

REGULAR MEETING OF PALMERTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

HELD IN BOROUGH HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 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:

Terry L. Costenbader, Council President
Kris W. Hoffner, Council Vice-President
Richard L. Nothstein
Holly Hausman Sell
Andrew J. Hollywood
Randolph M. Gursky
William A. Gallagher

Jenny Y. C. Cheng, Esq., Solicitor
Don Herrmann, Mayor
Timothy Kromer, Police Chief
Autumn Canfield, Borough Manager
Kimberly Rodrigues, Recording Secretary

VISITORS

Jeremy and Raberta Hans, 435 Franklin Avenue; Shawn Rios, 40 Hahns Dairy Road; Carolyn and James Brown, 215 White Street; Benjamin Cornmesser, 715 E. Princeton Avenue; Jade Ruzicka, 783 Lafayette Avenue; Brandon Smale, 635 Lafayette Avenue; Dennis and Kyle Behler, 512 Lafayette Avenue; Jason Behler, 727 Franklin Avenue; Franklin Haas, 893 Edgemont Avenue; Vicki and Carl Bush, 827 Delaware Avenue, 2nd Floor; Jessee Ziegler, 760 Mauch Chunk Road; Brian Rehrig, 687 Princeton Avenue; Martin DeSousa, 669 Delaware Avenue; Charles Pantaleo, Whitetail Disposal; Jonathan Siller, 1033 Fourth Street; Josh Kreitzer, Anthracite Waste; Jason White, 30 Douglas Lane, Kunkletown; Terry Ahner, Times News.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

HEARING OF VISITORS

None.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

PUBLIC SAFETY

Kris Hoffner reported:

1. As the Fire Department has been extremely busy with a recent mountain fire, Kris Hoffner introduced Fire Chief Behler to report on the current situation. Jason Behler expressed his appreciation for the department's members, relaying they had over 830 man hours between brush fires in surrounding areas and the massive mountain fire. He commended them for their dedication and commitment and is proud of their efforts. He also mentioned the outpouring of public donations from the community and thanked residents for their support. Excess donations were given to the Palmerton Food Bank for distribution.

Holly Sell reminded the public about the burn ban and asked Chief Behler for insight. He reminded residents to use common sense and continue with restrictions on all burning. He also advised taking extra precautions such as removing leaves from gutters and keeping the area around homes clear of leaves, branches or anything that can burn. Conditions are extremely dry.

FINANCE

Richard Nothstein reported:

1. The 2025 budget is drafted. Manager Canfield relayed the Finance Committee met to prepare a draft budget and discussions are on schedule. Any comments and or concerns may be brought up at the next meeting before moving to advertise and adopt.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/BOROUGH CODE

Holly Sell had no report.

BUILDINGS/RECREATION

Andrew Hollywood reported:

1. On motion by Andrew Hollywood, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council approved the Knights of Columbus Council 2522 request for a Nativity scene in the park.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS

Randolph Gursky had no report.

SEWER/SOLID WASTE/WATER

William Gallagher reported:

1. On motion by William Gallagher, second by Kris Hoffner and voice vote, Council awarded a three-year trash contract, in the amount of \$2,388,758.80, to Whitetail Disposal, LLC.

Autumn Canfield advised the trash rate will increase from \$72 per quarter to \$119 per quarter.

PERSONNEL

Terry Costenbader had no report.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Richard Nothstein, second by Holly Sell and voice vote, Council adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Rodrigues
Recording Secretary

Autumn Canfield
Manager/Secretary