

October 24, 2023
Apollo Borough Council Meeting

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

Present: Council members Mark Tarle, Cindy O'Block, Sara Gerwig and Kenneth Cyphert were present. The Secretary/Treasurer, Solicitor, Mayor, and Engineer were present. Council members Jerrod Thompson, Diane Bradshaw, and Craig Williams were absent.

Public Comments:

Skyler Skeel said three weeks ago the homes on Terrace Avenue were being hit by paint ball guns and she knows who is doing it. She spoke to one of the officers and he said there was nothing he could do as he has discussed the incident with the parent and was told there were no paint guns at their home.

Sherry Sabatino, who also lives on Terrace, reiterated the same problem with the paint ball guns and said that her neighbor who lives on the 3rd floor had her car vandalized and she has pictures to prove it. Another resident from North 7th Street told her that their car was vandalized as well.

The mayor noted their information and said she would speak with the officer and see if there was any more they could do to resolve this issue.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Ken Cyphert to approve the September 26, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report:

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to adopt Ordinance 292-23. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Engineering Report:

Discussion on costs for LSA Grant. Municipalities can apply for up to a million for the grant. Additional cost to the borough on the grant would be \$130,000. Funds could be used from the road savings and covid relief money.

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Ken Cyphert to pay the Engineers' Invoices. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Kenzevich:

Discussion on new police officer, Kyle Lewis, to cover extra hours within the part time police budget.

The mayor discussed working with Digital Designs in Vandergrift to get decals on the new police car.

Public Safety: Mark Tarle, chair:

Discussion on replacing cameras in the plaza.

Discussion on “no jake brake” sign for trucks coming down first street. Penn DOT would have to be contacted for a permit and approval. Also mentioned putting a sign up for trucks in town indicating local deliveries only. Per the engineer, this would require a study before a sign was installed.

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

The lease on the borough office copier has ended and the xerox copier is requiring a lot of repairs. Discussed leasing with Ford Office Technologies since they have offered a new machine to include technical repairs, 3000 free copies per month and all supplies excluding copy paper. Ford lease is \$72.48 less per month than the previous lease with ComDoc.

A motion was made by Ken Cyphert and seconded by Cindy O’Block to approve the new lease with Ford Office Technologies. Motion passed unanimously.

The furnace in the borough building is no longer able to be repaired and needs to be replaced. Ferguson Heating offered a quote on a new unit last year when it stopped working and had to be serviced. The technician said the unit is very old and will need to be replaced sooner than later. Ferguson’s said they will honor the same price as last year of \$8515.00 for the furnace/air conditioning unit if we intend to purchase it.

A motion was made by Mark Tarle and seconded by Cindy O’Block to purchase a new furnace/air conditioning unit for the borough building. Motion passed unanimously.

A monthly expense report was given to the council.

Finance Committee Report: Jerrod Thompson, chair:

Discussion on increasing taxes for 2024.

A motion was made by Cindy O’Block and seconded by Sara Gerwig to approve advertising an ordinance for 2024 tax increase of 2 mills. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion by Cindy O’Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to pay the bills, including payroll. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of items for payment as follows (9/22/2023 – 10/18/2023):

General Fund (includes payroll) - \$54047.22

Garbage Fund – \$13676.52

Parking Fund - \$368.82

Sewer Fund - \$5552.14

Sewer Separation Fund - \$2395.03

Event Fund - \$830.00

Total – \$76869.73

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

Public Works will be getting a new dump truck soon but would like to keep the old one for certain jobs such as cleaning up leaves. The old dump truck has a fitted tarp that keeps the leaves contained. The council agreed to keep the old dump truck.

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

Working with insurance company on estimates for borough building damage.

Public Relations Committee- Events: Cindy O'Block, chair:

The Halloween parade is lining up on Wilson Way. Public works will block off roads. Also using Stanford lot for trunk or treat and setting up small carnival games for the children to play and win prizes.

Other Business:

A motion was made at 7:52 p.m. by Mark Tarle and seconded by Cindy O'Block to go into executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made at 8:04 p.m. by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Ken Cyphert to come out of executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

At 8:05 p.m. a motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Ken Cyphert to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.



Mark Tarle
Council Vice President



Deanna Shupe
Borough Secretary/Treasurer