

REGULAR MEETING OF PALMERTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

HELD IN BOROUGH HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024, 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:

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| Terry L. Costenbader, Council President | Jenny Y.C. Cheng Esq., Solicitor |
| Richard L. Nothstein | Don Herrmann, Mayor |
| Holly F. Hausman Sell | Timothy Kromer, Police Chief |
| Andrew J. Hollywood | Kimberly A. Rodrigues, Recording Secretary |
| William A. Gallagher | |
| Randolph M. Gursky | |

Absent: Kris Hoffner
Autumn Canfield

VISITORS

Jason Behler, 727 Franklin Avenue; Jonathan Oakes, 793 Delaware Avenue; Raberta and Jeremy Hans, 435 Franklin Avenue; Lisa Snell-Kern, 220 Edgemont Avenue; Austin Novak, 315 Hahns Dairy Road; Jared Cebrosky, 445 Princeton Avenue; Terry Arner, Times News reporter; Drew Snowberger, TV-13 Cameraman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SENIOR RECOGNITION

Holly Sell presented Emma Snyder with Resolution 717-24. Emma was unable to attend the May 23, 2024 Council meeting to receive her recognition.

FIRE DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS

On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council appointed Jonathan Oakes and Austin Novak to the Palmerton Municipal Fire Company.

On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council appointed a Junior Firefighter to the Palmerton Municipal Fire Company.

SWEARING IN OF FIRE COMPANY MEMBER

Mayor Herrmann performed the swearing-in of newly appointed Fire Company members Jonathan Oakes and Austin Novak.

HEARING OF VISITORS

None.

RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council approved the May 23, 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.

MANAGERS REPORT

No report.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE

Richard Nothstein reported:

1. On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council accepted the 2023 financial statements as presented by Kirk, Summa and Company.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/BOROUGH CODE

Holly Sell reported:

1. Holly Sell reminded all residents of the government forum held by Borough Manager, Autumn Canfield, the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30-6:30 at the Palmerton Library.

BUILDINGS/RECREATION/PARKS

Andrew Hollywood reported:

1. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Holly Sell 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>
Concourse Club	Park (SW quadrant)	Movie in the Park
Historical Society	Park (NE quadrant)	“Bicycle Guy” presentation
Cub Pack 209	Park (SW quadrant)	Recruitment event

2. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council denied the use request submitted by Gary Gray for an Alaska Shaved Ice concession in the Park.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Terry Costenbader reported:

1. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved, retroactive, the Leighton Borough request for Fire Police assistance on July 4, 2024.
2. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Andrew Hollywood and voice vote, Council approved the Fire Department to attend the Walnutport Dedication Ceremony on June 29, 2024, the Northampton Community Days parade on July 20, 2024 and the Leighton Fire Department’s 150th Anniversary Celebration on September 28, 2024.

William Gallagher expressed concern for the town’s coverage during these times away. Chief Jason Behler assured him they would not have a problem covering as the approved locations are in close proximity to the Borough.

3. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council approved, retroactive, Kevin Buck as of Officer in Charge from June 24 through June 26, 2024.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS

Randolph Gursky had no report.

SEWER/SOLID WASTE/WATER

William Gallagher had no report.

PERSONNEL

Terry Costenbader reported at the beginning of the meeting.

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. Thank you to our firefighters for their continued work in our town and surrounding areas. As you all know, there was a major fire in Lehighton recently. The intense fire and extreme heat made it a very tough situation for all first responders. I would like to thank the community and businesses for reaching out with their generous donations to our fire department.
2. A reminder to all residents to move their cars for street cleaning. Street cleaning is for cosmetic, as well as safety to help ensure that debris does not clog drains. If cars are not moved they will be ticketed. Compliance will help make sure that our public works department is able to do their job and avoid possible flooding.
3. A reminder to residents to let the experts handle the fireworks with July 4th coming up. There is no legal area in town where fireworks can be shot off and with dry conditions fireworks present a major fire issue. If you are having parties, please be considerate of your neighbors and keep noise at minimal level.
4. The Palmerton Pool is up and running for its 77th year. Come out with your families and cool off during the summer. The Pool offers veterans a discount and has many special event days planned for this season.
5. I would like to thank all the local businesses that have contributed to the National Night out Event that will take place on Tuesday August 6th.

REPORT OF THE POLICE CHIEF

Timothy Kromer reported:

1. Detective Buck and Patrolman Green recently attended a joint training session at the Pennsylvania School Safety Institute, where they had the opportunity to work alongside administration, staff, and security for Palmerton Area School District. The training session was an excellent experience and I want to thank Palmerton Area School District for inviting us to attend.
2. Thank you to the Palmerton Fire Department for their Beat the Heat event held in the Borough Park this past Saturday which provided some much-needed heat relief for our Borough residents.
3. Another reminder about this year's National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6, 2024. We have received sponsorship from local Allstate agent Lisa Tupper, in addition to Blue Ridge Communications and Cheng Law Offices. It will again be held in conjunction with the Palmerton Concourse Club's Movie in the Park, immediately following National Night Out. Anyone interested in participating or sponsoring the event, please contact the Palmerton Police Department.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion by Terry Costenbader, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council appointed Carlene Andress to fill the vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Rodrigues
Recording Secretary