

Palmyra Borough Council Meeting  
January 28, 2014  
7:00 PM

Borough Council President Jane Quairoli called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM in Council Chambers of the Palmyra Municipal Center, located at 325 S. Railroad St. Council members in attendance included Joe Templin, Bob Longenecker, Scott Mazzocca, Beth Shearer, Pat Hennessy, and Gary Laudermilch. Also in attendance were Mayor Fred Carpenter, Chief Stan Jasinski, Borough Manager Roger Powl, and Assistant Borough Manager Brenda Pera.

Announcements

President Quairoli announced that Borough Council held an executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss attorney client privilege matters and potential litigation as permitted by the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. Any official action resulting from discussions held during the Executive Session will occur at an open public meeting.

Special Visitors

- a. Mayor Carpenter presented plaques to the following individuals:
  - Officer Vincent Stankovich received a shadowbox with his service weapon and a 25 year service pin in recognition of his retirement from the Borough Police Department after 25 years of service.
  - Officer Vincent Stankovich and Officer Cody Smoot received a plaque recognizing their military service in the Middle East.
  - Jay Arnold received the 2013 William & Nancy Kepler Community Service Award in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and the Fireman's Park Renovation project.
- b. Mayor Carpenter presented Police Chief Stan Jasinski with a service pin signifying completion of 35-years of service.
- c. Lebanon County Administrator Jamie Wolgemuth & Magisterial District Justice Carl Garver were present to discuss the lease for the MDJ space in the new building. Mr. Wolgemuth expressed his desire to have a flat rental rather than using square footage to assess the monthly lease and to make the term of the lease match the MDJ term. Mr. Wolgemuth also explained that the County is in favor of an annual increase to the monthly lease rate based upon the Consumer Price Index.

Public Comments

- Jael Wolf, 301 E. Cherry Street, asked for a copy of the microgravity tests that were done in the 300 block of east Cherry Street. She is concerned that the sinkholes in the area are moving towards her house. She also questioned why the geological testing was not done on private property.
- Janis Boyer, 526 S. Grant Street, informed Council that she is sick of Mr. Watts from North Londonderry Township always sticking it to the Borough. She does not believe that the proposal Mr. Watts presented to the Borough for the new fire station is a true 50/50 split for the costs because the Borough residents would pay a higher tax rate. She also explained that she feels the fire company should own the building, and should be doing more for themselves to raise money.

Consent Calendar

The following agenda items were acted upon by a single motion:

- a. Approve the minutes of the January 14, 2014 Borough Council Workshop meeting.
- b. Approve the minutes of the December 30, 2013 Special Borough Council meeting.
- c. Approve the minutes of the December 17, 2013 Borough Council meeting.

- d. Approve payment of all bills listed on the December 2013 Bill's List.
- e. Approve the Treasurer's Report for the period December 1 through December 31, 2013:

	General Fund	Refuse Fund	Sewer Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Liquid Fuels Fund
YTD Revenue	\$ 2,847,005	\$ 836,142	\$ 1,818,762	\$5,104,448	\$ 149,259
YTD Expenses	\$ 2,522,831	\$ 681,808	\$ 1,649,193	\$1,997,005	\$ 282,450
Difference	\$ 324,175	\$ 154,335	\$ 169,569	\$3,107,443	\$ (133,182)
Fund Balance	\$ 1,147,404	\$ 290,699	\$ 825,242	\$3,465,989	\$ 95,918
	Special Sewer Fund	Library Fund	Police Health Care Fund	Town Square Reserve Fund	Joint Fire Apparatus Fund
YTD Revenue	\$ 278,167	\$ 28,225	\$ 44,085	\$ 36	\$ 40,131
YTD Expenses	\$ 582,874	\$ 30,300	\$ 38,885	\$ 0	\$ 0
Difference	\$(304,708)	\$(2,059)	\$ 5,200	\$ 36	\$ 40,131
Fund Balance	\$2,311,998	\$ 698	\$ 159,245	\$12,186	\$ 160,831

*Motion: To approve the consent calendar. Motion by Pat Hennessy, second by Bob Longenecker. Motion passed.*

Action & Discussion Items

- a. Financial Security Reduction Request - Helm Revised Final Subdivision Plan:

*Motion: To approve a reduction in the financial security required for the Helm Revised Final Subdivision Plan from the original sum of \$141,363.40 to \$95,132.37 as determined by the Borough Engineer. Motion by Pat Hennessy, second by Beth Shearer. Motion passed.*

- b. Construction of New Firehouse - NLT Financing Proposal:

Councilor Longenecker shared the following concerns regarding the financing of the firehouse – He does not believe the Borough needs a \$4.2 million dollar fire station and does not support the Borough building and/or owning the building. However, if Borough Council does decide to build the new fire station with North Londonderry Township, then he would like to see Council institute a fire tax for their share of the cost. Councilor Longenecker also mentioned that the Palmyra Public Library will be back in a new building within five years.

