

**BOROUGH OF PALMYRA**  
**REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 4:00 PM**

The Annual Reorganization Meeting of Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra was called to order by Mayor Gina Tait at 4:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a moment of silence.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT**

Mayor Tait then read the following open public meetings statement into the record:

Public Notice of this meeting has been given by the Municipal Clerk in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice on the Official Bulletin Board at the Palmyra Borough Hall on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
2. Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, Courier Post newspaper on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
3. Notice to all Council Members.

Natashia Latimore was sworn in as Councilmember of the Borough of Palmyra for a 3-year term by Ted Rosenberg, Bible held by Kaylah Latimore her daughter.

John Liebe was sworn in as Councilmember of the Borough of Palmyra for a 3-year term by Ted Rosenberg, Bible held by his wife, Meg Liebe.

**The new Council was then convened with a roll call:**

**PRESENT:** Dr. Laura Cloud, Natashia Latimore, John Liebe, Michelle McCann, Timothy Howard, Mayor Gina Ragomo Tait

**ABSENT:** Brandon Allmond

**Mayor Tait requested a motion to open the floor for nominations for Council President.**

Dr. Cloud made a motion to open the nominations. Mr. Howard second the motion.

Dr. Cloud nominated Timothy Howard for Council President.

Hearing no more nominations, Mayor Tait asked for a motion to close the nominations.

Dr. Cloud made a motion to close the nominations. Mr. Liebe second the motion.

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to accept the nominee, Timothy Howard as Council President. Dr. Cloud made a motion to accept the nominee Timothy Howard as Council President. Mr. Liebe second the motion.

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

**INFAVOR: Dr. Cloud, Ms. Latimore, Mr. Liebe, Mr. Howard, Mrs. McCann**

**AGAINST: none**

**Motion Carried**

Congratulations to Mr. Howard our new Council President.

**Mr. Howard was sworn in as Council President of the Borough of Palmyra Council** by Mr. Ted Rosenberg, bible held by Michelle Robinson.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DIGNITARIES**

Mayor Tait acknowledged Mary Cruz from Congressman Donald Norcross's office and the former Mayor Michelle Arnold.

#### **STATE OF THE BOROUGH ADDRESS - Mayor Gina Ragomo Tait**

Mayor Tait stated it has been another challenging year coming out of covid-19 and its variants and trying to keep our residents as safe as possible.

Mayor Tait stated that various road construction projects were completed in 2022 which included work on Rowland Street from Cinnaminson Avenue to Parry, Henry Street from Cinnaminson Avenue to Parry, Wallace Avenue from Parry to Garfield, Wallace from Garfield to Morgan and Oak Avenue from Cinnaminson to Walnut. Mayor Tait noted that 5<sup>th</sup> street was completed from Delaware Avenue to Arch Street, in front of the High school and a grant was obtained to reconstruct 4<sup>th</sup> Street (behind the school) from Delaware Avenue to Race Street. Mayor Tait indicated that project should happen this year during the summer. Mayor Tait thanked Bill Kirchner for the great job he does managing the road construction projects.

Mayor Tait stated that after numerous negotiations the Borough has hired additional manpower to help the volunteer fire company with calls during the day.

Mayor Tait stated that redevelopment has been a main focus, noting that the first warehouse has received a temporary certificate of occupancy; triggering the beginning of the pilot payments. Mayor Tait stated the second warehouse is should be under construction soon

noting that she would keep all updated as it progressed. Mayor Tait stated the redeveloper of the old PNC building, Outlaw Investment Group, LLC has received conditional site plan approval from the Land Use Board and should begin construction soon. Mayor Tait stated the Knights of Columbus building, purchased by Elm Office, LLC are submitting site plan/renovation plans to the Land Use Board for approval.

Mayor Tait noted that with help from the Burlington County Health Department the Borough was able to host several covid-19 clinics and a flu clinic for the residents of Palmyra for free. Mayor Tait also noted the Virtua Mobile Grocery store which has been in town in front of the Community Center on Thursdays from 2-3:30.

