

Borough of Palmyra
Virtual Special Council Meeting Minutes
Monday February 8th, 2021 at 6:30 pm

The Regular Council Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra was called to order by Mayor Tait at 6:36 PM

ROLL CALL

At the call of the roll:

PRESENT: Brandon Allmond, Michelle McCann, Bernadette Russell, President Timothy Howard, Mayor Gina Ragomo Tait

ABSENT: Laura Cloud, Farrah Jenkins

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

Mayor Tait read the following into the record:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., and in consideration of Executive Order No. 103, issued by Governor Murphy on March 9, 2020, declaring a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency in the State of New Jersey and in response to Executive Order No 196 issued by Governor Murphy on November 16, 2020. Please be advised the Borough of Palmyra does hereby notify the public that to protect the health, safety and welfare of our citizens while ensuring the continued functioning of government, the meeting of the Mayor and Council will be a Virtual Council Meeting. Members of the public are invited to “attend” the Virtual Council Meeting but all members of the public participating in the meeting may be muted and their video image disabled. Notice of this meeting was published in the Burlington County Times on February 5th, 2021. Notice was posted on the Municipal Door, Official Bulletin Board, and electronic signs on February 3rd, 2021. Notice was also posted on the Borough of Palmyra Website on February 5th, 2021 and notice was given to all Council Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Tait requested a motion for approval of the February 1st, 2021 Council Caucus Meeting Minutes President Howard made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 1st, 2021 Council Caucus Meeting Minutes. Mr. Allmond second the motion.

At the call of the roll the vote was:

INFAVOR: Mr. Allmond, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Russell, President Howard

AGAINST: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried

Mayor Tait requested a motion for approval of the February 1st, 2021 Executive Session Meeting Minutes. Mr. Allmond made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 1st, 2021 Executive Session Meeting Minutes. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll the vote was:

INFAVOR: Mr. Allmond, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Russell

AGAINST: None

ABSTAIN: President Howard

Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

Municipal Clerk, Ms. Jackson acknowledged the following correspondence received:

Resignation Letter – Mark Rex

Resignation Letter – Brian Stoval

Mayor Tait requested a motion to accept the resignation letters of Mr. Rex and Mr. Stoval. President Howard made a motion to accept the resignation letters of Mr. Rex and Mr. Stoval. Mrs. Russell second the motion.

At the call of the roll the vote was:

INFAVOR: Mr. Allmond, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Russell, President Howard

AGAINST: None

Motion Carried

REDEVELOPMENT

Rt. 73 South Redevelopment Area- Update

Mr. Gural stated the bankruptcy filled by Fillit is ongoing in federal court. Mr. Gural noted all other updates need to be discussed in executive session.

Outlaw Training & Fitness/620-622 Highland Ave Redevelopment Project – Update

Mr. Gural indicated he received an email from the redeveloper, Outlaw fitness indicating he is going to start improvements on the project. Mr. Brewer stated the trial on the valuation of the property was set to occur on February 22, 2021, however due to the COVID-19 situation it was adjourned to April 19th, 2021.

Redevelopment Study Block 80 Lot 6, former Knights of Columbus property- Update

Mr. Gural indicated the Redevelopment Plan adoption is on the agenda tonight and Mr. Gerkins will be giving an update during the professional update portion of the meeting.

PROFESSIONAL UPDATES

Mrs. Jenkins joined the meeting at 6:48 pm

Dave Gerkens - CGPH

Mr. Gerkens read his report into the record:

OVERVIEW OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

This redevelopment plan is for the property at 321 East Broad Street in Palmyra Borough, which you may know as the former Knights of Columbus property. The property is about one-half acre in size. The building was constructed in approximately 1925 and contains approximately 4,000 square feet over two floors. For the past few decades, it has served as a social club for the Knights of Columbus Lodge with rooms configured for such limited purpose: on first floor there is a large open foyer, 2 Large Meeting Rooms and both a men's and ladies rooms. On the 2nd Floor is a large space used as a banquet room/bingo hall. And in the full basement is a bar and a restaurant style kitchen, used for catering events. As permitted in the Town Center zone, residential use is permitted on the second floor of a building with a commercial (or other uses as permitted in the TC zone) on the first.

