

REGULAR MEETING OF PALMERTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

HELD IN BOROUGH HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.

Terry L. Costenbader, President of Council, called the duly advertised meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

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| Terry L. Costenbader, President | Jenny Y.C. Cheng, Solicitor |
| Kris W. Hoffner, Vice-President | Don J. Herrmann, Mayor |
| Richard L. Nothstein | Timothy Kromer, Police Chief |
| Holly F. Hausman Sell | Autumn Canfield, Borough Manager |
| Andrew J. Hollywood | Kim Rodrigues, Recording Secretary |
| William A. Gallagher | |
| Randolph Gursky | |

VISITORS

Raberta Hans, 435 Franklin Avenue; Marj and Joseph Federanich, 418 Princeton Avenue; Jared Cebrosky, 445 Princeton Avenue; Drew Snowberger, TV-13 Cameramen; Terry Ahner, Times News.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

HEARING OF VISITORS

1. Marj Federanich of 418 Princeton Avenue asked Council if a new police station location was decided on. Terry Costenbader relayed no decision has been made thus far and Kris Hoffner added the project is contingent upon LSA grant awards.

RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council approved the March 27, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

President Costenbader announced that a summary of the petitions and communications is available for public inspection in the Borough Office in the form of a weekly mail log.

REPORTS OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND OFFICES

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|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Treasurer’s Report | 5. Moving Permit Report |
| 2. Zoning Officer Report | 6. Code Compliance Agent Report |
| 3. Police Department Report | 7. Street Supervisor Report |
| 4. Fire Chief Report | |

President Costenbader announced that these are on file in the Borough Office for public inspection during regular business hours.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Autumn Canfield reported:

1. The Borough is currently accepting letter of interest for a Zoning Hearing Board member as one of the members recently resigned.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE

Richard Nothstein had no report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/BOROUGH CODE

Holly Sell reported:

1. In response to an invitation from Bowmanstown Borough to attend a Comprehensive Plan meeting, Holly Sell recommended Borough Manager Autumn Canfield attend to represent the Borough. Autumn Canfield will contact Bowmanstown Borough for details.

BUILDINGS/RECREATION

Andrew Hollywood reported:

1. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council approved the following use requests. The approvals are subject to scheduling and availability:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Lehigh Valley Childrens Centers	Bandstand/surrounding Area	Pre-K Graduation
Palmerton American Legion	Delaware Ave/Park	Memorial Day Parade
Prom in the Park	Park/Pathways	Prom
Crusaders for A Cause	Clydesdale Carriage Rides	4 th St/Franklin Ave
Bethany Wesleyan Church	Bandstand	Outdoor Church Service

Richard Nothstein questioned the residency of the LV Childrens Center students and Holly Sell advised they are all Palmerton students.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Kris Hoffner had no report.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS

Randolph Gursky reported:

1. On motion by Randolph Gursky, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council tabled the Bid awards for the Third and Delaware Avenue traffic signal and the Low Volume Paving Grant.
2. On motion by Randolph Gursky, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council tabled the Chamber of Commerce trash container request to obtain additional information.

SEWER/SOLID WASTE/WATER

William Gallagher had no report.

PERSONNEL

Terry Costenbader reported:

1. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council appointed Brandon Mertz as a new member to the Palmerton Municipal Fire Company.

[not in chronological order]

[On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council amended their previous motion appointing Brandon Mertz to the Palmerton Municipal Fire Company, to correctly appointing Brandon Smale to the Palmerton Municipal Fire Company.]

2. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council appointed a junior firefighter as a new member to the Palmerton Municipal Fire Company.
3. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council authorized Borough Manager Autumn Canfield to advertise for summer employment.

DISPOSITION OF BILLS

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council approved payment of the invoices and the check register as presented.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Don Herrmann reported:

1. Saturday, April 27, 2024 is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. If residents have any prescription drugs that are expired or no longer used please drop them off at the police department at 401 Delaware Avenue. It is a great way to dispose of prescription drugs and make sure that they don't fall into the wrong hands. There is a container at the police department that is always available for safe disposal of any prescription drugs.
2. A reminder to residents to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. This is a State Law and there are signs posted on Delaware Avenue. Please be aware of increased walkers and bikers in these areas with the warmer weather approaching.
3. Thank you to the Palmerton Lions for their donation of \$1000 to Palmerton Police Benevolent Association as well as donations to the Palmerton Library and the Palmerton Fire Department. Their generosity and dedication to the Palmerton Area is greatly appreciated. Also, a special thanks to the Kids for the Community for their cleanup of trash in the park and for sprucing up the flower beds over the weekend for earth day.

REPORT OF THE POLICE CHIEF

Timothy Kromer reported:

1. Unit 54 is fully upfitted and operational. Thank you to the Borough mechanic for all his assistance in getting our fleet fully operational and to Jet Signs for the graphics design and application. We now have a matching fleet for the first time in my 22 years here.
2. Officer Green, Officer Stern, and I instructed two ALERRT Level I courses at our EOTC, which certified 18 more Carbon County Law Enforcement Officers in ALERRT Level I. Detective Buck completed the training, giving our Department a 100% certification rate.
3. The next National Night Out will be held on August 6, 2024 and will be sponsored by Blue Ridge Communications. Please contact the Palmerton Police Department if interested in participating in or sponsoring the event. The Movie in the Park will follow the NNO event.
4. The weather is getting nicer and more people will be out, please remember when using the Borough Hall gym and the Borough Park to respect Borough property, respect others, and clean up after yourselves. Also, no bikes, scooters, roller blades, or skateboards in the bandstand.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion by Holly Sell, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council tabled the bike patrol discussion to meet with the officers.
2. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council entered into an Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. to discuss personnel. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council reconvened their regular meeting at 7:26 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Rodrigues
Recording Secretary

Autumn Canfield
Borough Manager