Mayor Tait stated that public events are getting back into the swing of things, noting the hosting of the Rabies clinic, Easter Egg Hunt, Palmyra Day, Juneteenth Celebration, Community Garden, Halloween Parade and Santa visit with the Tree lighting all held in 2023. Mayor Tait also noted the conjoined effort with Senator Singleton's office to give away approximately five hundred coats to children in the community.

Mayor Tait stated that we are currently interviewing for staffing in the Community Center with hopes of having it again completely available for public use.

Mayor Tait noted the combined effort with the 15<sup>th</sup> Precinct of the Philadelphia Police Department to deal with the noise coming out of the park across the river. Mayor Tait stated a neighborhood/town meeting is being set up soon to again address those issues.

Mayor Tait stated on of the major issues which faced the Borough last year was the problems with Republic and trash collection. Mayor Tait noted that we are under contract with Republic until 03/31/2023 and the new contract negotiated will take us out to 2026. Mayor Tait stated that to get out ahead of some of the collection problems we are currently facing we have purchased two new trash trucks and are learning the process collection. Mayor Tait stated it will take some time to learn the process but we are committed and are in the process of hiring employees and will start with one small section of town and add as we learn.

Mayor Tait stated she was looking to do more with the Mayor's Advisory Board and is looking for more volunteers would like to address the needs of the Borough.

Mayor Tait asked anyone interested in volunteering to help with any organization to call or email her so she can put you in touch with the appropriated people for various organizations. Mayor Tait indicated she is hopeful about the new year and looking forward to working together with Borough Council to do the best for the Borough of Palmyra and our residents in 2023.

## CORRESPONDENCE

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

Letter- John Sacco, State Forester- Department of Environmental Protection  
Municipal Clerk, Jackson read the resignation letters and mails submitted by  
Patrolman, Joseph Randazzo, Public works employees, James Brett and Matthew Kuhn.

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to accept resignation letters of Patrolman Joseph Randazzo, James Brett and Matthew Kuhn.

President Howard made a motion to accept the resignation letters of Patrolman Joseph Randazzo, James Brett and Matthew Kuhn. Dr. Cloud second the motion.

Borough Council voted in favor of the motion to accepted the letters of resignation.

## PUBLIC PORTION

The public portion is for discussion on resolutions or other items listed on the agenda, or any other matter you desire to share with the governing body. 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](mailto:djackson@boroughofpalmyra.com). The opportunity to submit comments prior to meeting expired at 12:00 PM on Thursday January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. 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.

President Howard made a motion to open the public portion for comments. Dr. Cloud second the motion.

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

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

Municipal Clerk, Ms. Jackson indicated no comments were received.

Mayor Tait asked if there were any comments from those present.

**Mrs. Arnold- Oregon Avenue** – Ms. Arnold stated “You have managed to eliminate the public from this meeting by holding it on Friday afternoon at 4:00 pm.” Ms. Arnold stated that she did not understand why Mr. Howard was appointed Council President as there was legal action brought against the Borough in which Mr. Howard was named and she did not feel it

was an appropriated action for the governing body to take. Ms. Arnold inquired if two minutes was all the time the public was allotted to speak at a public meeting, noting that Council doesn't really want to hear from the public. Ms. Arnold stated she was very interested in knowing what the committee appointments were going to be and we have not gotten to the portion yet. Ms. Arnold noted that because there was only one public portion, she would not be able to make any comments regarding that matter or any of the resolutions currently on the agenda. Ms. Arnold suggested that council go back to two comment portions one prior to the resolution and one after the resolutions.

No one else wishing to make a comment Mayor Tait requested a motion to close the public comment portion. President Howard made a motion to close the public portion. Ms. Latimore second the motion.

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

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS - NEW BUSINESS**

Public Events - MLK Jr. Day of Service- Monday January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Mayor Tait noted the Movie Night being held in the Community Center at 6:00 pm. Mayor Tait indicated the movie being shown is "Selma" depicting Dr. Martin King's march for equality in Alabama.

