



The Regular Council Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Palmyra was called to order by Mayor Tait at 6:32 PM.

### **ROLL CALL**

At the call of the roll:

PRESENT: Dr. Laura Cloud, Natasha Latimore, Michelle McCann, President Timothy Howard, Mayor Gina Ragomo Tait

ABSENT: John Liebe

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT**

Mayor Tait Read the following open public meetings statement into the record:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Public Notice of this meeting 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 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post Newspaper on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Notice to All Council Members.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Tait requested a motion for approval of the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Council Caucus Meeting Minutes.

President Howard made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Council Caucus Meeting. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

**INFAVOR: Ms. Latimore, Mrs. McCann, President Howard**

**AGAINST: None**

**Abstain: Dr. Cloud**

**Motion Carried**

Mayor Tait requested a motion for approval of the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

President Howard made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Executive Session Meeting. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

**INFAVOR: Ms. Latimore, Mrs. McCann, President Howard**

**AGAINST: None**

**Abstain: Dr. Cloud**

**Motion Carried**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Tait acknowledged the following correspondence received:

Allie Rossignol, Chairperson of Palmyra Democrats Club

Ms. Rossignol's email gave the following three candidates names to fill the vacant seat of Councilman Brandon Allmond.

Emily Cooper, Jessica O'Connor, Allie Rossignol

Mayor Tait requested nominations based on the information provided to council on the three candidates.

Mrs. McCann nominated Jessica O'Connor to fill the vacant seat of Brandon Allmond.

No more nominations, Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Resolution 2023-85, Appointing Jessica O'Connor as a councilmember to fill a council seat vacancy.

Mrs. McCann made a motion to appoint Jessica O'Connor to fill the vacant seat/ unexpired term of Brandon Allmond with resolution 2023-85. President Howard second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Motion Carried**

Mr. Rosenberg swore in Jessica O'Connor to the position of Council woman.

Mayor Tait read Ms. Jessica O'Connor, Esq.'s Bio:

**Jessica S. O'Connor, Esq.**

I grew up in Lumberton, New Jersey and attended Rancocas Valley Regional High School and graduated in 2000. The following semester I attended Burlington County Community College full time, simultaneously attended South Jersey Professional School of Business at night and worked part time at a local independent insurance agency. I obtained my Insurance Producer's License after graduating from South Jersey Professional School of Business and passing the state licensing examination in October 2000 at age 18. I continued to work full time at the insurance agency as an Insurance Producer and attended Burlington County Community College eventually obtaining an Associates of Science in Computer Science.

In 2006, I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and left for recruit training in Parris Island, South Carolina in February 2007. I successfully completed recruit training, Marine Combat Training, and was the honor graduate of my Personnel Administration School class resulting in a meritorious promotion. I was stationed at The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia for the duration of my nearly five years of active Marine Corps service. During my active-duty service, I earned a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems from Strayer University and was the valedictorian of my graduating class. Shortly after graduation from Strayer, I began working on a Master's in Paralegal Studies from George Washington University. I departed active-duty service at the end of 2011 and worked briefly as a liability insurance claims adjuster before taking a position with the United States Marine Corps as a civilian employee. I completed my Master's in Paralegal Studies in 2013 with a 4.0 grade point average.

In 2012, I was accepted to Rutgers University School of Law in Camden, New Jersey and moved back to New Jersey from the northern Virginia area to start in the fall of 2013. I lived on campus in Camden, New Jersey for my first two years before moving to Palmyra in 2015. During my time at Rutgers University, I was also participating with the Selected Marine Corps Reserve at Marine Air Group-49 at Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst. I graduated from Rutgers in 2016 with a Juris Doctorate and received the Bureau of National Affairs Health Law Award and Veteran's Service Award. During the summer of 2016, I took and passed the New Jersey and Pennsylvania bar exams. In August 2016, I began a one-year term as a Judicial Law Clerk for Judge Janet Z. Smith, J.S.C. in the Law Division of the New Jersey Superior Court, Burlington Vicinage. Upon the completion of my judicial clerkship, I began private practice with Mayfield, Turner, O'Mara & Donnelly, P.C. in Cherry Hill, New Jersey practicing insurance defense civil litigation. In January 2019, I left private practice and began working as a Regulatory Officer for the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission where I have been since. Currently, my work involves responding to official requests for records under the Open Public Records Act, drafting regulatory proposals, and preparing matters for hearings before the Office of Administrative Law, among other things. I was also a member of the Marine Corps Inactive Ready Reserve until September 2019 when my contracted affiliation with the Marine Corps came to a close after thirteen years.