This building however is: (1) not configured for such use, (2) undersized for such multiple uses and (3) has a parking lot too small for such multiple uses. In fact, none of the TC permitted uses, including continued use as a social or fraternal organization, have materialized for this building. Recent property websites have marketed the property as a warehouse. The property's small size (one half acre), the undersized structure itself and its outdated design as evident in the dated configuration of its floors and uses within have rendered the structure obsolete. Furthermore, the building has been vacant for almost two years and is showing signs of dilapidation per the recent inspection. Given the design and layout of the building, it has limited potential for adaptive reuse. It is a goal of Palmyra's Master Plan to protect residential areas from encroachment by commercial and industrial uses. Accordingly, any reuse of the property should be compatible with as well as enhance the residential districts that exist on both sides of the Study Area. Additionally, the lot (and obsolete building) also serve as a gateway into the Borough and is the first parcel that residents and visitors see as they travel west on Broad Street into Palmyra. Redevelopment of this property in a manner that promotes the economic vitality, and the fully productive utilization of land would serve to address another of the stated goals of the Palmyra's Master Plan Reexamination Report. Therefore, the Borough pursued a condemnation area in need of redevelopment designation for the property, allowing Palmyra to take the property if no reuse proves economically feasible. As with the former PNC Bank, this would provide Palmyra with the best opportunity to ensure that the property is redeveloped and to facilitate the adaptive reuse the following uses are permitted (in addition to the current permitted TC zone uses):

Textile art facilities

Craft breweries and brewpubs

Distilleries

Restaurants

Health and Fitness Centers

Restaurants

Bakeries

Professional and medical offices

At the last meeting of the governing body, publicly owned green space, playground, community garden and passive recreation facility was added to the list of permitted uses in case reuse proves to not be feasible. There will be funding available from the Green Acres program in 2021 which could assist the Borough in acquiring the parcel and converting it into green space and creating a gateway into Palmyra on Broad Street.

William Kirchner, ERI

Mr. Kirchner indicated there are four resolutions on the agenda tonight which are as follows:

Resolution 2021-81, which is for Coastline Construction and is a decrease in the amount of \$14,603.00 for the Sanitary Sewer Replacement/ Public Road Pump Station Elimination Project. Mr. Kirchner indicated the project is almost complete and we are no longer using the Public Road pump station. Mr. Kirchner stated there is still a portion of Public Road which must be milled and paved which will occur when the weather breaks.

Resolution 2021-88, awarding a contract to Environmental Resolutions, Inc. (ERI) for the Engineering Design Services and Construction Services for the Charles Street, Hubbs Drive, Park Avenue also Henry Street and Walnut Street in the Amount of \$20,000.00, with the intent of working with New Jersey American Water and DOT on the milling and paving of those streets.

Resolution 2021-89 awarding a contract to Environmental Resolutions, Inc. (ERI) for the Engineering services for the work on Spring Garden Street, which is part of the DOT grant, in the amount of \$80,500.00. Mr. Kirchner indicated the work is from Park Avenue to Walnut Street including the island. Mr. Kirchner stated the Borough received a grant from DOT in the amount of \$350,000.00.

Resolution 2021-96, which is a change order for Think Pavers Hardscaping, LLC in the amount of \$26,792.64, an increase from the original base price for the 2020 Road Improvement Project bringing the total to \$372,930.64. Mr. Kirchner stated, with the increase we are still well within the original estimate of \$460,000.00. Mr. Kirchner indicated all the concrete work has been completed on the project and the paving was completed by New Jersey American Water Co. on Pear and Walnut Streets. Mr. Kirshner stated the asphalt patching has been completed on Oregon, Virginia and Maryland Avenues noting some asphalt patching still needs to be done on Second and Leconey, stating the Water Company will be paving Second and Maryland and our contractor will be paving Virginia, Oregon and Leconey when the weather breaks.

Mayor Tait asked when Temple Blvd will begin. Mr. Kirchner stated the construction company has worked out the traffic control plan with the Palmyra Police department and have made application to the county for traffic control approval and are waiting to hear back from them and the weather to

change. Mayor Tait inquired about the 5th Street project. Mr. Kirchner indicated again they are waiting on the weather and the school to determine when the children are going to be in the school building.

