

Palmyra Borough Council Meeting
 Tuesday March 26, 2019
 7:00 PM

Borough Council President Beth Shearer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Palmyra Municipal Center, located at 325 S. Railroad St. Other Council members in attendance included Don Barry, Josh Holl, Carissa Mellinger, Tom Miller, Jane Quairoli and Joe Templin. Also, in attendance were Borough Manager Roger Powl, Assistant Borough Manager Brenda Pera, Mayor Fred Carpenter, and Police Chief Andrew Winters.

Announcements

President Shearer announced that Borough Council held an executive session prior to tonight’s meeting to discuss a personnel issue as permitted by the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. Any official action resulting from the Executive Sessions will occur at a future public meeting.

Public Comment Period #1

- Darian Blauch, 54 Gravel Hill Road, complained about trucks cutting the corner at North Railroad and West Ridge Road. Mr. Blauch is the caretaker of the Gravel Hill Cemetery and he must continually repair the grass at this corner because the truck drivers don’t respect the area. The problem occurs when trucks heading south on Railroad Street turn right to head west on Ridge Road. Council informed him that the issue is PennDOT’s problem, and Mr. Blauch responded that he discussed this with PennDOT and they referred him to the Borough for resolution. Mr. Powl offered to provide a copy of PennDOT’s intersection map so that the Cemetery can verify the limits of the public right-of-way should they decide to place barriers at the corner as suggested by Chief Winters. Council also recommended Mr. Blauch contact Representative Frank Ryan to discuss options for the state roads.

Consent Calendar

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

- Approve the minutes of the March 12, 2019 Borough Council meeting.
- Approve the Treasurer’s Report for the period February 1 through February 28, 2019:

	General Fund	Sewer Fund	Refuse Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Special Sewer Fund	Liquid Fuels Fund
YTD Revenue	\$298,113	\$419,536	\$210,877	\$4,347	\$5,589	\$2,259
YTD Expenses	\$501,371	\$314,260	\$273,074	\$235,519	\$(6,747)	\$839
Difference	\$(203,258)	\$105,276	\$(62,197)	\$(231,172)	\$12,336	\$1,419
Fund Balance	\$1,230,293	\$801,867	\$344,927	\$1,318,116	\$1,250,687	\$735,857

	Library Fund	Police Health Care Fund	Town Square Reserve Fund	Joint Fire Apparatus Fund	Cemetery Fund	Employee Benefits Fund
YTD Revenue	\$194	\$598	\$12	\$1,164	\$129	\$113,134
YTD Expenses	\$0	\$8,901	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,596
Difference	\$194	\$(8,303)	\$12	\$1,164	\$129	\$72,538
Fund Balance	\$2,126	\$190,243	\$3,873	\$379,463	\$41,918	\$101,770

Motion: To approve the consent calendar. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Joe Templin. Motion passed.

Action & Discussion Items

a. Chief Winters Employment Agreement:

Motion: To approve execution of the employment agreement with discussed changes. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Don Barry. Motion passed.

Reports

a. President's Report: President Shearer did not have a report.

b. Library Report: Councilor Quairolì provided a copy of the March report.

c. Police Department: Chief Winters reported the following:

- The department has hired B. Moyer Radio Communications to outfit the new police vehicle, but they are still waiting on pricing information.
- Uniform pants and shirts have been ordered from Blauer Manufacturing Co. Inc. Both are standard issue, but the pants will need the blue line sewn onto the black stripe. There is a difference in the original shirts compared to the Blauer shirts, but the difference is not significant.
- Dylan Murphy received his certification from MPOETC.
- The Chief attended the Lebanon County Chiefs of Police meeting and offered to sponsor the Police Week event for May 15th.
- The department is currently cleaning up the InSynch software program to eliminate the outdated DOS program.
- The department will be hosting a meeting for area police departments to discuss the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) / Uniform Crime Reporting System (UCR) e-citation system.
- The Chief is scheduled to meet with representatives from LexisNexis regarding a community crime mapping program.
- The department is planning to run a test in June with Annville Township on a police app.
- Chief Winters mentioned that Lebanon County is looking to begin a Blue Cares program in which a police officer accompanies a drug intervention professional to individuals that have overdosed to encourage the individual to enter a rehabilitation program and help with the opioid epidemic. The officer will only facilitate an introduction which will tie up an officer for a maximum of 15-minutes. If the County decides to pursue the program, the Palmyra Police Department will participate.
- The Chief, Sergeant, and Administrative Assistant attended training on accreditation. The cost of the program will need to be offset by a reduction in insurance premiums to make it feasible to pursue.

d. Recreation Commission: Councilor Quairolì provided a copy of the March Report.

e. Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Cleary

1. Mr. Powl provided a letter dated March 19, 2018 from Solicitor Cleary regarding the N. Duke Street sinkhole at First National Bank. The Borough sent invitations to the bank, Hogg Partnership (owner of bank property), Jack Williams, Sheetz, McDonalds, and Cedar Palmyra Shopping Center to attend a meeting to discuss the sink hole in the drainage area. The bank has indicated their legal counsel will be in attendance, so Mr. Powl has asked Solicitor Cleary to attend. There is no expectation that any of these invitees will attend other than the bank. Council asked for Solicitor Cleary to prepare a Notice of Violation for property maintenance violations to issue at the meeting pending the outcome of the discussion.

