

**CELEBRATING**  
**1923**                      **100 yrs.**                      **2023**  
**Borough of Palmyra**  
**Regular Council Meeting Minutes, 6:30 PM**  
**Tuesday, June 20th, 2023**

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:** John Liebe, Jessica O'Connor, Michelle McCann, President Timothy Howard, Mayor Gina Ragomo Tait

**ABSENT:** Dr. Laura Cloud, Natashia Latimore

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 April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Mr. Liebe made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

**INFAVOR:** Mr. Liebe, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. O'Connor

**AGAINST:** None

**Abstain:** President Timothy Howard

## **Motion Carried**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Tait requested a motion for approval of the May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Executive Session meeting minutes. President Howard made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Executive Session meeting minutes. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

**INFAVOR: Mr. Liebe, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. O'Connor, President Howard**

**AGAINST: None**

**Motion Carried**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Municipal Clerk Jackson acknowledged the following correspondence received:

Letter from William Sheaffer, Assistant Traffic Engineer, Burlington County Engineer's Office

Letter from Dan Lambe, Arbor Day Foundation Chief Executive

Mr. Gural acknowledged an email received from Al Zimmerman, Chief of Palmyra Fire Department

### **REDEVELOPMENT**

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

Mr. Gural indicated a lot has happened especially in regards to legal and financial matters. Mr. Gural indicated a lot has to do with the redevelopment area bond financing and the affordable housing complex. Mr. Gural indicated the fairness hearing is scheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup>, before the court. Mr. Rosenberg indicated we have reached a settlement agreement with fair share housing. Mr. Rosenberg indicate Mr. Lonergan has reported to the court, urging them to approve the settlement. Mr. Rosenberg indicated that to date no one has issued opposition papers to the settlement. Mr. Rosenberg indicated there are several things which if the settlement is approved that will need to be completed. Mr. Rosenberg indicated that if all things are completed and we closed by end of summer then construction could commence shortly thereafter. Mr. Rosenberg noted that the desire to complete the affordable housing units by the end of 2024 or early 2025.

Mr. Gural noted the conservation easement of approximately 31 acres which we have agreed to accept; Mr. Gural indicated the land could be contaminated. Mr. Rosenberg noted that we may want to complete a phase 1 audit prior to acceptance of such land. There was some discussion and it was decided to authorize ERI in concert with John Hogue to perform the Phase 1 audit at which point they will let us know if the Phase 2 audit is necessary.

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

Mr. Gural indicate that he has nothing new to report

Sea Box/ELM Office LLC, 321 E. Broad Street - Former Knights of Columbus Property- Update

Mr. Brewer indicated there was a slight change in the easement to allow for the welcome to Palmyra sign. Mr. Brewer indicated the draft pilot agreement has been prepared and sent to ELM Office for the review and response.

**PROFESSIONAL UPDATES**

William Kirchner, ERI

Mr. Kirchner indicated that last week the developer contacted them to set-up the start-up of their pump station. Mr. Kirchner indicated that they went thru the start-up with them however noted that there were several things which they had not completed which they seemed to be unaware of. Mr. Kirchner stated that a conference call was had which noted some of the things which needed to be completed before the pump station could go into service. Mr. Kirchner noted that they seemed unaware that they are the owners on operators of the sewer system on the south side of Rt 73. Which means their engineers needs to sign off on the state permits for the sewer system that was constructed. Mr. Kirchner stated that the Borough must take ownership of the force main because the state will not allow a private entity to own a utility under a state highway. Mr. Kirchner stated that the agreement per Mr. Brewer indicates that they, the redeveloper, is responsible for any financial issues relating to the force main. Mr. Kirchner indicated that they are waiting for the final paper regarding that agreement. Mr. Kirchner stated that until that paperwork is received the sewer should not flow thru that main.