Mayor Tait then announced the following and President Howard read the various appointments into the record:

#### **A. Council Committees Appointments 2023**

Mayor

**Gina Ragomo Tait**

Committee Chair:

Public Safety & Municipal Court; Redevelopment & Negotiations; Public Events

Borough Council

**Timothy Howard**

**Public Safety Director**

Committee Chair:

Committee Member: Public Works & Sewer; Youth & Recreation; Public Buildings, Parks & Grounds; Redevelopment & Negotiations; Communications & Public Relations; Public Events; Public Safety & Municipal Court; Administration & Finance

**Brandon Allmond**

Committee Chair:

Committee Member: Youth & Recreation, Public Works & Sewer; Public Buildings & Grounds; Communications & Public Relations; Public Events; Board of Education Co-Liaison, Veterans Affairs

**Michelle McCann**

Committee Chair:

Committee Member: Public Works & Sewer, Redevelopment & Negotiations, Youth & Recreation, Communication & Public Relations, Public Buildings, Grounds & Parks, Public Safety & Municipal Court, Public Events, Veterans Affairs

**John Liebe**

Committee Chair:

Committee Member: Administration & Finance; Construction/Housing/Code Enforcement; Business Community & Development; Green Team; Public Events, Veterans Affairs

**Natashia Latimore**

Committee Chair:

Committee Member: Administration & Finance; Construction, Housing & Code Enforcement; Business and Community Development; Public Events; Board of Education Co-Liaison

**Laura Craig Cloud**

Committee Chair:

Committee Member: Business Community and Development; Construction, Housing & Code Enforcement; Green Team; Public Events; Land Use Board Liaison- (Class II Member) Shade Tree Commission Liaison

\*\*\*\* Palmyra Harbour Condo Association and Riverfront Homeowners Association Liaisons will be the entire governing body. (Schedule to be determined for Association’s monthly meetings)

**B. Mayor’s Annual Appointments -All appointments expired December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

Human Resource Officer	John Gural
Hearing Officer for Non-Uniformed Employees	John Gural
Deputy Registrar	Amanda Schwartz
Tax Search Officer/ Alternate Registrar	Tanyika Johns
Municipal Lien Search Officer/Fair Share Housing Officer	Doretha R Jackson
Housing Official/ Housing Inspector	Tracy Kilmer

Zoning Officer	Tracy Kilmer
Construction Codes Inspections and Housing Supervisor	Tracy Kilmer
Acting Abandoned Property List Public Official	Tracy Kilmer
Public Agency Compliance Officer	Donna Condo
Secondary Human Resources Officer	Donna Condo
Board of Health Coordinator	Rebecca Flynn
Tree Officer	
Shade Tree Secretary	Linda Yansick
Storm Water Management Coordinator	John Gural
Clean Communities Coordinator	Allan Berg
Recycling Coordinator	Allan Berg
Palmyra Police Chaplain	Charles Soper
Palmyra Police Chaplain	Wesley Allen
Palmyra Police Chaplain	Ella Graham
Hearing Officer Uniformed Employees	
Emergency Management Coordinator	Richard K. Dreby
1 <sup>st</sup> Deputy Emergency Mgmt.	Tracy Kilmer
2 <sup>nd</sup> Deputy Emergency Mgmt.	John Skowronski
3 <sup>rd</sup> Deputy Emergency Mgmt.	Ronald Lindemuth
Fire Chief	Alan Zimmerman
Deputy Fire Chief	Michael Stokes
1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion Chief	Howard Dreby
2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion Chief	Richard Dreby
Fire Police Captain	Natalie Fries
Fire Police Lieutenant	Teree Bankowski
Fire Police	Keith Gindville
Fire Police	Dale Palmer
Fire Police	James Teesdale
Fire Chaplin	David Confer

**C. Annual Citizen Committee Appointments -2023**

**LAND USE BOARD**

Laura Cloud, Council Rep. Class III Member	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23
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John Gural, Borough Official Class II Member	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23
Charmaine Belton IV	4 years	01/01/23	12/31/26

**SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD**

Laura Cloud - Council Rep	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23
Andrew Lehrian	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23
Tim Kaluhiokalani	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23

**GREEN TEAM**

Bernadette Russell	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23
Laura Cloud	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23
Wendi Wence	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23
Lewis Yetter	1 year	01/01/23	12/31/23

**MAYOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Maureen Brzycki  
 Kim Robinson  
 Sandra Purnell  
 Sheryl Butler-White  
 Carol Vento  
 Ruth Yetter  
 Loretta Kelly  
 Nancy Meyers  
 Joan Byran  
 Mindie Weiner

**Rt.130 DELAWARE RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN ENDORSEMENT COMMITTEE**

Allie Rossignol  
 Josh Ormand  
 Loretta Kelly  
 Jessica O'Connor  
 Gina Tait



**D. Notice of Annual Borough Council Caucus Meeting and Regular Meeting Dates**

**PUBLIC MEETINGS DATES FOR BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR 2023**

All such meetings to be held on the first Monday (**Caucus Meeting**) and third Monday (**Regular Meeting**) of each month, unless otherwise noted due to a holiday. Meetings shall be held at 6:30 P.M., unless indicated with \*\*\*, in which case those meetings shall begin at 5:30 P.M. All meetings may be held virtually or in Borough Hall at 20 West Broad Street, Palmyra, New Jersey 08065. Information regarding how any specific meeting will be held will be posted on the Borough of Palmyra website prior to the meeting date. Any and all business involving the Borough may be discussed. Formal official action may be taken at such meetings. At those meetings, the governing body may adopt a resolution to retire into closed session for the purpose of discussing qualified exemptions from the Open Public Meetings Act. The Borough Council, immediately following closed session will resume with the general business of the meeting and formal action may then be taken. The public is welcomed to attend and speak at any meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey.

February 6, 2023

February 21, 2023 (Tues)

March 6, 2023

March 20, 2023

April 3, 2023

April 17, 2023

May 1, 2023

May 15, 2023

June 5, 2023 \*\*\*

June 19, 2023

July 17, 2023

August 21, 2023

September 18, 2023

October 2, 2023

October 16, 2023

November 6, 2023 \*\*\*

November 20, 2023

December 4, 2023

December 18, 2023

Be it further resolved; the Annual Budget Workshop Meeting Shall be held on Saturday March 25, 2023 at 8:30 am.

At any time, the governing body may adopt a resolution to retire into closed session for the purpose of discussing qualified exemptions from the Open Public Meetings Act. The Borough Council, immediately following closed session will resume with the general business of the meeting and formal action may then be taken. The public is welcomed to attend and speak at any meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey.

## RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Tait stated, Resolution 2022-1 thru Resolution 2022-63 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 anything needed to be removed. Mayor Tait read the following resolutions into the record:

1. **Resolution 2023-01**, Resolution to Confirm Council Committee Appointments
2. **Resolution 2023-02**, Resolution to Confirm Mayor's Annual Appointments
3. **Resolution 2023-03**, Resolution to Confirm Mayor's Annual Citizen Appointments
4. **Resolution 2023-04**, Resolution Approving the Borough of Palmyra Official Caucus and Regular Monthly Public Meeting Dates for the Borough Council for 2023
5. **Resolution 2023-05**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Ted Rosenberg, Esq., as Municipal Solicitor.
6. **Resolution 2023-06**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Alexis B Batton, Esq of Archer & Greiner, PC. as Special Counsel/Bond Attorney.
7. **Resolution 2023-07**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Armando Riccio, Esq. as Special Counsel/Labor Attorney for Burlington County Municipal JIF related matters and Non-Police matters.
8. **Resolution 2023-08**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Robert N. Wright, Esq. of Malamut & Associates, LLC as Special Counsel/Conflict Attorney.
9. **Resolution 2023-09**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Andrew Brewer, Esq. of Maraziti Falcon, LLP as Special Counsel/Municipal Redevelopment Attorney.
10. **Resolution 2023-10**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Robert P. Nehila Jr., of Bowman & Company LLP, as Municipal Auditor
11. **Resolution 2023-11**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of William Kirchner of Environmental Resolutions Inc., (ERI) as Municipal Engineer
12. **Resolution 2023-12**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of William Kirchner of Environmental Resolutions Inc., (ERI) as Municipal Sewer Engineer
13. **Resolution 2023-13**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Kim M Whelan and Jennifer G. Edwards of Acacia Financial Group, Inc. as Municipal Financial Consultant
14. **Resolution 2023-14**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Gregory R. Valesi of Consulting & Municipal Engineers (CME) as Special Projects Engineer
15. **Resolution 2023-15**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of David Gerkens of Community Grants, Planning and Housing, (CGP&H) as Municipal Planner/Grants Coordinator.