I have been a member of the Palmyra Land Use Board since 2019, first as an alternate member and then as full member. My husband, Tom Taylor, and I have been married for a little over a year, together for nearly nine years and we have a three-year-old son.

Lt. Murphy introduced Raykel Holloman to the governing body and resident of the community. Lt. Murphy stated Officer Holloman started his career in Rutgers Police Department in Camden City in August of 2021. Officer Holloman graduated of Ocean County Police Academy in March of 2022. Lt. Murphy stated Officer come to Palmyra in hopes of getting closer to home and getting more involved in the community. Lt. Murphy stated he will be a great asset to the town and the Police Department.

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Resolution 2023-75, Resolution Appointing Raykel Holloman to the Borough of Palmyra Police Department Effective February 21, 2022, with an annual salary of \$46,500.00 also a conditional \$2,000.00 sign on bonus.

Mrs. McCann a motion to approve Resolution 2023-75 Appointing Raykel Holloman to the Borough of Palmyra Police Department. President Howard second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Absent: Ms. O'Connor**

**Motion carried. Resolution 2023-75 was approved.**

Mayor Tait swore in officer Raykel Holloman while his wife, Joslyn held the bible.

## **REDEVELOPMENT**

### **Rt. 73 South Redevelopment Area- Update**

Mr. Gural indicated we received the pilot payment on Friday in the amount 1<sup>st</sup> quarter taxes and the 2% administrative fee totaling approximately a little more than \$249,000.00. Mr. Gural also noted that the Construction Department received plans and specifications for tenant fit out for the first warehouse today. Mr. Gural noted they have a prospective tenant for the first warehouse and are looking to sign and agreement with them in the next few days. Mr. Gural indicated the second warehouse is scheduled to begin construction in April and should be completed within one year. Mr. Gural noted the memo from Mr. Rosenberg regarding Phase II on the dais, indicating it is the redevelopment of the Rt. 73 frontage. He stated the memo contained some thoughts and ideas from the redeveloper of things they would like to see along with some comments from Mr. Rosenberg. Mr. Gural stated everything is negotiable and nothing happens without your approval. Mr. Gural stated Mr. Rosenberg is looking for permission to advance negotiations. Mr. Gural indicated there is also a memo from Mr. Rosenberg regarding the Fair Share Housing Center negotiations and the amended agreement, however that is for closed session.

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

Mr. Gural indicated we received the payment from Outlaw for their portion of the remaining payment due to Active Realty. Mr. Gural noted that payment had been made in full to the previous owner, and there are still some items which need to be provided to the Land Use Board and Construction Department for their permits before they can be issued. Mr. Gural stated that the pilot (payment in lieu of taxes) will still need to be negotiated and settled as part of the redevelopment agreement.

### **ELM Office LLC, 321 E. Broad Street - Former Knights of Columbus Property- Update**

Mr. Gural indicated Elm Office LLC's application is on the agenda for tomorrow night's Land Use Board. Mr. Gural stated the application from Elm Office, LLC is for them to redevelop that area/building into office space.

