

May 26, 2022

Apollo Borough Council Meeting

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

Present: Council members Jerrod Thompson, Cindee Virostek, Jennifer Mullins, Craig Williams, Michelle Beck, Cindy O'Block and Diane Bradshaw were present. The Secretary/Treasurer, Mayor and Engineer were present. The Solicitor was absent.

Public Comments:

Colleen Millie came to speak on behalf of the Apollo Area Lions Club. They are asking for council's approval to hold the First Responders Appreciation Picnic on August 9th. They thought it would be the perfect time to have the picnic since Bill Kerr booked a free concert to be performed by the Armstrong-Kittanning Fireman's Band.

Council approved the request and waived fees for the Gazebo and Pavilions. There was question about use of the Soldiers & Sailors Hall restrooms and whether they would be open to the public. Council said the restrooms for the hall will not be open to the public and a porta potty is available. Hall rentals require a security deposit to hold the private renter accountable for any damages which is not possible during a public event.

Abby Major wanted to inform Council she is back in the district. She attended the meeting to see what is going on in town and offered to help with anything if needed. She also handed business cards out to council.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Michelle Beck to approve the April 28, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report:

The Solicitor was absent.

A motion was made by Craig Williams and seconded by Cindy O'Block to pay the Solicitor's Invoices. Motion passed unanimously.

Engineering Report:

The engineer discussed the damaged bridge on Terrace Avenue and the repairs needed. It would cost \$4,750.00 to remove the bridge deck and was quoted by Plum Contracting contingent upon having it done before they excavate the stream channel as part of the PennDot project. To remove the bridge deck and replace it entirely would cost anywhere from \$30,000 to \$60,000.

Discussion on road closure for 11th Street Project and #2 Fire Department not being able to get to their truck in Apollo from North Apollo. Council asked if this could be discussed with PennDot to allow access for emergency situations. Council president said he has not seen anyone at the construction site to speak with. The engineer said he could provide an email address for his contact on the project.

Chapter 94 report was completed.

Council discussed exploring alternatives to getting some of the streets paved rather than risking the costs of applying and waiting on another grant that will not be awarded. The borough has only been awarded 2 out of the 5 grants since 2014 per the Engineer.

A motion was made by Jennifer Mullins and seconded by Cindy O'Block to table the Engineer's Invoices for further review. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor's Report: Karen Kenzevich

The Mayor announced the 2021 Leonard Miller Scholarship has been awarded to ARHS student, Bailey Zidek. She said Officer Baustert accompanied her to the ceremony and did a wonderful job speaking about the origin and purpose of the scholarship.

Also the Mayor reported that she is aware of the complaints of residents not taking care of their lawns and said that Officer Romagnoli has been looking at local properties and issuing citations for the high grass.

Public Safety: Michelle Beck, chair

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Jennifer Mullins for the Parking Ordinance to be advertised to include residential parking permits. Roll call: Jerrod Thompson – yes; Jennifer Mullins – yes; Craig Williams – yes; Diane Bradshaw – no; Michelle Beck – yes; Cindy O'Block – yes and Cindee Virostek -no. Motion passed by majority vote.

A motion was made by Cindee Virostek and seconded by Diane Bradshaw for the Drug Task Force Agreement to be signed and approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

Discussed issues with heating and a/c in the borough building in 2021 and again in 2022. Ferguson Heating and Air Conditioning fixed the problems but said the unit is old and will eventually need to be replaced. They gave an updated quote on 5/24/22 of \$8515.00. Council may need to check into this for 2023 budget.

A motion was made by Jennifer Mullins and seconded by Cindy O'Block to accept the proposal for the Liability insurance presented by Century Insurance. Motion passed unanimously.

The Council unanimously approved the "Cracker Jack Day" sponsored by The Apollo Area Lions Club to be held on Saturday, June 4th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It was announced that the late Ellen Jane Kness had awarded \$25,000 for Owen's Grove improvements. Diane Bradshaw and Cindee Virostek volunteered to be the committee for the Kness Donation.

2016 police vehicle had fusion kit repair done by Tom's Auto Service free of charge. Officers sent a thank you letter to him.

Commercial loan interest rate for the sewer system is still under review. First Commonwealth Bank will need 2021 financials once the audit is complete. Auditor said it will be a few more weeks before it is finished.

Finance Committee Report: Jerrod Thompson, chair.