16. **Resolution 2023-16**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Community Grants, Planning and Housing, (CGP&H) as Municipal Affordable Housing/RCA Administrator.
17. **Resolution 2023-17**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Daniel M Rosenberg, Esq. of Rosenberg & Associates, LLC., as Municipal Public Defender.
18. **Resolution 2023-18**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment Brian E. Turner, Esq., and/or Daniel Gee, Esq., of Malamut & Associates, LLC as Municipal Prosecutors.
19. **Resolution 2023-19**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of any/all other Municipal Prosecutors in Burlington County, as Substitute Prosecutor
20. **Resolution 2023-20**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Christopher J Powell of Hardenbergh Insurance Group as Insurance Consultant/ JIF Risk Management Consultant and Authorizing JIF Risk Management Consultant Agreement
21. **Resolution 2023-21**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Mark Ruderman, Esq. of Ruderman & Roth, LLC. as Special Counsel/Labor Attorney for Police matters/Collective Bargaining Agreement Negotiations
22. **Resolution 2023-22**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Carmen Saginario Jr., Esq. of Capehart Scatchard. as Special Counsel/Labor Attorney for General Labor Matters
23. **Resolution 2023-23**, Resolution Appointing Evan H.C. Crook., Esq., of Malamut & Associates as Special Counsel/Ethics Attorney
24. **Resolution 2023-24**, Resolution Appointing Kelly Grant, Esq. of Malamut & Associates as Special Counsel/COAH Attorney
25. **Resolution 2023-25**, Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute Contracts with All Appointed Professionals After Review and Approval by the Solicitor and the Chief Financial Officer.
26. **Resolution 2023-26**, Resolution Appointing John Gural as Administrator for The Borough of Palmyra
27. **Resolution 2023-27**, Resolution Appointing John Gural as Burlington County JIF Fund Commissioner and JIF Claims Coordinator
28. **Resolution 2023-28**, Resolution Appointing Doretha R Jackson as Burlington County JIF Alternate Fund Commissioner and Wellness Coordinator
29. **Resolution 2023-29**, Resolution Appointing Tracy Kilmer as Burlington County JIF Safety Coordinator.
30. **Resolution 2023-30**, Resolution Appointing John Gural and Doretha Jackson as DOT/CDL Designated Employer Representatives
31. **Resolution 2023-31**, Resolution Appointing Stephen Falicki as seasonal custodian employee for Legion Field Complex

32. **Resolution 2023-32**, Resolution Appointing Dale Palmer as Part-Time Supervisor Public Buildings and Grounds
33. **Resolution 2023-33**, Resolution Appointing Sara Ercolono, Howard Dreby, Barbara Zeyher, Ellen Adams, Jarmilla Sheppard, Delia Spiker, Daniel Mahoney and Joyce Alessandro as Crossing Guards for The Borough of Palmyra for 2023.
34. **Resolution 2023-34**, Resolution Appointing Borough of Palmyra Fire Department 2023 Members/Firefighters
35. **Resolution 2023-35**, Resolution Appointing the Borough of Palmyra Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) Members
36. **Resolution 2023-36**, Resolution Appointing Frank Billingere as part-time Code Enforcement Officer not to exceed 28 hours per week
37. **Resolution 2023-37**, Resolution Appointing Philip Opalski as part-time Housing Inspector, Fire Inspector and RCS Building Inspector not-to-exceed 16 hours per week.
38. **Resolution 2023-38**, Resolution Appointing Michele Sykes as part time Community Center/Facilities scheduling coordinator not to exceed 28 hours per week.
39. **Resolution 2023-39**, Resolution Appointing George Moore as Part-time Public Buildings and Grounds employee not to exceed 28 hours per week
40. **Resolution 2023-40**, Resolution appointing Donna Condo as Alternate Contact Person for the Burlington JIF Employment Practices Liability Attorney Consultant Service
41. **Resolution 2023-41**, Resolution Appointing Ron Holt as Fire Inspector
42. **Resolution 2023-42**, Resolution Designating the Burlington County Times and the Courier Post as the Legal Newspapers and GovDeals.com as the Legal Auction Site for Vehicles and Property.
43. **Resolution 2023-43**, Resolution Authorizing the 2023 Temporary Budget Appropriations.
44. **Resolution 2023-44**, Resolution to Approve 2023 Temporary Debt Service for the Borough of Palmyra in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey
45. **Resolution 2023-45**, Resolution Approving a Cash Management Plan for The Borough of Palmyra.
46. **Resolution 2023-46**, Resolution Fixing the Rate of Interest to Be Charged on Delinquent Taxes, Sewer Payments and Assessments
47. **Resolution 2023-47**, Resolution Authorizing the Tax Collector to Cancel Debits and Credits of \$10.00 or Less for Tax and Sewer Payments
48. **Resolution 2023-48**, Resolution Authorizing the Tax Assessor to file Rollbacks, Assessments, Added and Omitted Tax Appeals and Assessor's List of Corrections and Errors on behalf of the Borough of Palmyra