## PROFESSIONAL UPDATES

William Kirchner, ERI

Mr. Kirchner explained the two resolutions on the agenda for approval. Mr. Kirchner noted the pocket park at Temple Blvd and Firth Lane, he explained the park is really to esthetically make appealing the area which underneath is really a underground 30,000 gallon water storage area to help prevent flooding in that area. Mr. Kirchner stated he met with Councilwoman Cloud and McCann regarding the landscaping of the park. Mr. Kirchner explained the park is sort of hill with sidewalk thru it and a backdrop structure/trellis, composed of galvanized steel on stone columns, behind a bench. Mr. Kirchner stated the structure was optional and Council could decide if they wanted it or not. Mr. Kirchner stated the structure cost is \$34,250.00. Mr. Kirchner stated that also in the park is a sign with Palmyra similar to the galvanized steel sign in Chief Payton Flournoy Park. Mr. Kirchner stated the Palmyra on the sign would be painted black and the cost of the sign is \$23,600.00. Mr. Kirchner explained the cost for the entire park and the grant received from the Federal Grant. Mr. Kirchner explained that he needed to know how Council wished to proceed as the foundation for the structure would need to be installed during the construction, noting that it would be extremely difficult to add at a later point. Council woman Cloud noted he concern regarding the structure being a safety hazard with the possibility of children climbing up on it. There was discussion regarding the structure and overall appearance of the park. It was suggested that the foundation be placed, and the decision would come later as to what would be placed on the foundation. Mayor Tait asked if they could have until the next meeting to decide. Mr. Kirchner agreed.

Mr. Liebe arrived at: 6:57 PM

## REPORTS

No PHS Student Representatives were present.

We requested those wishing to have or make a Public comment, email their questions or comments in advance of the meeting 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 February 21st, 2023.

Comments will be read during the Council meeting.

**Please sign in at the podium and state your name and address for the record.** 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. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

**Ella Graham - Rancocas Avenue, Delanco** – Ms. Graham indicated she is currently one of the Palmyra Police Chaplin and wanted to hold a moment of silence for Officer Fitzgerald a Temple University Officer who recently loss his life in the line of duty. Ms. Graham indicated one of the concerns that the Union representing those Officers indicated was the shortage of staffing. Ms. Graham indicted she

attended the meeting on February 6, 2023 and heard the resignation letter of Det. Arargil. Ms. Graham noted that the Palmyra Police force is extremely understaffed. Ms. Graham indicated this puts the residents, business owners, police, and council in a vulnerable position. Ms. Graham stated presently there is no Chief of the department, Palmyra is in a dangerous position for a serious crime. Ms. Graham noted that she is aware that officers can be called from neighboring towns, however the response may not be quick enough to stop the loss of an officer or resident. Ms. Graham indicated she would like to see Council make safety a priority, equipping the Police Department with the equipment that they need, and promoting from within and adequately staffing the department. Ms. Graham noted the prayer and invocation does not hurt anyone; everyone can benefit from prayer. Ms. Graham thanked Counsel for their service and listening to her comment.

President Howard noted the last year Council re-opened the police contract previously negotiated, to allow for additional sign-on bonuses and higher salaries in the hopes of attracting more officers to the Borough. President Howard noted Council job was to get the funding in place to hire officers noting that the hiring process is handled within the Police Department.

**Mr. Casale - 6<sup>th</sup> Street**, Mr. Casale indicated the corner at 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Race Streets is a disgrace, noting that there are 20-30 people hanging out there on a regular basis. Mr. Casale indicated it is a known drug corner. Mr. Casale indicated the children going to and from school are afraid to walk down that street, they go over to Arch Street and down Broad to avoid that corner. Mr. Casale indicated he has a six-year-old daughter who cannot play or ride her bike outside in front of their home. Mr. Casale stated he can't walk his dog outside because of the profanity and racial slurs. Mr. Casale noted there is litter everywhere, liquor bottles, blunt wrappers and music until 2:00/3:00 in the morning, something needs to be done. Mr. Casale noted that most of the people hanging around are not even from Palmyra and its cold outside, what is it going to be like when it gets warmer outside.

**Mrs. Butler - Arch Street**, Mrs. Butler indicated she lives at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Arch Street. Mrs. Butler indicated she has lived on Arch Street for 86 years and she totally agrees with Mr. Casale. Mrs. Butler stated that she watches the children come all the way down to her house and down Arch Street to get to Broad Street to cross to avoid going down Race Street. Mrs. Butler indicated it is disgusting to see what goes on around the corner. Mrs. Butler noted they block the street and disrupt everyone living in that area. Mrs. Butler stated they are intimidating, littering, and loitering, isn't that a crime, why don't they get tickets. Mrs. Butler stated something must be done.