Mr. Kirchner indicated the road project on Walnut and Henry Streets noting that the concrete portion had begun and some milling was completed today. Mr. Kirchner stated paving should begin tomorrow. Mr. Kirchner indicated the project should be complete in about one and one-half months. Mr. Kirchner indicate you will also be seeing a change order to removed some problem trees on the street. Mr. Kirchner stated the 4<sup>th</sup> street project preconstruction conference was held last week. The Contractor is hoping to begin by end of July and be complete before school begins. Mr. Kirchner stated that Temple Blvd. project has been moving along however we are encountering a slight setback; due to the timing of the year. Mr. Kirchner stated the landscaper cannot plant the 1500 plants that go in the rain garden and guarantee them for the two years. Mr. Kirchner stated the contractor would like to wait and plant them in September instead of now, as we are getting into the hottest part of the year. Mr. Kirchner indicated they will be milling and paving early next week and the ground was hydro seeded today.

Mr. Kirchner explained the resolutions on the agenda for approval. Mr. Kirchner stated he and Mr. Gural would be meeting with DOT tomorrow regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> street project.

Mr. Kirchner began a conversation regarding the turf field replacement at Legion Field. Mr. Rosenberg stated that that conversation needed to be in executive session as there could be potential litigation.

Mayor Tait told Mr. Kirchner that there were about four bushes need to be replaced at the War Memorial. Mr. Kirchner noted that he was aware and has notified the contractor.

Mr. Gural indicated that there are several residents present which may have concerns regarding the improvements planned for the Berkley pumping station.

Mr. Kirchner presented the new improvements planned for the Berkley Avenue pumping station. Mr. Kirchner explained the removal of the current small building covering the pump station which was built many, many years ago and the new design with the pump exposed but covered with a screen and shrubbery. Mr. Kirchner gave examples of how it would ascetically look. Mr. Kirchner explained the health hazards to employees with the building being enclosed and in contact with sewer gases. Mr. Gural noted that the current state regulations require us to make a change so we no longer have OSA issues with the state regarding employees entering the building. Ms. McCann asked if it would be possible for a council subcommittee to has some input as to the look and design of the pump surrounding coverage. Mr. Kirchner indicated yes; they would welcome that input.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**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. Mr. Liebe second the motion.

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

Mrs. Tursi – Leconey Circle – Mrs. Tursi stated she lives near the pump station. Mrs. Tursi asked that if a tarp is applied around the garden until September planting has any thought been given to where that water is going to run off to. Mr. Kirchner indicated that the inlets have been opened and there will be some gaps in the tarping to allow the water to get out. Mrs. Tursi also indicated that the construction crew is arriving at 6:30 am to begin at 7:00am and waking up the residents and parking all over and taking up all parking in the area. Mrs. Tursi also noted that the pump you may wish to paint white instead of yellow and install a white privacy fence and allow the kids to decorate the fence as art project. Mrs. Tursi noted that we are aware that this improvement must be done but will it also cut down on the sewer odor. Mr. Kirchner indicated he believed it would to some degree, he explained.

Ms. Carmody–Temple Boulevard – Ms. Carmody indicated she was responsible for all the residents you see tonight, she indicated she has many concerns regarding the project which she was unaware of taking place. Ms. Carmody expressed thanks for the informative presentation. Ms. Carmody stated that her concerns are with resolutions 2023-171, 2023-172, 2023-173 being awarded and not know if there were other bids for the project or if the are just being awarded. Ms. Carmody indicated her front door looks directly at the current pump station, she does not want to look out at a painted fence, the little house looks nice and fits in with the neighborhood. Ms. Carmody indicated workers entering the building

should have N95 masks at a minimum but should be wearing respirators according to OSH. Ms. Carmody asked if the pump would be elevated so it would be above the flood plain. Ms. Carmody asked if resolutions 2023-171, 2023-172, and 2023-173 had to be awarded tonight, could they wait until the resident have had the opportunity to look over the bid or proposals. Mr. Gural explained the professional appointments and how the proposal/bid process is handled within municipalities. Mr. Gural noted that anyone can come in and review any documents from any bid or proposal. Ms. Carmody asked if resident could also be placed on the committee. There was additional discussion and comments.