49. **Resolution 2023-49**, Resolution Awarding a contract to New Jersey Animal Control, LLC for 2023 Animal Control Services, subject to the Solicitor's review and the Chief Financial Officer's Certification
50. **Resolution 2023-50**, Resolution Awarding 2023 Maintenance Contract for Sewage Treatment Plant to Municipal Maintenance Company, Inc. in the amount of \$339,445.00, subject to the Solicitor's review and Chief Financial Officer's certification
51. **Resolution 2023-51**, Resolution Awarding 2023 On-Call Contracting Services Contract to Neri's Construction & Rentals, Inc. in the amount of \$568,007.00 subject to the Solicitor's review and the Chief Financial Officer's certification
52. **Resolution 2023-52**, Resolution Rejecting Bids for Sewerage Treatment Plant & Pump Station Debris Removal Contract for 2023
53. **Resolution 2023-53**, Resolution Awarding the 2023 HVAC Maintenance Contract to Air Systems Maintenance in the amount of \$29,620.00 subject to Solicitor's review and the Chief Financial Officer's certification
54. **Resolution 2023-54**, Resolution Awarding the 2023 Transportation and Disposal of Sludge Contract to Wind River Environmental DBA FRANC Environmental, Inc. in the amount of 0.1254 per Gallon, subject to the Solicitor's review and the Chief Financial Officer's certification
55. **Resolution 2023-55**, Resolution Awarding a Contract to Eastern Environmental, LLC for the 2023 & 2024 Tree Service Contract Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 thru December 31<sup>st</sup>,2024, Subject to the Solicitor's review and Chief Financial Officer's certification
56. **Resolution 2023-56**, Resolution Awarding the 2023 Generator Preventive Maintenance Contract to Industrial Diesel Power, Inc. in the amount of \$8,800.00 Subject to the Solicitor's Review and the Chief Financial Officer's Certification
57. **Resolution 2023-57**, Awarding the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Contract to Republic Services, Inc.
58. **Resolution 2023-58**, Approving a Settlement between the Borough of Palmyra and FOP/PPA
59. **Resolution 2023-59**, Resolution Awarding the 2023 Palmyra Sewerage Treatment Laboratory Testing Contract to Eurofins QC, LLC in the amount of \$7,239.00 subject to the4 Chief Financial Officer's Certification
60. **Resolution 2023-60**, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra Authorizing a Date Sharing Agreement Between the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs and the Borough of Palmyra Authority

61. **Resolution 2023-61**, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of December bills in the amount of \$1,903,912.68
62. **Resolution 2023-62**, Resolution Authorizing the Chief Finance Officer to Pay Vendor Bills during the Month of January 2023.
63. **Resolution 2023-63**, Resolution Authorize the execution of a Settlement Agreement in the Action Entitled Borough of Palmyra V Active Realty Company Profit Sharing Plan, DKT. No BUR-L-22-32-19

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Resolutions 2023-1 thru 2023-63. President Howard made a motion to approve Resolutions 2023-1 thru 2023-63. Mrs. McCann seconded the motion.