**Mr. Hawk- Columbia Avenue**, Mr. Hawk indicated he has been here for 27 years. Mr. Hawk indicated we have thirteen officers, but we had eighteen. Mr. Hawk stated we have excellent officers, and we need to offer better salaries. Mr. Hawk indicated the \$2,000.00 signing bonus is a joke. Mr. Hawk indicated he would be willing to pay an additional \$50.00 in taxes to have better salaries for the officers. Mr. Hawk stated that we went five years with no Chief of Police in the past. Mr. Gural indicated that statement was not accurate, noting that in the past, during that period Mr. Hawk is referring to that we had two Lieutenants and went thru a lengthy process to determine which would ultimately be hired as Chief. Mr. Gural indicated it was not five years but a three-year process. Mr.

Gural also noted that three officers who left the department in December, retired after working here for twenty-five years. Mr. Gural noted that two officers who left were going on the different opportunities not necessarily making more money than they were making.

**Mr. Cwirkly- Horace Avenue**, Mr. Cwirkly indicated that something needs to be done about the speeders on Horace Avenue. Mr. Cwirkly stated there is too much noise and dogs always barking on the night. People need to take care of their properties as he does his.

**Ms. Fanelle- Horace Avenue**, Ms. Fanelle stated the 319 Horace Avenue has many people coming and going for short periods on time with Philly tags. Ms. Fanelle spoke about some of the problems with some of the people living in that house. Ms. Fanelle indicated that the speeding is terrible, and something needs to be done about it.

**Ms. Rooney – Horace Avenue**, Ms. Rooney asked if the speed limits had to be posted in order to be enforced. Mr. Rosenberg indicated, it didn't. Ms. Rooney indicated the speeding is bad, and many of the complaints already noted by other neighbors are also her concerns. Ms. Rooney asked if Horace Avenue was within the school zone. Ms. Rooney stated she was willing to working with anyone regarding solutions to the concerns.

**Ms. Casale – Horace Avenue**, Ms. Casale indicated she has lived here for eighteen years. Ms. Casale indicated she had spoken with an officer regarding placing a stop sign or speed bumps at the corners, but nothing has been done. Ms. Casale indicated there is no speed limit sign on her block. Ms. Casale indicated something needs to be done before someone gets hurt.

**Ms. Veitenheimer- Rowland Street**, Ms. Veitenheimer asked if the sewer billing would be changing to usage with the next billing. Mr. Gural indicated it was still in the process. Mr. Gural noted the ordinance on the agenda for introduction tonight was to increase the amount of the senior deduction. Ms. Veitenheimer asked how the town was benefiting by the YMCA using the community center, do they pay the Borough for using the center. Ms. Veitenheimer stated that very few palmyra children benefit from it, but the taxpayers are paying the taxes on the building. Ms. Veitenheimer stated she would like to see the contract and know how the Borough is benefiting before any contract is signed. Ms. Veitenheimer stated that she would hate to see anymore money go to Legion Field, noting that she thought that permission/permits were required to utilize the Legion Fields. Mayor Tait indicated yes as an organized group. Ms. Veitenheimer stated that she sees big groups of people playing on the soccer field, on many occasions which appear to be organized groups and they leave water bottles and trash all over. Mayor Tait and President Howard stated that the police should be contacted when you see that type of activity. Ms. Veitenheimer stated when she walks thru Riverton or Cinnaminson Parks, they are clean and neatly taken care of, but when she walks thru Legion Field she feels as though she is walking thru an inner city park, it's not taken care of and there is vandalism everywhere, noting that she feels intimidated.

Seeing no one else wishing to make a comment, Mayor Tait asked for a motion to close to the Public for comments. President Howard made a motion to open the public portion for comments. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

**ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING Public Hearing March 20, 2023**

**Ordinance 2023-02**, An Ordinance of Borough of Palmyra Amending Chapter 215 of the Code of the Borough of Palmyra Entitled “Sewers” increasing the Senior Discount

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-02.