James Winckowski, CME

Mr. Winckowski stated that on the agenda tonight the governing body would be introducing the new stormwater control ordinance. Mr. Winckowski indicated it is an update to the stormwater ordinance on file noting the regulations are enforced by the state and they require the municipalities to adopt them. Mr. Winckowski indicated the changes included some changes of green infrastructure and design standards a developer would have to follow when doing new construction/development incorporating things that are more eco=friendly. Mr. Winckowski noted, as required by the state, the ordinance has to go into effect on or about March 3rd, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENT

We requested those participants wishing to have or make a Public comment, email their questions or comments in advance to Municipal Clerk Rita Jackson at djackson@boroughofpalmyra.com. The opportunity to submit comments prior to the meeting expired at 12:00 PM on Monday February 8th, 2021.

All comments will become part of the record and included with the Meeting Minutes. For those who “attended” the Virtual Meeting, Mayor Tait opened the meeting to the public for comments. All comments should be limited to no more than (2) two minutes. All comments will become part of the record and included with the Meeting Minutes.

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to open to the Public for comments Mrs. Russell made a motion to open the public portion for comments. President Howard second the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion Carried

Mayor Tait asked Ms. Jackson if any comments were received before the meeting.

Ms. Jackson indicated the following comments were received prior to the meeting.

Mr. Rader – Harbour Drive

There’s been negative comments made about the proposed location of the Affordable Housing Community as part of the RT 73 redevelopment. There is an area adjacent to warehouse # 1 designated as open space that would be better suited to construct a residential housing community. It would be closer to the Rt 73 access at Kerbeck's. It would be closer to the Pennsauken train station via walking trails. It would increase the distance from commercial traffic. It would improve access for police and fire protection. It would still be within the proposed boundary of the redevelopment area and would be facing open space not the back of warehouse #2 and could be considered as a future recreational site for ALL Palmyra residents.

Mr. Clark- Columbia Avenue

This is a follow-up to my message from January's council meeting. I wanted to thank John and Tracy for the activity related to last week's storm. Most of the issues were resolved with sidewalk snow in the addresses that were contacted. I would like to know if residents on corner lots are responsible for the curb cut ramps ending at the curb? Who is responsible for clearing a path in the street? Last week it took 4 days for most corners to have a safe street crossing. The current weather pattern of back-to-back storms will cause great difficulty as a pedestrian.

Thank you

Mayor Tait asked if the ramps are required to be cleared by the homeowner. Mr. Gural indicated residents are responsible for the sidewalks. The ramps are not referenced in the ordinance and were installed after the ordinance was put into effect. Mr. Gural stated if council wanted to make the homeowner responsible for the ramps and or clearing the snow into the street the ordinance would need to be updated. Mr. Gural indicated the street is clearly not the homeowner's responsibility it belongs to the Borough and we do not have the ability to clear every crosswalk in the Borough. Mayor Tait asked if there were any additional comments from those present.

No one from the public wishing to be heard, Mayor Tait asked for a motion to close the Public Portion. President Howard made a motion to close the public portion, Mrs. Russell second the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion Carried

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING public hearings to be held March 1, 2021

Mayor Tait read the following, **Ordinance 2021-1** An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey resending Chapter 236 "Stormwater Management" Ordinance 2006-11, of the Code of the Borough of Palmyra and replacing with New Chapter 236, "Stormwater Control Regulations"

Mayor Tait requested of motion to approve Ordinance 2021-1. Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-1. President Howard seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

INFAVOR: Mr. Allmond Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Russell, President Howard

AGAINST: None

Motion carried. Ordinance 2021-1 was approved on first reading.

Ordinance 2021-2 An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington and the State of New Jersey Adopting The "Redevelopment Plan" for Block 80 Lot 6 Former Knights of Columbus Site, Dated January, 2021, in Accordance with the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law N.J.S.A. 40A: 12A-7 et seq.

Mayor Tait requested of motion to approve Ordinance 2021-2. Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-2. President Howard seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

INFAVOR: Mr. Allmond, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Russell, President Howard

AGAINST: None

Motion carried. Ordinance 20201-2 was approved on first reading.

