

December 16, 2021

Apollo Borough Council Meeting

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a brief invocation, the Apollo Borough council meeting was called to order by Council President John Steele at 7:00 p.m. at 631 N 2nd Street, Apollo PA 15613 (Soldiers & Sailors Hall).

Present: Council member John Steele, Michelle Beck, Jennifer Mullins and Patrick Zelonka were present. The Secretary/Treasurer, Engineer, Mayor and Solicitor were present. Mark Tarle, Craig Williams and Kristina Fox were absent.

Public Comments:

Becky Kane inquired about the 2022 garbage fee increase and asked if Vogel/Shank Disposal trash bid was as high as Waste Management. Jennifer Mullins explained that both bids were very close in cost but Waste Management was cheaper and was chosen due to many calls and complaints with Shanks service.

Patrick Zelonka thanked the Council, borough employees and appointed officials for all of the hard work they put into the Borough and said it was a privilege to have worked with everyone. He mentioned many accomplishments made by all and said it was a shame that a lot of it went unnoticed due to all of the negative and one sided comments on social media. He hopes that the newly elected officials will continue to move forward with the progress that has been made and intends on being a part of it voluntarily.

Patrick Zelonka also talked about the meeting in North Apollo with Bill Kerr regarding the LED Street lighting project and said the meeting had discussions on how working together with other municipalities on a comprehensive plan may increase chances of receiving grant money. He mentioned partnering with North Apollo and possibly East Vandergrift to do something with the usable space on the Riverfront property and maybe have solar panels on the restricted area. The solar panels were discussed at a meeting earlier in the year. He said it is great waterfront property that has been sitting there for years and the borough could do so much with it. He mentioned the borough possibly hiring a grant writer and said there is a lot of money to be had out there if you know how to get it.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Michelle Beck and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to approve the November 18, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report: Nothing new to report.

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Michelle Beck to pay the Solicitor's Invoices of \$1605.50. Motion passed unanimously.

Engineering Report: The engineer gave his report.

Mayor, Cynthia Virostek questioned the MS4 permit/waiver. Per the engineer, Apollo Borough was not eligible for an exemption waiver. The MS4 permit is good for 5 years and expires in October 2023.

A motion was made by Jennifer Mullins and seconded by Patrick Zelonka to pay the Engineer's October invoices of \$1325.48 and November invoices of \$1009.60. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor's Report:

In the month of November, there were 10 complaints, 6 incidents and 13 citations. Report on totals for 2021 to December 1st: 322 complaints, 100 incidents, 317 citations (traffic & non-traffic), 5 reportable accidents and 7 DRE call outs.

Mayor, Cynthia Virostek, presented a written speech thanking the citizens for the opportunity to serve as their mayor for the last 4 years and said it was an honor to work with and attend to her constituents. She looks forward to working with the new Mayor, Karen Kenzevich, and other duly elected members of Apollo Council toward new objectives.

Public Safety: Mark Tarle, chair: Absent. Nothing new to report.

Secretary/Treasurer:

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to approve the Street Light Agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Jennifer Mullins and seconded by Michelle Beck to accept the Salt Shed Quote from Crown International Steel. Roll call: John Steele – yes, Jennifer Mullins – yes, Michelle Beck – yes, Patrick Zelonka – abstain. Motion passed by majority.

A motion was made by Michelle Beck and seconded by Patrick Zelonka to accept the meeting dates for 2022. Motion passed unanimously.

Council reviewed the 2022 Fee Schedule with only one change being the garbage bill increase.

Jennifer Mullins was approved to be a check signer for the Apollo Borough Checking Accounts. All members of Council agreed. A current council member would be needed to sign checks for the beginning of 2022.

Finance Committee Report: John Steele, chair:

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to accept the 2022 budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Mullins thanked John Steele for his attention to the budget. John said he was happy to help the Borough and will always be there for everyone.

A motion made by Jennifer Mullins and seconded by Patrick Zelonka to pay the bills, including payroll. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of items for payment as follows (11/18/21 – 12/13/2021):

Garbage Fund-	\$26600.55
General Fund (includes payroll) -	\$16961.97
Liquid Fuels Fund –	\$3813.69
Parking Fund -	\$228.00
Sewer Fund -	\$2395.03
Sewer Separation Fund -	\$2395.03
Event Fund -	\$1327.64
Total	\$52394.27

Personnel/HR Committee Report: Craig Williams, chair: Absent.

Per Public Works Foreman, Ron Polka, so far the new hire training is going well.

Public Works & Street Committee Report: Patrick Zelonka, chair.

Patrick Zelonka asked about the salt inventory. Public works foreman said there is about 15 ton available and can be delivered in a day or two if/when they need more. Patrick thanked Ron Polka for doing a great job in town and said he enjoyed working with him.

Property/Planning Report: Mark Tarle, chair: Absent. Nothing new to report.

Public Relations/Citizens Advisory Committee Report: Michelle Beck, chair:

Michelle Beck reported there were 40-50 kids that came to see Santa Claus at Drake's Log Cabin. The Events Committee is checking into changing events to a non-profit organization in the future.

Jennifer Mullins said she was contacted by Drug & Alcohol Commission to do another drive thru event in January to pass out free NARCAN. Council agreed unanimously to allow the NARCAN drive thru.

John Steele wanted to let council know that it was a pleasure and honor to have worked with all of them. He is proud of what they have accomplished despite all of the obstacles they've had to overcome. He said he feels everyone should try a seat on council because they will realize it is not an easy job. He also wanted to thank all of the citizens and let them know that his presence will still be of service to the borough even though he will not be on council.

At 7:54 p.m. a motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.


John Steele
Council President


Deanna Shupe
Borough Secretary/Treasurer