the cups and mugs she purchased for Borough Hall to help with the Green initiative and eliminate the plastic and paper cups; also having water coolers installed in Borough Hall, Community Center to slow down/eliminate single use water bottles. Mayor Arnold stated the electronic and textile recycling was also instituted in the Borough. Mayor Arnold noted the energy aggregation program the Borough enrolled in. Mayor Arnold spoke about the Heart and Soul Grant application currently being work on and applied for, hoping for a positive outcome. Mayor Arnold spoke about the costal initiative of Mayors who are working on flooding issues with FEMA and the Army Corp of Engineers. Mayor Arnold noted the sum-pumps the Borough purchased for residents to borrow and the placement of piezometer wells to monitor the water table within the Borough of Palmyra. Mayor Arnold stated we have a fabulous team in Palmyra, noting the administration, staff, and the first responders and professionals that are here every day making sure that everything is done the way that it should be and that they take care of the residents of Palmyra.

Mayor Arnold stated there are three things she has kept in mind during her time as Mayor, keep an open mind, an open heart and open arms. Mayor Arnold noted some of the decisions she has made have not been popular but none the less had to be made, as that was her job. Mayor Arnold indicated it has been an honor and privilege to serve as Mayor of the Borough of Palmyra. She noted she would be around to assist in any way possible and she hoped that all the program that have been initiated move forward and benefit everyone in the future. "God Bless the Borough of Palmyra and its residents."

Mayor Arnold asked Mr. Rosenberg and Mr. Gural if there was something for closed session. Mr. Rosenberg indicated yes.

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to approve **Resolution 2019-274**. Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-274, Resolution Excluding the Public from Certain Meetings pursuant to section 89 of the Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P.L. 1975 regarding **Negotiations/litigation**. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None

Borough Council went into closed session at 8:50 pm

Closed session

Borough Council returned from closed session at 9:07 PM

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

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

All voted in favor

Mayor Arnold asked for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Russell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, President Howard seconded the motion.

All members present voted in favor on the motion

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Doretha R Jackson

Municipal Clerk