Ordinance 2021-4, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey to Exceed the 2021 Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Mayor Tait requested of motion to approve Ordinance 2021-4. Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-4. President Howard seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

INFAVOR: Mr. Allmond, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Russell, President Howard

AGAINST: None

Motion carried. Ordinance 2021-4 was approved on first reading.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Tait stated Resolutions **2021-79** thru **Resolution 2021-85**, **Resolution 2021-88** thru **Resolution 2021-92** and **Resolution 2021-94** thru **2021-98** would be enacted as a single motion, if any resolution needed additional discussion it would be removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately. Mayor Tait asked if any resolutions needed to be removed from the consent agenda. Seeing none, Mayor Tait read the following resolutions into the record:

Resolution 2021-79, Resolution Appointing Kelly Grant, Esq., of Malamut & Associates as Special Counsel/COAH Attorney

Resolution 2021-80, Resolution Authorizing Mayor Gina Ragomo Tait to Execute the Agreement with the Burlington County Department of Public Works, Division of Mosquito Control

Resolution 2021-81, Resolution Awarding Change Order #2 to Coastline Construction, LLC for the Sanitary Sewer Replacement/ Public Road Pump Station Elimination Project Resulting in a Decrease Amount of \$14,603.00 for a New Adjusted Contract Price of \$886,730.50

Resolution 2021-82, Resolution Authorizing Refund Due to Approved Veterans Deduction for Block 152 Lot 9.02 Qualifier C4405 in the amount of \$250.00

Resolution 2021-83, Resolution authorizing the payment to John Wright for Sewer pipe Cleanout due to blockage at 606 Washington Avenue in the amount of \$58.37

Resolution 2021-84, Resolution Authorizing Contact Persons for the Employment Practices Liability Attorney Consultation Service of Burlington County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

Resolution 2021-85, Resolution Rejecting all proposals for Financial Consultant and to reissue revised Request for Proposals/Qualifications to reflect current requirements

Resolution 2021-88, Resolution Awarding A Contract to Environmental Resolutions, Inc. (ERI) for the Engineering Design Services and Construction Services for the Charles Street, Hubbs Drive, and Park Avenue Improvements – Addition to Public Road Pump Station Elimination Project per their Proposal dated December 15, 2020 in the Amount of \$20,000.00

Resolution 2021-89, Resolution Awarding a Contract to Environmental Resolution, Inc. (ERI) for Engineering Services per their Proposal dated December 15, 2020 in the amount of \$80,500.00

Resolution 2021-90, Resolution Approving Participation with the State of New Jersey Federal Grant Program Administered by the Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety

Resolution 2021-91, Resolution Appointing Jarmilla Sheppard, Joyce Alessandro, Michael Humes as Crossing Guards for the Borough of Palmyra Effective February 1, 2021

Resolution 2021-92, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of January bills in the amount of \$1,776,151.81.

Resolution 2021-95, Resolution Authorizing the Finance Officer to Pay Vendor Bills During the Months of February 2021.

Resolution 2021-96, Resolution Awarding Change Order #1 to Think Pavers Hardscaping, LLC for the 2020 Road Improvement Project with the increased amount of \$26,792.64 from the Original Base Price of \$346,138.00 making new adjusted contract price \$372,930.64 Per Environmental Resolutions, Inc. request dated January 26, 2021.

Resolution 2021-97, Resolution Authorizing Partisipation in the Burlington County Cooperative Pricing System, #4-BUCCP 2021-2025 and authorizing the Mayor to execute agreement.

Resolution 2021-98, Resolution Certifying Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's Enforcement Guidance on the consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve the consent agenda Resolutions **2021-79 thru Resolution 2021-85, Resolution 2021-88 thru Resolution 2021-92 and Resolution 2021-94 thru 2021-98**. Mr. Allmond seconded the motion.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

INFAVOR: Mr. Allmond, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Russell, President Howard

AGAINST: None

Motion Carried, Resolutions 2021-79 thru Resolution 2021-85, Resolution 2021-88 thru Resolution 2021-92 and Resolution 2021-94 thru 2021-98 were approved.

Mr. Gural introduced new Tax Clerk Amanda Schwartz to the Governing Body.

Mr. Gural stated that the governing body has another meeting scheduled for next Tuesday February 16th, 2021 as Monday February 15th, 2021 is a holiday; he noted that all up-to-date necessary items were placed on this agenda so if the governing body so desired that meeting could be cancelled. The governing body agreed and therefore cancelled the meeting of February 16th, 2021.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Gural indicated the Borough Hall staff is back to everyone working in the office regular hours. Mr. Gural stated there is no plan to reopen to the public yet. Mayor Tait indicated during her monthly call with the Governor's office she inquired about reopening the fields. Mayor Tait stated the fields could be opened however the only ones permitted to be on the fields are the team players, coaches and referees no spectators or parents. There was some discussion and Mayor Tait noted it would be up to the Police department to police the fields and make sure only the appropriate people are on the fields. Council agreed that the fields can be open for practice prior to March 1st, weather permitting for players and coaches only. Mayor Tait noted no shovels on the field to clear snow. Mr. Gural indicated President Howard had done some work on the field ordinance prior to covid-19 noting he would get the information out to the committee so that they could working on the changes for possible adoption in March.

