

August 25, 2026
Apollo Borough Council Regular Meeting

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, The Apollo Borough council meeting was called to order by the President at 7:00 p.m., at Soldier's and Sailor's at 631 N. 2nd St., Apollo PA 15613.

Council members: Mark Tarle, Cindy O'Block, Ken Cyphert, Kristina Fox, Michelle Beck and Jeanne Rummel were present. The Secretary/Treasurer, Mayor and Solicitor were present. Council Member Sherry Sabatino and The Engineer were absent.

Opening of Garbage Contract Bids:

- Bids were received from 4 waste haulers. The bids were from Shank Sanitation, County Hauling, Waste Management and Bankosh were opened. The prices were announced from each bidder.
- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Mark Tarle to table the decision to decide on a hauler. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Jeanne Rummel to advertise a special meeting to award a waste hauler on September 1, 2026 at 7PM to be held at Soldiers and Sailors Hall.

Vacancy Board:

- A letter of interest to fill a vacancy on the vacancy board was submitted by Pat Zelonka. The letter also relayed an interest to fill a council seat vacancy, when/if one occurs.
- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Mark Tarle to appoint Pat Zelonka to the Vacancy Board. Motion passed unanimously.

Resignations:

- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Michelle Beck to accept the resignation of council member Sherry Sabatino. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Jeanne Rummel to accept the Assistant Secretary's resignation. Motion passed unanimously.
- The mayor thanked Jamie Johnston for her years of service.
- Letter of Interest for the open seat on council received and reviewed from Nathan Leasure.
- Motion: made by Mark Tarle, seconded by Cindy O'Block to nominate Nathan Leasure to council. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion: made by Mark Tarle, seconded by Cindy O'Block to table the reassignment of committee until the September 2026 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

- Scott Brunermer requested variances at 806R Armstrong and 725 N Warren Ave. The Solicitor advised him to submit a request to the office.
- Karen Graham presented a request to the council to place welcome message boulder at the gateway entrance to Apollo Borough and to incorporate a statement of faith into the current website information.

Meeting Minutes:

- Motion: made by Mark Tarle, seconded by Jeanne Rummel to approve the July 28, 2026 meeting minutes. Michelle Beck abstained. Motion otherwise passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report:

- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Michelle Beck to advertise the Solicitation Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Engineering Report: Absent.

- Repeated Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Michelle Beck to table the payment of the Engineer's Invoice pending resolve of questioned charges. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Kenzevich:

- Discussion: Applicant for the position of Part Time police officer was received, the Mayor and Officer in Charge wish to hire, Council requested to investigate the cost to readvertise on indeed and other online platforms. Council Member Cindy O'Block suggested revisiting regionalizing the police department. It was noted that a full-time officer wage needs to be negotiated and that the police contract is coming up for renewal by the end of 2026

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

- Discussion: Three applications were submitted for handicap spaces near Trinity Bible Chapel.
- Motion: made by Jeanne Rummel, seconded by Cindy O'Block to approve one permanent spot and proposed the placement of two additional, temporary reserved parking spaces for each Sunday only. Motion passed unanimously. Future needs will be reevaluated. Public works is to install the permanent sign.
- Motion: to advertise for the position of Assistant Secretary made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Jeanne Rummel. Motion passed unanimously.

Monthly Expenses:

- Discussion: all future payments to council members must be approved by council.
- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Jeanne Rummel to ratify the payment of expenses from the July meeting minutes because there was a question about the vote. Motion passed unanimously.
- Monthly Expenses for payment of items as follows (7/25/2026 – 8/21/2026):
 - General Fund (includes payroll) - \$42,000.79
 - Garbage Fund – \$15,079.24
 - Parking Fund - \$0.00
 - Sewer Fund/Separation Fund - \$2,395.03
 - Liquid Fuels - \$0.00
 - Landlord Fund - \$0.00
 - Vacancy Fund - \$0.00
 - Events Fund - \$0.00
 - Total – \$59,475.06
- Motion: made by Mark Tarle, seconded by Ken Cyphert to approve the payment of the monthly expenses for 7/25/2026 – 8/21/2026. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance Committee Report: Jeanne Rummel, chair:

- Discussion: Reallocation of funds proposal and update on Tax Anticipation Note payback and real estate payments to date:
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 1 of 11: Increase landlord registration fee to \$100.00 from \$50.00 for landlords who are more than 25 miles from investment properties in Apollo. Council agreed to a \$100.00 fee for those property owners per property.
- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Mark Tarle to increase landlord registration fees to \$100.00 for landlords who are more than 25 miles from investment properties in Apollo. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 2 of 11: State Highway Occupancy Permits to also obtain Borough Curb Cut approval and pay associated Borough fee of \$100.00 per cut.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 3 of 11: Utility Road Opening permits are to include any opening on any area between the curb, up to and including the sidewalk. The utility companies are currently required to pay \$300.00 if the utility opens a road, but they are avoiding that fee by digging through sidewalks.
- Motion: motion made Cindy O'Block, seconded by Jeanne Rummel to conditionally approve items 2 and 3 pending reviews of the ordinances. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 4 of 11: Regola contract, review of grants the borough received as a result of his service and questioning the lack of detailed invoice.
- Motion: made by Cindy O'Block, seconded by Kristina Fox to continue Regola Consulting Services. Motion passed unanimously.