President Howard made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-02. Mr. Liebe second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Absent: Ms. O’Connor**

**Motion carried. Ordinance 2023-02 was approved.**

**ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING Public Hearing**

**Ordinance 2023-01**, An Ordinance of Borough of Palmyra to Exceed the 2023 Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and Establish a CAP Bank (N.J.S.A 40A:4-45.14)

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to open to the Public for comments President Howard made a motion to open to the public for comments. Mr. Liebe second the motion.

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

Mayor Tait asked if there were any comments, seeing none. Mayor Tait asked for a motion to close 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 requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-01.

President Howard made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-01. Dr. Cloud second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Abstain: Ms. O’Connor**

**Motion carried. Ordinance 2023-01 was approved.**

**RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution **2023-76 thru** and Resolution **2023-84** 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 Tait asked if any resolution needed to be removed from the consent agenda for additional discussion. Seeing none Mayor Tait read the following resolutions into the record:



**Resolution 2023-76**, Resolution Appointing Jake A. Depew as Fulltime Public Works Laborer, Level 1 at the hourly rate of \$19.00 effective March 3, 2023 subject to the terms in the offer of employment dated February 1, 2023

**Resolution 2023-77**, Resolution Appointing Jeffrey S. Beuerle as Fulltime Public Works Laborer, Level II at the hourly rate of \$20.00 effective February 24, 2023 subject to the terms in the offer of employment dated January 30, 2023

**Resolution 2023-78**, Resolution Appointing James A Mininno as Fulltime Public Works CDL/Laborer, Level 1 at the hourly rate of \$25.00 effective February 24, 2023 subject to the terms in the offer of employment dated January 30, 2023

**Resolution 2023-79**, Resolution Appointing Charles M Ireland, Jr. as Fulltime Public Works CDL Driver/Laborer, Level 1 at the hourly rate of \$25.00 effective February 27, 2023 subject to the terms in the offer of employment dated January 31, 2023

**Resolution 2023-80**, Resolution Appointing Shawn S. Gerbe as Fulltime Public Works CDL Driver/Laborer, Level II at the hourly rate of \$27.50 effective February 27, 2023 subject to the terms in the offer of employment dated January 31, 2023

**Resolution 2023-81**, Awarding a Contract to Environmental Resolutions Inc. for Engineering Design service for the Stormwater Pump Station Project per their proposal dated December 20, 2022 in the amount of \$23,000.00

**Resolution 2023-82**, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of February 2023 bills in the Amount of \$1,409,043.61

**Resolution 2023-83**, Resolution rescinding Resolution 2021-196 Adopting a COVID-19 Vaccination/Testing Policy for Employees and Resolution 2022-99 Amending Resolution 2021-196.

**Resolution 2023-84**, Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Dominic Villecco of V-Comm Telecommunications Engineering as Monopole/Cell Communications Consultant Engineer for the Borough of Palmyra for 2023

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to approve **Resolutions 2023-76 thru Resolution 2023-84**.

President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-76 thru Resolution 2023-84. Dr. Cloud second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Abstain: Ms. O'Connor**

**Motion carried. Resolutions 2023-76 thru Resolution 2023-84 were approved.**

## **MOTION TO APPROVE TREASURERS' REPORTS**

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2023. President Howard made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2023. Dr. Cloud second the motion.

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

## **MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF RAFFLE LICENSES**

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve the 50/50 Raffle License and Basket Raffle License for Palmyra PTA to be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. President Howard made a motion to approve the 50/50 Raffle License and Basket Raffle License for Palmyra PTA. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

## **PUBLIC EVENTS**

Mayor Tait noted the following upcoming events.

Mayor Tait stated the Virtua Mobile Grocery Store is in the Community Center parking lot on Thursdays from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

Mayor Tait also noted that Pet Registrations are due for 2023 and the Rabies Clinic will be held in April of 2023.

Mrs. McCann stated the Easter Egg Hunt has been scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, at 9:00 am at Legion Field.