Mr. Gural stated that the first negotiation was held with the police association regarding the Collective Bargaining Agreement last Thursday and the update was provided to the governing body. Mr. Gural stated a follow-up meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2021.

Chief Campbell indicated everyone received Patrolman's Stoval's resignation letter, noting that two patrolman openings have been posted on the website.

Chief Campbell indicated she has reached out to LifeLock regarding identity theft and SSN protection and will return with additional information once she has more information from them.

Mr. Gural indicated the new RFP/RFQ for Financial Consultant will be posted on our website and we hoping to appoint the financial consultant at the March 1st, 2021 meeting.

Mr. Gural indicated that we cannot require employees to get the covid-19 vaccination.

Mr. Gural stated our wellness coordinator, Mrs. Nagle resigned in December. Mr. Gural explained the JIF sponsored program noting the Mrs. Kilmer is our safety coordinator. Mr. Gural stated we do need a wellness coordinator and he would ask amongst the staff and have a name for Council to appoint to that position at the next meeting.

Mr. Gural indicated there was discussion regarding vacation carryover last year, and we did try our best to encourage employees to take their vacations, however due to staffing shortages and with everything going on last year with covid-19 and trying to keep the municipality running some were just unable to use all the time they had allotted. Mr. Gural noted it was his intention with the approval of the governing body to allow the carry over of that vacations time, noting that for many most of the time was used. Council agreed.

Mr. Gural indicated current policy requires that purchase orders must be signed off by Council. Mr. Gural stated if they are not signed in a timely manner it affects our ability to pay bills. The policy adopted in 1964 requires the chairman of the committee to sign however given where we are any signature will do. Mr. Gural noted the policy can be changed. Mr. Gural noted all the vouchers are listed on the bill list and council reviews that list and votes on its approval. Mayor Tait indicated she would come in and sign everything that is currently waiting so it will be up to date.

Mayor Tait stated we are working on the parking and are hoping to have it on the agenda soon. There was some discussing regarding getting it passed. Mr. Gural indicated he would forward what was done before to the governing body so they would have the latest version of the changes.

Mr. Allmond indicated he had the draft design of the improvements and is still waiting for estimates to move forward noting he also wanted to speak with the War Memorial Committee to get their input before moving forward with the Veterans Park improvement project.

Mayor Tait indicated we investigated the Sober Living Residence when we were made aware that it was running and the individual from the State indicated the person running the residence complied with everything required by the state to open the residence. Mayor Tait noted that we asked the Chief of Police to keep a record of the calls to that residence so that we can let the state know what is going on at that residence and if it is becoming a nuisance to the community. Chief Campbell indicated they were two residences. Mayor Tait indicated she would talk with the state again as we were told there was only one.

Mr. Rosenberg stated we are awaiting final decisions from the State regarding Cannabis. Mr. Rosenberg indicated that although the State has passed the referendum regarding recreational use there has been no final determination as to its regulations and or implementation of procedures as to how to move forward. Mr. Rosenberg indicated we should wait for further instructions from the state.

Mr. Gural indicated the YMCA had been in contact with him regarding the possibility of running the Summer Camp program. Mr. Gural indicated that he did not feel that it was a possibility as the Community Center is still closed to the public. Mr. Gural indicated that if the governing body felt the same, he would notify them that we would not be having the summer camp program this year.

Council agreed.

Mr. Gural indicated that the cares act expired. Mr. Gural stated the governing body had approved a special allotment of sick time related to covid-19 for Borough employees. Mr. Gural noted that time span for that covid-19 sick time has also expired. Mr. Gural asked, given that the pandemic is still ongoing, that the covid-19 sick time be allocated again. Mr. Gural requested one week. Council agreed. Mayor Tait asked if the 2021 Budget Workshop on Saturday March 27, 2021 at 8:00 am would he held vis zoom. Mr. Gural indicated yes. Mr. Gural stated we would get all the information that they would normally have to everyone one prior to the meeting and would encourage everyone to ask as many questions as they can prior to the meeting.