Finance committee had their first meeting and budget it still on track. Looking for funds to be used towards fixing our roads.

A motion by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Cindee Virostek to pay the bills, including payroll. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of items for payment as follows (4/26/2022 – 5/20/2022);
General Fund (includes payroll) - \$51495.17
Liquid Fuels Fund – 4092.83
Parking Fund - \$174.99
Sewer Fund - \$79.28
Sewer Separation Fund - \$2395.03
Event Fund - \$190.00
Landlord Fund- \$225.00
Total – \$58652.30

Public Works & Streets Committee Report: Craig Williams, chair:

There was discussion on the lamp post in the Plaza. The lamp post is custom made and we are still waiting on delivery. The manufacturer has not even given a tentative ship date to the buyer.

Salt shed is in progress. The block has already been laid for the bottom portion of the shed.

The bed on the 2016 white truck is rusting and needs to be fixed. The cost of the repairs are within the budget for this year. Public works will schedule an appropriate time to have it repaired.

Property & Planning Committee Report: Jennifer Mullins, chair

A copy of the Kerr Manufacturing sub-division plans is available to review in the Apollo Borough office. The Plan Review must be done by another party since Olsen cannot review their own plan.

Three quotes were received to perform the review:

Young and Associates \$1040.00

Senate \$3900.00

Gibson Thomas said the review will not exceed \$1200.00 and they can return the plan within 10 days of submission.

The costs would initially be paid by the borough but would be reimbursed by the plan submitter. Council allowed Kerr Manufacturing to voice their opinion on the engineering firm since they would be the party primarily paying for the plan review. Kerr Manufacturing thought Gibson Thomas was the best choice due to the 10 day return.

A motion was made by Michelle Beck and seconded by Cindy O'Block to accept Gibson Thomas to review Kerr Manufacturing plan. Motion passed unanimously.

Regola Consulting was brought up again for a vote to obtain their services in helping to find grants for the borough.

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Michelle Beck to hire Regola Consulting to help Apollo Borough with grant writing. Roll call: Jennifer Mullins – yes, Craig Williams – yes, Diane Bradshaw – no, Michelle Beck – yes, Cindy O'Block – yes and Jerrod Thompson – yes. Cindee Virostek chose to abstain. Motion passed by majority vote.

Habitat for Humanity: an update on Rock the Block. Please encourage people to participate and volunteer. Sign will be held at the Presbyterian Church on 1st Street, June 18, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. If you register early, you will get a t-shirt. There is also a question on the form about whether you would be willing to be a lead. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Public Relations Committee- Events: Jennifer Mullins, chair.

Events is partnering with Apollo Memorial Library to have a movie night at Owens Grove Park on Saturday, July 9th, 2022. They will be showing **Spiderman – No Way Home** (2021). Anyone interested in participating may start gathering at the Owen's Grove park by 8:00 p.m. and start at 9:00 p.m. Donations were provided by Nasers, Shop N Save and Park Twp. Slovak Club for popcorn, beverages, projection screen and speakers.

Bill Kerr wants to partner with the Events committee for 2 events. A concert at the Gazebo on Sunday, July 17th at 3:00 p.m. with Gibbons Big Band and another concert on Tuesday, August 9th with the Kittanning Firemens Band. This will be at the same time the Lion's Club will be hosting their First Responders Appreciation picnic. Bill requested the fees for the Gazebo and Pavilion be waived. The Hall will not be open to the public for these events. There is a port a john available for use and a handicapped port a john could be added for the events.

Pastor Erika Rabikow said the Apollo Area Business Association is dissolving and they are donating the Welcome to Apollo signs to the events committee. The signs are in poor condition and will need updated.


Executive Session:

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Craig Williams to go into Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

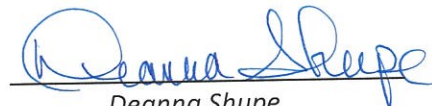
A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to come out of Executive Session at 8:33 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

There was a continued discussion on Plum Contracting removing the bridge deck for \$4750.00. Public Works foreman said Apollo Borough needs to create a road ordinance to have the roads bonded.

At 8:45 p.m. a motion was made by Cindee Virostek and seconded by Craig Williams to recess the meeting until Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 7:00pm. Motion passed unanimously.



Jerrod Thompson
Council President



Deanna Shupe
Borough Secretary/Treasurer