Motion: To authorize the Solicitor to prepare a Notice of Violation regarding the property maintenance violations pertaining to the sinkhole at the First National Bank. Motion by Josh Holl, second by Jane Quairolì. Motion passed.

Mr. Powl commented that the only enforcement the Borough has regarding the sinkhole at the bank is through the property maintenance ordinance. The Stormwater Management Ordinance does not include a violation section for maintenance of facilities that existed prior to the passage of the ordinance. Solicitor Cleary provided sample language to amend the Stormwater Management Ordinance for Council's consideration.

Motion: To authorize the Solicitor to prepare an ordinance updating the Stormwater Management Ordinance to include verbiage for storm water management facilities that existed prior to the date the Borough enacted the Stormwater Management Ordinance. Motion by Jane Quairolì, second by Tom Miller. Motion passed.

f. Zoning Hearing Board: No Hearings were conducted this month.

g. Borough Manager's Report:

1. South Forge Road Sinkhole: (west side between Cypress & Birch) - Mr. Powl reported that PennDOT's methods for repairing this sinkhole raises concerns that the hole will continue to re-open, which could jeopardize rupturing a 12-inch water main that passes through the sinkhole.
2. S. Harrison Street Sinkhole: (west side just north of E. Cherry Street) – this sinkhole is opening right above the bedrock fracture that was located by ARM Group when they conducted the geophysical study for the sinkhole in the 300 block of E. Cherry Street. The Public Works Crew opened and backfilled the hole and will continue to monitor for future subsidence.
3. S. Locust Street Sinkhole: (west side adjacent to PASD injection well) – the Public Works Crew opened and backfilled the hole. The school district needs to look for an alternative to their current injection well as it is failing and causing sinkholes in the road.
4. W. Pine Street Sinkhole: (south side at 208 W. Pine St.) – Mr. Powl reported that this area opened again along the curb line, and the Public Works Crew excavated and backfilled.
5. 2017 PA Liquid Fuels Audit: Mr. Powl provided a copy of the audit. There were no findings.
6. Snowplows: Mr. Powl reminded Council that the Public Works Crew was looking into new plows that are designed for plowing in more urbanized areas. Council had previously given the go ahead to obtain pricing for the new plows. The new plows were not budgeted this year, but the Borough anticipates saving money on the purchase of a new street sweeper. These savings should cover the cost of the plows. Mr. Powl is getting refreshed quotes from plow suppliers.
7. Sale of Refuse/Recycle Trucks: Mr. Powl reported that all three trucks are listed for auction on Municibid.com. The auction ends Friday, March 29th at 2:00 PM.
8. Chapter 94 Report – Mr. Powl reported that Dale Shope finished the Chapter 94 Report for the Borough and submitted the information to DEP. He raised a concern that there is not a flow meter located at Pump Station #3. Mr. Powl will work to have a flow meter installed this year so that actual flow data can be obtained from this pump station for next year's report.

Other Business

- Councilor Barry expressed his concern for where some residents are placing their refuse/recycling containers for collection, which is making navigating through the alleys difficult. He also expressed his concern for the placement of the emptied cans by Waste Management.
- Mayor Carpenter shared his concern for the legislatures push to decriminalize marijuana. Council asked Mr. Powl to have Solicitor Cleary determine what the Borough can do to oppose this action.

Public Comment Period #2

- Barry Powell, 41 N. Franklin St, thanked Chief Winters for his efforts to modernize the Police Department, which he feels is long overdue. He admonished Council for “chasing” the regular meeting audience attendees away. He expressed his concern that the stormwater pipe still hasn’t been installed on his street so that the injection well near South Ave can be plugged. He explained that he has been waiting for over a year and he believes his curbing along Franklin Street is sinking because of the failed injection well. He also complained about the trash collection and thinks the Borough should demand that Waste Management provide 96-gallon totes for each property. He also complained about the condition of the property at 335 E. Walnut Street and why the Borough is paying a Codes Enforcement Officer who is not enforcing the ordinances.

Announcement

President Shearer announced that Borough Council will conduct a public meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 and on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 beginning at 7:00 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jane Quairola, second by Tom Miller. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger E. Powl
Borough Manager