Ms. Layton – Temple Boulevard – Ms. Layton stated she was excited about the new pump station and had no problems with the new plans. Ms. Layton indicated she lives not more than 50 ft from the pump house and is excited to see the plans and is willing to work on the committee to help with hiding it.

Mr. Endres – 213 W 3<sup>rd</sup>. Street – Mr. Endres asked if the tanker which goes into the sewer plant regularly will be able to get around the rain garden and into the plant. Mr. Kirchner indicated yes. Mr. Endres asked if the portions on Temple Boulevard which protrude into the street, she be painted yellow.

Mr. Kirchner indicated that the bump outs were designed to slow down the traffic and if we were to paint them, he believed, but would refer to Mr. Rosenberg, that the Borough would need an ordinance to define what the color code would be for painting. Mr. Endres asked when the sewer bills would be sent out. Mayor Tait answered.

Ms. Veitenheimer - Rowland Street – Ms. Veitenheimer indicated she needed clarification regarding the bond ordinance on the agenda, why does the town have to pay for the affordable housing. Mr. Gural explained what and how the bond ordinance is being used, if at all. Ms. Veitenheimer asked about Resolution 2023-168 Committing to Provide \$250,000.00 in Additional Funding for the Affordable Housing Project as part of the Rt 73 South Area in Need of Redevelopment was about. Mr. Rosenberg explained. Ms. Veitenheimer asked what equipment is being stored in the Firehouse that we are paying a lease for. Mr. Gural indicated the fire trucks etc. Ms. Veitenheimer asked why we have a personal trainer for the employees. Mr. Gural explained why the equipment was partially moved from the Community Center, noting the Board of Education. Mr. Gural indicated that the position does not pay a salary and is needed once employees begin utilizing the equipment, noting that the position was in place prior to the pandemic and was closed when the community center was closed. There was some additional discussion. Ms. Veitenheimer asked about the condition of the roads on Cinnaminson Avenue from Rowland going towards Cinnaminson, she asked if we could reach out to the county regarding repairs.

Mr. Sars - Horace Avenue- Mr. Sars asked when will the Borough slow down the traffic on Horace Avenue. Why is a maintenance person driving a tractor down this street. There were additional inaudible comments from Mr. Sars.

Mr. Lemar – Leconey Circle – Mr. Lemar indicated he appreciated the work being done by the municipality, he thanked Ms. Carmody for enlightening him. Mr. Lemar indicated he was glade that upgrades are being done, noting that some people are afraid of change. Mr. Lemar asked that the project

move forward, noting that his concern is the looks of the station. Mr. Leman noted that he has an autistic son and would like to see programs for him.

Mr. Rodrigues- W. Broad Street – Mr. Rodrigues stated that there is not enough police presence in his neighborhood. He indicated drugs are being sold around his home out in the open and nothing is being done about it. Mr. Rodrigues noted that the street sweeper is not coming around to clean the streets. Mr. Rodrigues stated that public works is supposed to cut the land across the street, which is on a hill. He indicated they cut the bottom but not up the hill, he cut and clean it and it took him three days to do it from Market Street down to 73. Mr. Rodrigues stated that Palmyra is lacking in spirit and movement. Mr. Rodrigues stated that he has offered to play at the band shell, as he is a musician, because he feels it is not being utilized. There was some discussion regarding various recent events and how to keep the public aware of the things going on in the Borough.

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to closed to the Public for comments President Howard made a motion to closed 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 to be held July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Ordinance 2023-06**, An Bond Ordinance of Borough of Palmyra, in the County of Burlington, New Jersey, providing for the financing of a portion of the costs of a redevelopment project (Route 73 South Redevelopment Area – Affordable Housing Project), appropriating \$1,750,000.00 therefor and authorizing the issuance of the not to exceed \$1,750,000.00 non-recourse redevelopment area bonds of the Borough for financing such appropriation.

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-06.

