

REGULAR MEETING OF PALMERTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

HELD IN BOROUGH HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025, AT 7:00 P.M.

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

Terry Costenbader, Council President	Jenny Y.C. Cheng, Solicitor
Kris W. Hoffner, Council Vice-President	Don Herrmann, Mayor
Andrew J. Hollywood	Timothy Kromer, Police Chief
William A. Gallagher	Autumn Canfield, Manager/Secretary
Randolph M. Gursky	Kimberly A. Rodrigues, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Richard L. Nothstein
Holly F. Hausman Sell

VISITORS

Keith House, 127 Ashley Lane, Lehighton; Raberta & Jeremy Hans, 435 Franklin Avenue; Timothy Gursky Jr., 812 Edgemont Avenue; Drew Snowberger, TV-13 cameraman; Terry Arner, Times News reporter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

HEARING OF VISITORS

Keith House, Pastor of the Living Hope Lighthouse Church, 705 Third Street, requested use of the Park for a Good Friday service with other local churches. Council advised him to submit a use request form to the Borough Office.

Paul Snyder of 1004 Charles Street addressed Council to dispute the section of the trash contract requiring direct contact with the hauler by residents. William Gallagher and Autumn Canfield explained the contract and the committee to Council process, but Mr. Snyder continued to object. After further discussion Terry Costenbader ended the conversation and told the Snyders to contact the Borough office if they have a problem.

Raberta Hans of 435 Franklin Avenue complained about the wait time of her call to Whitetail Disposal on January 2, 2025. Autumn Canfield relayed Whitetail had reached out to her about their call center, saying they picked up a number of new contracts and day one was extremely busy.

Timothy Gursky Jr of 812 Edgemont Avenue asked Council to consider painting the curbs yellow to deter parking at the corners of Edgemont Avenue and Linden Street, as well as Edgemont Avenue and Walnut Street. Autumn Canfield will have the Public Works Supervisor look into it.

RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council approved the December 19, 2024, and January 9, 2025 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.

MANAGERS REPORT

Autumn Canfield had no report.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE

William Gallagher reported:

1. On motion by William Gallagher, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved the Palmerton Municipal Fire Company Volunteer Tax Credit eligibility list.
2. On motion by William Gallagher, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved the Aquashicola Fire Company Volunteer Tax Credit eligibility list.
3. On motion by William Gallagher, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved the Bowmanstown Volunteer Fire Company Volunteer Tax Credit eligibility list.
4. On motion by William Gallagher, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved the 2024 per capita exoneration list of \$310.00.
5. On motion by William Gallagher, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council appointed tax collection for balance of 2024 per capita taxes in the amount of \$7,474.50 (\$6,795 face + \$679.50 penalty).
6. On motion by William Gallagher, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council approved payment request number one for Telco, Inc. for the Delaware Avenue and Third Street traffic signal.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/BOROUGH CODE

No report.

BUILDINGS/RECREATION/PARKS

Andrew Hollywood reported:

1. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Randolph Gursky and voice vote, Council approved, the following use requests:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Raquel Lutton, Tax Collector	Council Chambers	Tax Collection
Parryville Volunteer Fire Co	Park	Yard Sale

PUBLIC SAFETY

Kris Hoffner reported:

1. On motion by Kris Hoffner, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council adopted Ordinance 782 establishing a handicapped parking space on the 400 block of Lafayette Avenue, South side. A copy of this ordinance is attached to these minutes.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS

Randolph Gursky reported:

1. On motion by Randolph Gursky, second by William Gallagher and voice vote, Council renewed the snowplow cooperation agreement with Lower Towamensing Township.

SEWER/SOLID WASTE/WATER

William Gallagher had no report.

PERSONNEL

Terry Costenbader reported:

1. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council appointed to the Palmerton Municipal Fire Department Support Team Board of Directors Jason Behler, Shawn Rios, Dennis Behler, Kris Hoffner and Bernard Shea.
2. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved the Palmerton Municipal Fire Department membership roster.

DISPOSITION OF BILLS

On motion by William Gallagher, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved payment of the invoices and the check register as presented.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Don Herrmann reported:

1. Thank you to the Public Works Department for the great job clearing all the snow.
2. Thank you to the Palmerton and Lehighton High School basketball teams for their support of Avidum Awareness.
3. A reminder to residents to help the Fire Company during snow storms by clearing the snow away from fire hydrants.

REPORT OF THE POLICE CHIEF

Timothy Kromer reported:

1. National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 in the Borough Park. Anyone interested in participating in or sponsoring the event can contact the Palmerton Police Department.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kris Hoffner commended the Public Works Department for their great job clearing the streets after the recent storm. Autumn Canfield also thanked the Police Department for their help on Delaware Avenue.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by William Gallagher, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Rodrigues
Recording Secretary

Autumn Canfield
Manager/Secretary