**At the call of the roll:**

**INFAVOR: Dr. Cloud, Ms. Latimore, Mr. Liebe, Mrs. McCann, President Howard**

**AGAINST: None**

**Motion Carried. Resolutions 2023-01 thru 2023-63 were approved**

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY**

**President Howard** – President Howard congratulated the newly appointed members and stated he looked forward to working with them. President Howard welcomed back the returning council members noting he was excited about working with them for another year. President Howard noted that it is funny how a black man can be accused of something, not found guilty of anything but still presumed guilty anyway; in the same light in this country right now, a person with evidence against them being guilty, could have been found guilty, but wasn't charged because of their color so they feel as though they didn't commit a crime. Some people committed many crimes against the Borough but because they didn't prosecute you, you feel like you didn't commit any crime. President Howard noted that people can say whatever they want in the streets and during campaigns. President Howard stated that he has done nothing wrong and has been on council fighting for our town and making sure we have the best for our town. President Howard noted it was a great job negotiating with the fire department to get the additional help needed. President Howard stated he was excited about the redevelopment and the up coming year. President Howard congratulated Mayor Tait on the job she has done over the past three years.

**Dr. Cloud** – Dr. Cloud welcomed John and Latashia to Council and noted she was standing 100% behind Mr. Howard as president and congratulations on a job well done. Dr. Cloud noted she was

looking forward to working with everyone and with working with the Shade tree Committee this year.

**Mrs. McCann** – Mrs. McCann congratulated the new council members and President Howard noting that she was looking forward to the remainder of her term and this new year.

**Ms. Latimore** – Ms. Latimore stated she was happy to be back. Ms. Latimore indicated she was behind Mr. Howard one hundred and ten present. Ms. Latimore thanked Mayor Tait, Dr. Cloud, President Howard, and Ms. McCann for their help when she came to council and noted she was excited about the next three years and is ready to work and do some good for Palmyra.

**Mr. Liebe** – Mr. Liebe congratulated Ms. Latimore and expressed his excitement about being apart of this board. Mr. Liebe indicated he was looking forward to working with the council, mayor, professionals and Borough staff to do great things.

**Mayor Tait** – Mayor Tait indicated she has worked with Mr. Howard for eleven years and they have put in a lot of hard work for the Borough, Mayor Tait noting that you see their faces around town. Mayor Tait asked council to let her know which meetings at the Harbour Condo Assn. and the Riverfront Homeowner's Assn. they would be able to attend thru out the year so that everyone gets to know who is serving on council. Mayor Tait noted the concerns regarding trash collection and again noted the new trash truck outside in the parking lot and another on the way. Mayor Tait stated we are working on the trash dilemma which is facing our state. Mayor Tait expressed thanks to Linda and the other Borough staff taking the complaints regarding the trash collection.

Mayor Tait stated she and Ms. Latimore have been working on getting fiber optic cable installed in the Borough to strengthen internet signals.

Mayor Tait stated she was excited regarding the reopening of the gym in the community center, noting that she wants to purchase the sanitizing robot to help with the cleaning of the entire center. Mayor Tait noted that we need to figure out a way to stop, manage and minimize the damage to our various facilities indoor and outdoor.

Mayor Tait noted that she is looking forward to this new year.

Mr. Rosenberg thanked Council for allowing him to participate with the greatest small town he has been affiliated with. Mr. Rosenberg stated he has worked with Mr. Howard for many years and Mr. Howard has never done anything that is the slightest bit improper. Mr. Rosenberg

indicated he viewed Mr. Howard as a model member of the governing body. Mr. Rosenberg indicated he feels the Borough has the best team of professionals, noting Mr. Hogue, Mr. Kirchner specifically. Mr. Rosenberg stated that Mayor Tait is doing a great job, Ms. Latimore is no longer a rookie, Dr. Cloud is doing a great job and Ms. McCann he so enjoys your enthusiasm. Mr. Rosenberg wished all a Happy New Year and noted that the professionals will continue to work with mayor and council, as hard as we can to make this the great place that it is.

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to adjourn. President Howard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Liebe second the motion.

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion Carried**

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM

Doretha R. Jackson, RMC  
Municipal Clerk, Borough of Palmyra  
Approved: February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023