President Howard made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-06. Mr. Liebe second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Absent: Dr. Cloud, Ms. Latimore**

**Motion carried. Ordinance 2023-06 was approved.**

**Ordinance 2023-07**, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra providing for the special assessment against a portion of the property identified as Block 156, Lots 2,2.01, 3.01,4.01,5.01& 6.01 (future Block 156, Lot 2.03) in the Borough of Palmyra, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, in the amount of \$5,550,000 for certain costs to be incurred in connection with an affordable housing redevelopment project on Block 156, Lot 1.02 ( future Block 156, Lot 1.07, in the Borough of Palmyra,

in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, and authorizing the execution of certain agreements in connection therewith

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-07.

President Howard made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-07. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Absent: Dr. Cloud, Ms. Latimore**

**Motion carried. Ordinance 2023-07 was approved.**

**Ordinance 2023-08**, An Ordinance of the Borough of Palmyra Amending Chapter 90 of the Code of the Borough of Palmyra Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" and Amending Chapter 187 of the code of the Borough of Palmyra entitled "Parking, Handicapped"

Ms. O'Connor explained the ordinance and the difference between restricted parking and parking.

After some discussion it was decided that for a restricted handicap parking space, the application would be \$50.00 with no annual renewal fee. There also would not be an administrative committee, the resident would have the right to request hearing before the governing body upon revoke and or denial of the application.

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-08.

President Howard made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-08. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Absent: Dr. Cloud, Ms. Latimore**

**Motion carried. Ordinance 2023-08 was approved.**

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution **2023-158** thru Resolution **2023-178** 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 2023-158**, Resolution Authorizing 2023-2024 Liquor License Renewal for HARIKRISHNA Liquors, Inc. T/A Palmyra Liquors Plenary Retail Distribution license #0327-44-004-008

**Resolution 2023-159**, Resolution Authorizing 2023-2024 Liquor License Renewal for Oberg, LLC T/A Currans Irish Inn/5 West Plenary Retail Consumption License with Broad C #0327-32-003-007

**Resolution 2023-160**, Resolution Authorizing 2023-2024 Liquor License Renewal for Ashburn Corporation T/A Roger Wilco Plenary Retail Distribution License #0327-44-005-008

**Resolution 2023-161**, Resolution Authorizing the 2023-2024 Liquor License Renewal John P Gerew, Inc. T/A Park Tavern Plenary Retail Consumption License #0327-33-006-005

**Resolution 2023-162**, Resolution Authorizing the 2023-2024 Liquor License renewal for Milmarian Inc. AC Pocket License #0327-33-002-003

**Resolution 2023-163**, Resolution Requesting Approval of item of Revenue and Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-87 (Chapter 159) 2023 Clean Communities Award in the amount of \$18,637.73

**Resolution 2023-164**, Resolution Approving Tyler, Shrader, Robert Lehuquet, Kevin Ehrman, Rocky Fontaine, Anthony Lazar, William (Bruce) Dowdy, Craig Fallstick, James Del A Prisco, Nicolette Warington, Gary Clark, and Jon Amet as active members of the Palmyra Fire Department.

**Resolution 2023-165**, Resolution Appointing Tracy Kilmer as Exercise Facility Director (as a Certified Personal Trainer) to Benefit the Borough Staff Employees and other Personnel of the Borough of Palmyra with no Salary increase but with reimbursement for Continuing Education Classes and Annual Membership Fee

**Resolution 2023-166**, Resolution Appointing Rebecca Flynn as Vacant/Abandoned Property List Public Official for the Borough of Palmyra with an Annual Salary of \$1,500.00 effective June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Resolution 2023-167**, Authorizing payment of Invoices from FRANC Environmental by a non-fair and open contract for Vactor Services provided at Various Sewer Sites not to exceed the amount of \$23,000.00

**Resolution 2023-168**, Resolution of the Borough of Palmyra Committing to Provide \$250,000.00 in Additional Funding for the Affordable Housing Project as part of the Rt 73 South Area in Need of Redevelopment

**Resolution 2023-169**, Resolution Approving Affordable Housing Spending plan

**Resolution 2023-170**, Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Contract Renewing Membership in the Burlington County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