Mayor Tait noted that Palmyra Downtown Safety Day will be held May 6, 2023. Mayor Tait noted that she asked the Fire Department if they would like to organized the event however, they indicated they had to many things going on right now to handle it. Mayor Tait stated she would be looking for a group that is willing to organize the event.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mr. Gural stated that Mr. Rosenberg and Ms. Kilmer are currently working on the ordinances regarding State regulations for rental properties regarding lead testing and the requirement for rental properties and business to provides insurance coverage to the Borough. Mr. Rosenberg indicted a draft is with Mrs. Kilmer for review and something should be ready for council review at the next meeting. Mr. Gural indicated we are still looking for a Deputy Clerk and working on the community center staffing, noting that amounts have been included in the 2023 budget.

Mr. Gural indicated Mr. McBride could not be with us tonight to discuss to Board of Education's proposed use of Community Center for office space due to an illness. Mr. Gural noted That Mrs. Kilmer has expressed some concerns about modifications which could affect life safety, egress, so she is requesting a architect take a look at it before any modifications are completed on the building. Ms. McCann asked if the School Board comes to the community center will they be taking the meeting rooms as well as the entire back end. Mr. Gural indicated no; it would not include the meeting rooms. Mr. Gural explained.

Mr. Gural indicted he is still working on the sewer salary guide and did not have any additional information to report regarding the YMCA Summer Camp use of Community Center.

Mr. Gural indicted trash collection is complicated. He noted the new contract goes into effect on April 1, 2023, explaining their demands regarding specifications for collection. Mr. Gural explained curbside

collection in the short term will not change at all. Mr. Gural noted that bulk trash will be a bit more complicated and we are currently working on getting that information out to the public. Mr. Gural noted the trash quick reaction force; working to make the changes as smooth as possible, meeting every Thursday morning to work on various means of notifications and schedules. Mr. Gural stated the goal is to reduce cost and improve service. Mr. Gural noted that the contract has not yet been signed but should be shortly.

Mr. Gural stated the first draft of the budget was sent to the governing body, Mr. Nehilla and Ms. Condo. It is still a work in progress and Mr. Nehilla has indicated we are under both the appropriations and the tax levy cap. Mr. Gural noted that the budget workshop meeting is Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 8:30 am.

Mayor Tait made the following Land Use Board appointments Emily Cooper, Jamil Ziyoud, and Helen Pappas at Alternate #2.

President Howard indicated that additional changes still need to be made to the Council Committee appointments and more information will follow.

### **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

Mr. Gural reminded all that the 2023 Burl Co JIF Elected Officials Training seminars are all online, noting that for every council member that attends we receive a \$250.00 dollar reduction to our insurance billing.

Mr. Gural noted the 2022 Year-end Tax Collectors Report and explained the collection rate of 97.85% to Council.

### **ONGOING REMINDER PROJECTS**

Mr. Gural stated the following items are reminders for the various projects the governing body is addressing. Mr. Gural noted additional information will be forthcoming in the future.

Purchase Orders - Council signature requirement

Sidewalk/snow & ice removal Ordinance

Sewer Lateral responsibility Ordinance and Sewer bills

Handicap Parking Sign Ordinance

Parking Ordinance - additional amended code subsections required.

Veterans Affairs Committee Ordinance

Accessory Structures/cargo containers - Zoning/Land Development Ordinance amendments

Surplus Vehicles

### **MAYOR / COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

**Dr. Cloud**-no comment

**Ms. Latimore** –no comment

Mr. Liebe-no comment

Mrs. McCann– no comments

Mrs. O'Connor –no comments

President Howard- no comment

Mayor Tait –no comment

Mayor Tait asked Mr. Gural and Mr. Rosenberg if there were items for closed session. Mr. Gural and Mr. Rosenberg indicated yes regarding personnel, litigation & contract negotiations.

**Resolution 2023-86** 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:

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Resolution 2023-86. President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-86 Mr. Liebe second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Resolution 2023-86 was approved.**

Into closed at 8:33 pm

Out of closed at 9:36 pm

Mayor Tait requested a motion to open to public. President Howard made a motion to open to the public. Dr, Cloud second the motion.

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

Mayor Tait read the retirement letter of Tracy McGill into the record and asked for a motion to accept the letter. President Howard made a motion to accept the retirement letter of Tracy McGill. Dr. Cloud second the motion.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to adjourn. President Howard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Cloud second the motion.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 PM

Doretha R Jackson, RMC  
Municipal Clerk  
Approved: March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023