Council discussed the new firehouse financing and agreed that it would be best to solicit bids for the new building in order to determine the construction cost. Once the bid prices are established, Council will be able to make a better informed decision.

c. Ordinance #754 - Motor Vehicles & Traffic Update:

*Motion:* To authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare and advertise Ordinance #754, an ordinance to update the following sections of Chapter 15 (Motor Vehicles & Traffic):

- Section 14 (One-Way Highways Established) to add S. Windsor Ave from W. Main St. to W. Cherry St in the southbound direction as a one-way street.
- Section 37 (Special Purpose Parking Zones) to update the list of handicap parking spaces:
  - Add - 118 N. Harrison St
  - Add - 311 W. Cherry St
  - Add - 433 W. Main St
  - Remove - 103 E. Oak St
  - Remove - 4 N. Harrison St.

*Motion by Pat Hennessy, second by Beth Shearer. Motion passed.*

Reports

- a. President's Report: President Quairoli did not have a report.
- b. Financial Statement: Council reviewed and discussed the financial statement as of December 31, 2013.
- c. Fire Services Commission Report: Borough Manager Powl informed Council that the Fire Company wants to hire a part-time contracted employee to assist with billing. They indicated that the dollars recouped through billing will pay for the employee.
- d. Library Board Report: Councilor Longenecker did not have a Library report but, informed Council that the Library move went well and attendance at the new Library location on Landings Drive has been very good so far.
- e. Police/Mayor's Report:
  - Mayor Carpenter provided a copy of the December 2013 report.
  - Mayor Carpenter personally thanked Officer Stankovich for his years of service to the Borough and its residents.
  - Councilor Laudermilch asked if it would be more efficient for the Officers to complete their reports in the office on a desktop computer versus on the laptops in the patrol car, and Chief Jasinski responded that he didn't believe it is any more difficult to complete the reports within the patrol cars versus at a desk in the office.
  - Councilor Longenecker commented that he has noted numerous accounts in the various police reports of theft from vehicles and asked Chief Jasinski if these thefts were from unlocked vehicles, and Chief Jasinski confirmed that the thefts are occurring to unlocked vehicles. Councilor Longenecker implored everyone to lock their vehicles when unattended.
- f. Planning Commission: Borough Manager Powl reported that the commission took a preliminary look at a newly submitted final subdivision plan from Leonard C. & Pamela J. Sheriff, which proposes subdivision of a single lot currently containing a two-unit apartment building into two separate lots. Council will be receiving recommendations following the Planning Commission's February meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, 2014 beginning at 7:00 PM.

- g. Recreation Commission Report: Vice-President Hennessy provided a copy of the January 2014 report.
- h. Zoning Hearing Board: Mr. Powl reported that a hearing is scheduled for Monday, February 10, 2014. The application is for 616 W. Main Street - Conversion of the Brethren in Christ Church to an assisted living facility. Council discussed the application and had no issues with the plan.
- i. Borough Manager's Report:
  - 1. New Municipal Building Project Status Update: Mr. Powl reported that the contractor continues to work towards a mid-March move-in date. He informed Council that the Borough is responsible for the asbestos abatement in the old municipal building, so he advertised the project for bid. Bid opening is scheduled for February 21, 2013.
  - 2. Mr. Powl provided a revised furniture list for the new building. He assured Council that the list was reviewed and pared down to only essentials needed to be able to function upon moving. Council approved the reductions in the furniture list and authorized Mr. Powl to move forward with the furniture purchase as long as it does not exceed the amount presented at this meeting (\$28,951).

#### Announcement

President Quairolì announced that Borough Council will conduct a public workshop meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 beginning at 6:00 PM and its regular monthly public meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 beginning at 7:00 PM.

#### Other Business

Mayor Carpenter advised Council that the County is interested in storing their archived records in one of the garage bays in the new municipal building. Mr. Powl confirmed the information and informed Council that he has been looking for a way in which the files would fit into a 6' X 10' space in the bay in which the Borough administration vehicle will be parked. Council discussed the idea of storing the County's archived records and determined that the garage bays should be used to park vehicles only and not for storage.

*Motion: To prohibit the storage of County files in the garage bays of the new municipal building. Motion by Pat Hennessy, second by Beth Shearer. Motion passed.*

#### Motion to Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn by Pat Hennessy, second by Beth Shearer. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,

Roger E. Powl  
Borough Manager