**Resolution 2023-171**, Resolution Awarding a contract to Environmental Resolutions, Inc. (ERI) for Bidding and Construction Services for the Berkley Avenue Pump Station Improvements Project per their proposal dated June 1, 2023 in the amount of \$179,500.00

**Resolution 2023-172**, Resolution Awarding a contract to Environmental Resolutions, Inc. (ERI) for work related to Preparation of a HVAC System Preventative Maintenance Contract per their Proposal dated June 2, 2023 in the amount of 5,000.00

**Resolution 2023-173**, Resolution Awarding a contract to Environmental Resolutions Inc. (ERI) for Public Bid preparation of 2024 On Call Contracting Services per their proposal dated June 1, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$6,500.00

**Resolution 2023-174**, Resolution Approving the Lease agreement with the Independence Fire Co. #1 and the Borough of Palmyra for Use and Storage of Borough Equipment in the Firehouse in 2023 in the amount of \$22,500.00 and Authorizing the Mayor to execute said Lease Agreement



**Resolution 2023-175**, Resolution Authorizing Change Order #2 to Byrd Dog Paving, LLC with an Increase in the amount of \$5,370.00 for the Temple Boulevard Improvement Change order #2 Byrd Dog paving with an increase in the amount of 5,370.00 for Temple Boulevard Improvement Project making the total Adjusted Contract price \$725,719.01 per ERI'S recommendation letter dated June 5, 2023

**Resolution 2023-176**, Resolution Authorizing a \$1.00 per hour Increase for Thomas Ewing for Tree Officer for the Borough of Palmyra effective June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and allowing one year for completion of the education requirements and certification.

**Resolution 2203-177**, Resolution Awarding a Contract to Komatsu Northeast per quote in the amount of \$189,185.00 for WA200-8 Komatsu Wheel Loader per Sourcewell Contract #032119-KOM Subject to certification of CFO

**Resolution 2023-178**, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of June 2023 bills in the amount of \$1,902,305.98.

Mayor Tait asked for a motion to approve **Resolutions 2023-158 thru Resolution 2023-178**.

President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-158 thru Resolution 2023-178. Ms. O'Connor second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Motion carried. Resolutions 2023-158 thru Resolution 2023-178 were approved**

## **TREASURERS' REPORTS**

Mayor Tait requested a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for May 2023. President Howard made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for May 2023. Mr. Liebe 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 announced the first Summer Concert in Chief Payton Flournoy Park featuring the "Be Smooth Band" on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 7:00 pm.

Mayor Tait stated that Borough Council would be walking in the Fourth of July Parade in Riverton.

Mayor Tait thanked all those who attended the Juneteenth Celebration and noted a good time was had by all. Mayor Tait also thanked the War Memorial Committee for the Memorial Day Celebration Program.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Gural stated that filling the Deputy Municipal Court Administrator position is moving along. Mr. Gural noted that the Deputy Municipal Clerk position has been posted on NJLM website and in the newspaper and applications been returned. Mr. Gural noted that interviews would be scheduled soon. Mr. Gural noted we are still in the process of hiring one additional person for the Community Center Staff.

Mr. Gural noted that the Borough does not have a Chief of Police promotion policy, which Mr. Ruderman strongly suggested we should have. Mr. Rosenberg is/has put together a draft policy which will be forwarded to the governing body for review.

Mr. Gural indicated the Board of Education has moved its offices into the community center and things are moving right along.

Mr. Gural stated the YMCA Summer Camp will be moving in the community center the 5,6, and 7<sup>th</sup> of July which Summer Camp beginning on July 10, 2023 at 9:00 am.

Mr. Gural stated he has been working on the Sewer Salary Guide and an outline waws included in the agenda packet. It is still a work in progress.

Mr. Gural noted that the Borough begins in-house curbside collection in the Riverfront on July 18, 2023. Mr. Gural also noted that if we were looking into the purchase of an additional trash truck, we should consider the BPU Clean Fleet EV Program and an electrical Trach Truck. He explained. Mr. Gural also stated that the coupon program for those who signed up for the bulk trash application are going well. Mayor indicated she spoke with several business owners and they are being redeemed. Mr. Gural stated that new trash receptables have been order for the downtown area, when they are in, they will be installed where needed. Mr. Gural explained some of the problems that Republic is having regarding collection of trash on Oregon and Virginia avenues, he noted that a meeting with the residents may be necessary.

