

REGULAR MEETING OF PALMERTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

HELD IN BOROUGH HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 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:

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| Terry Costenbader, Council President | Don Herrmann, Mayor |
| Richard L. Nothstein | Timothy Kromer, Police Chief |
| Holly F. Hausman Sell | Autumn Canfield, Manager/Secretary |
| Andrew J. Hollywood | Kimberly A. Rodrigues, Recording Secretary |
| William A. Gallagher | |

- Absent: Kris W. Hoffner
 Randolph M. Gursky
 Jenny Y.C. Cheng, Solicitor

VISITORS

Don Heiney, 218 Lafayette Avenue; Richard Kost, 220 Lafayette Avenue; Raberta and Jeremy Hans, 435 Franklin Avenue; Anna Shigo and Dawn Gornam, CC Open Space Committee; Janis Sylstra, 568 Mauch Chunk Road; Debbie Smith, 572 Mauch Chunk Road; Mike Sofranko, CC Commissioner; Jared Cebrosky, 445 Princeton Avenue; Drew Snowberger, TV-13 cameraman; Terry Arner, Times News reporter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

HEARING OF VISITORS

Janice Sylstra of 568 Mauch Chunk Road was looking to Council to address her concerns from the April Council meeting regarding the South side paving of Mauch Chunk Road, specifically questioning if the road will be milled to reveal a curb line. She is concerned about water runoff. Autumn Canfield will forward this to the Engineer.

Debbie Smith of 572 Mauch Chunk Road informed Council of her concerns regarding the deteriorating wall along Railroad Alley that her neighbor, Janice Sylstra, spoke about at the last meeting. She added the trees along the bank above the wall need attention as well. Terry Costenbader advised the Borough is looking into it and trying to determine ownership.

RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council approved the April 24, 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

- 1. Treasurer’s Report
- 2. Zoning Officer Report
- 3. Police Department Report
- 4. Fire Chief Report
- 5. Moving Permit Report
- 6. Code Compliance Agent Report
- 7. Street Supervisor 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 LSA Monroe grant for the Palmerton Library has been approved for \$100,000.00

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE

Richard Nothstein reported:

- 1. National Night Out will be held in the Palmerton Borough Park on August 5, 2025.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/BOROUGH CODE

Holly Sell reported:

- 1. Anna Shigo of the Carbon County Open Space Committee provided a brief explanation of the newly funded program geared towards preserving wooded areas, wildlife and water resources. They are working on developing workshops in the area and asked for a contact. Autumn Canfield will be the representative of the Borough. Dawn Gornam, also with the program, informed Council they are available for assistance when working through any grant or project applications.

BUILDINGS/RECREATION/PARKS

Andrew Hollywood reported:

- 1. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote (Terry Costenbader abstained from the Pace Makers request and Holly Sell from the PAEA request), Council approved the following use requests subject to scheduling and availability:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Raising the House	Park (West Side)	5K Run/Walk
Raising the House	Council Chambers	Pre-race Registration/Pick-up
Pace-Makers Asn	Council Chambers	Meetings
PAEA	Gym	Meeting
Paige Wehr	Bandstand	Wedding

- 2. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council approved the quote form S&G Asphalt in the amount of \$950.00 for the addition of Pickleball lines on Basketball Court at Third Street.

Richard Nothstein inquired if there was availability anywhere else in the Borough for a pickleball Court, and Holly Sell questioned if the new lines would be a different color than the existing court lines. Andrew Hollywood may look into another facility based on the popularity of the court and will inquire about the color.

3. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council approved application for the Main Street Grant funds for refurbishing the Bandstand floor at a max of \$2,000.00.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Richard Nothstein reported:

1. On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council approved the \$2,000.00 bid for Car 51 through Municibid.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS

William Gallagher reported:

1. On motion by William Gallagher, second by Richard Nothstein and voice vote, Council approved Pay Request #4 based on the KCE recommendation to TELCO, Inc. in the amount of \$41,613.48.

William Gallagher complimented the outcome of the project.

SEWER/SOLID WASTE/WATER

William Gallagher had no report.

PERSONNEL

Terry Costenbader had no report.

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. Congratulations to Airing of the Quilts on the success of their second annual event. It seemed very well received by the community and there was much excitement in town for the day. Numerous restaurants stated that they were very busy on the day of the event. Also, congratulations to Crusaders for a Cause and their 4-day carnival in the Park.
2. The Palmerton Pool opens for its 78th year on Saturday, best wishes for another successful year.
3. The Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday May 26th concluding with a program in the Park. Please come out and show your respect to all of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

4. The annual Car Show in the park, sponsored by the Pacemakers Association, will be held rain or shine on Saturday June 14th from 9AM to 3 PM.
5. Congratulations to all the track and field athletes that will be participating at the State Championships in Shippensburg on Friday and Saturday, to all the High School seniors that will be graduating and to all students moving up to their next level of their education.
6. On June 5, 2025 a new law takes effect in Pennsylvania that bans drivers from using any electronic handheld device while operating a vehicle, even if stopped at a red light or stop sign. In certain emergency situations it is permitted. This law is known as “Paul Miller’s law”. For the first 12 months a written warning is issued, but starting June 5, 2026 a \$50 fine plus court costs and other fees will be incurred.
7. The new traffic lights have been installed at 3rd and Delaware. These new lights are designed to make drivers more aware of the first set of lights. As with all traffic control devices, please use caution and be aware at all times.

REPORT OF THE POLICE CHIEF

Timothy Kromer reported:

1. Officer Green, our Borough mechanic Brad, and I have spent the past two days assisting the Axon tech with installation of the MVR/ALPR cameras in all five patrol vehicles. As of today, we have fully deployed our new Axon Body Worn Cameras and MVR/ALPR cameras. Officer Green and I are in the process of conducting training on the MVRs and Body Worn Cameras for all Officers. The technology in the new cameras is absolutely incredible and we are all excited about using them.
2. National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 5th in the Borough Park. Anyone interested in participating in or sponsoring the event can contact the Palmerton Police Department.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Palmerton United Veteran’s Organization was in Jim Thorpe today for the Carbon County Memorial Day Ceremony. Tomorrow they will take place in services beginning at 9:00 AM at the Veteran’s Memorial in the Park and will partaking in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday.
2. Holly Sell thanked the Concourse Club and the Girl Scouts for the planting of the flowers in the Park and the Mule.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Rodrigues
Recording Secretary

Autumn Canfield
Manager/Secretary