- Discussion Reallocation Topic 5 of 11: Discontinue VFD auto insurance payments. Five VFD vehicles cost the borough \$8,248 per year in premiums. The other seven vehicles cost \$6,440 per year. There was a recent accident and the insurance premiums are steadily increasing. The borough has two departments in .31 square land miles. Number 2 is exploring the possibility of paying for their own insurance. Number 3 does not wish to take on the expense. Public safety grants are available to combine the two fire departments. Further discussion between the Departments and Borough was requested.
- Motion: motion was made by Michelle Beck, seconded by Cindy O'Block to table the decision pending private discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 6 of 11: make installments payments of \$1,500 to \$2,000 per month to Gibson Thomas, in lieu of paying the entire invoice until the balance is paid in full.
- Motion: motion made by Michelle Beck, seconded by Ken Cyphert to make installment payments to Gibson Thomas until the balance is paid in full. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 7 of 11: make installment payments to Charlton Law, in lieu of paying the balance of each invoice until the balance is paid in full. This was accepted at the last meeting.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 8 of 11: Reduce postage cost by mailing a single combined sewage voucher and garbage voucher to each serviceable address's property owner. This will reduce the price of postage by three quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) or more when mailed in the same envelope by reducing the costs of paper, ink, wages and envelopes. The total savings are anticipated to be approximately \$3847.83 per year. The disadvantage is that it will take a quite some time to transfer all of the account information from QuickBooks into the payment vouchers.
- Motion: motion made by Mark Tarle, seconded by Jeanne Rummel to table the decision pending more information. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 9 of 11: Sell the Durango police vehicle. This will save the Borough \$867.00 dollars in auto insurance premiums plus additional maintenance costs.
- Motion: Motion made by Mark Tarle, seconded by Cindy O'Block to sell the Durango. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 10 of 11: Implement a \$7.00 (negotiable) fire hydrant rental tax into each property owner's Real Estate spring taxes to pay the annual KVVPA fire hydrant rental bill of nearly \$800.00. This cost I anticipated to rise.
- Motion: motion made by Jeanne Rummel, seconded by Cindy O'Block to implement a \$3.50 per parcel tax to be paid. This fee will be incorporated into spring real estate taxes beginning in 2027. Cindy O'Block proposed making this a trial, 2-year tax. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion Reallocation Topic 11 of 11: Discontinue mowing at Drake's Log Cabin. It was determined the log Cabin currently pays a \$100.00 donation for mowing each year. The lot size has doubled.
- Motion: motion made to table the decision pending further discussion made by Jeanne Rummel, seconded by Cindy O'Block. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Safety: Mark Tarle, chair:

- Discussion: The yellow strip painted on the top step at the borough building is causing people to trip.
- Discussion: Paint a yellow strip along the step-down in the rear borough parking lot near the designated Handicap parking to alert cars of the drop off.
- Discussion: Update on dangerous structures, there are no further updates.

Public Works & Streets Committee Report: Jeanne Rummel, chair:

- No comments on curb painting
- A price of \$1300 was received from Kochka Towing and Car Care Center for backhoe tires. The tired will need to be installed before winter.

Property & Planning Committee Report: Cindy O'Block, chair:

- Discussion: Solar panel update. Still awaiting interconnection to move forward. No further update.

Public Relations Committee/Events: Jeanne Rummel, chair:

- Discussion: Luau was a success, with plenty of french fries, ice cream and hungry people. The hall kitchen breakers presented problems because they continued to shut off due to electricity demand overload.

- Discussion: The Halloween Parade is scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2026 at 6pm.

Other Business:

- Discussion: Gibson Thomas and Robert Regola are advocating to obtain Penn Dot permitting needed to begin the 9th Street paving and storm drain improvement project.

Old Business:

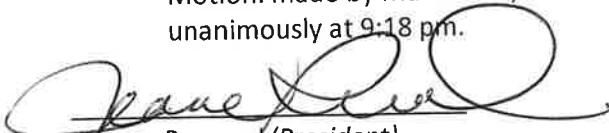
- The overgrown property on 5th Street was cut back and mowed down.

Executive Session:

- No executive session.

Adjournment:

- Motion: made by Mark Tarle, seconded by Cindy O'Block to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously at 9:18 pm.


Jeanne Rumme (President)


Borough Secretary/Treasurer