Mr. Gural noted the need for a Stormwater Management Coordinator, he indicated he was working on some ideas and would get back to council with suggestions.

Mr. Gural and Mr. Rosenberg indicated the artificial turf field replacement issue needed to be discussed in closed session.

Mr. Gural stated that when Mr. Rosenberg researched the Borough's Right-of-Way issues and that he found that all we regulate in the right-of-way is trees the code is silent as to restrictions on the planting of anything else for example, shrubs.

Mr. Gural noted the handicap parking space ordinance has addressed and was introduced earlier.

Mr. Gural stated the proposed lead paint testing ordinance is close to being completed, Mrs. Kilmer is working with Mr. Rosenberg to get the state required program in place and complete the ordinance.

Mr. Gural indicated he spent the day with the Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning Study team looking at options, our focus being a pedestrian and bicycle bridge for the light rail station in Pennsauken into the redevelopment area.

Mr. Gural noted the NJ DOT Municipal Aid grant for Leconey Avenue and the T-Mobile Hometown Grant Program for playground equipment at Legion field are all in progress.

Mr. Gural noted the overnight stay travel requests below:

1. Donna Browne – Municipal Court Conference request -June 6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 with two-night hotel stay \$432.00 Conference \$270.00 total \$702.00
2. Donna Condo – GPANJ Educational Symposium 2023 request -September 13<sup>th</sup>, thru 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 with three-night hotel stay \$360.00 Symposium \$530.00 total \$890.00
3. Josiah Murphy – Annual Chief's Conference and Police Expo request June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 One-night stay hotel stay \$165.22

Me. Gural indicated they are usually handled administratively however due to the overnight request he wanted to get approval from the Governing body. The governing agreed with the requests.

Mr. Gural stated the Fall Townwide Yard Sale date will be September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Mr. Gural stated a PPA/FOP associates reached out to him regarding beginning the Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations. Mr. Gural explained the current PPA CBA ends in December of 2023. Mr. Gural indicated they have officially decided to have the first face-to-face meeting on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Mr. Gural indicated to them that he would need to meet with the public safety committee prior to setting up future meetings.

Mr. Gural explained the USDA Community Garden Grant noting that Mr. Gerkens was applying to expand our Community Garden and as the Community Garden at the Bridge Commission.

Mr. Gural explained Mr. Gerkens is also working on the USDA Urban and Community Forestry Grant and the EV Charging Station Grant. Mr. Gural noted the EV charging station is two stations with four charging units. Mr. Gural indicated some possible locations are outside of Borough Hall and the other in the High School parking lot.

Mr. Gural stated we also received the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant which Tangy applied for.

## **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

Mr. Gural noted that Mr. Rosenberg's memo suggests that we take no action regarding Verizon NJ VS Palmyra Borough tax appeal.

Mr. Gural noted the Tax Collector's Uncollectible Tax Report indicating there are no taxes that they will not be able to collect.

Mr. Gural stated the War Memorial Committee has requested our annual donation as have various other organizations.

Mr. Gural stated the 2022 Draft Audit exit conference will be held tomorrow at 9:00 am noting that there are no findings.

Mr. Gural stated that the staff wished to exchange Columbus Day in October with the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July so essentially, we will be closed on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Council agreed.

## MAYOR / COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COMMENTS

**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 litigation & contract negotiations

**Resolution 2023-179 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 2023-179. President Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-179. Mrs. McCann second the motion.

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

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

**AGAINST: None**

**Resolution 2023-179 was approved.**

Into closed at 9:44 pm

Out of closed at 10:12 pm

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

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

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

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

## ADJOURNMENT

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 10:13 PM

Doretha R Jackson, RMC  
Municipal Clerk  
Approved: July 17, 2023