Mr. Gural stated with Mr. Rex's resignation public works now has a vacancy. Mr. Gural stated he will begin advertising for the position.

Mr. Gural indicated the Annual Financial and Debt Statements were just posted on our website. Mr. Gural indicated we are currently using Swift 911 however the County has changed to Civic Ready Reverse 911 emergency alert system, noting that Mr. Dreby indicated it is available for our use for emergency public safety related notification matters. Mr. Gural noted when the contract expires, in September of 2021 with Swift 911, we will use the Civic Ready system.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Gural stated that PSEG notified us last year that they would no longer pay the \$39,000.00 Special Franchise Tax which they had been paying. Mr. Gural noted it is a revenue lost however stated that they indicated they would not be going back trying to recoup the monies they previously paid, there is no basis for them to pay that fee, as it was their mistake to pay it over the years.

Mr. Gural stated Comcast renewed their franchise in Palmyra and sent us the check.

Mr. Gural indicated we are always looking for crossing guards so if someone knows anyone who might be interested, please have them contact Chief Campbell.

Mr. Gural indicated the pet waste and water pollution flyer was included with the pet license renewals and is a requirement of our stormwater ordinance.

Mr. Rosenberg indicated that a tentative trial date has been set for Roto Cylinders Tax Appeal. Mr. Rosenberg indicated he, Mr. Gural, Mr. McMahon, and Mr. Hogue would be working together on our case for trial.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mrs. Russell- no comment

Mrs. Jenkins – no comment

Mr. Allmond -no comment

Mrs. McCann thanked Public Works for their efforts with the snow removal.

President Howard thanked public works, the Police department and Fire department for all their efforts with getting us thru the past two storms. President Howard also thanked the residents for clearing their sidewalks after the storms.

Mayor Tait stated we received a certificate from the U.S. Census Bureau which reads as following;

The U.S. Census Bureau recognizes The Borough of Palmyra as an invaluable member of the 2020 Census Community partnership and engagement program. We appreciate the efforts you made in making the partnership program a success and helping to achieve the successful 2020 Census.

Mayor Tait indicated a new family is moving into town as Habitat for Humanity will be turning over the keys to one of the new houses on Front Street.

Mayor Tait indicated if you do not have access to the internet and you want to schedule your vaccination, you can call 855-568-0545, the vaccine hotline, to schedule an appointment. Mayor Tait asked Mr. Gural to put it on the website and noted she would speak with the ladies in the office and make sure they had the number just in case residents should call and ask who to contact. Mayor Tait

stated she indicated in her State of the Borough address that she wanted to get the “neighbor to neighbor program” started so that everyone would know who is on their block and in their town. Mayor Tait indicated she spoke with Mr. Allmond and Mrs. McCann regarding the program noting she would like to recognize long time residents, business owners and the like who have been here for many years. Mayor Tait indicated the first one is ready they are waiting for a picture noting it would feature Mr. Charlie Pratt. If anyone has any ideas, please forward them to her. Mayor Tait indicated the new resident booklet is almost ready to go just waiting for a few other things to come in. Mayor Tait stated we received our new COVID-19 numbers and Palmyra is up to 400 cases. Mayor Tait noted the Palmyra Sun newspaper highlighted Andrew Yansick and Elizabeth Lake our PHS student representatives.

Mayor Tait asked Mr. Gural and Mr. Rosenberg if there were items for closed session. Mr. Gural and Mr. Rosenberg indicated yes, negotiations and contracts.

Resolution 2021-94 Resolution Excluding the Public from Certain Meetings Pursuant To Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act C. 231 P. L. 1975 for matters relating to:

Contracts, Negotiations Regarding Rt 73 South Redevelopment, Potential Litigation

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Resolution 2021-94. Mrs. Russell made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-94. President Howard second the motion.

At the call of the roll, the vote was:

INFAVOR: Mr. Allmond, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Russell, President Howard

AGAINST: None

Into closed at 8:07 pm

Out of closed at 9:08 pm

Mayor Tait requested a motion to open to public. Mr. Allmond made a motion to open to the public. President Howard second the motion.

All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion Carried

Mayor Tait noted a new non-profit business opening in town called “Tears”.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Doretha R Jackson, RMC

Municipal Clerk

Approved: March 1st, 2021 *DRJ*