

November 28, 2023
Apollo Borough Council Meeting

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

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

Public Comments:

Consultant, Bob Regola, discussed updates on grants that were submitted. Apollo Borough has received a new police vehicle and dump truck from the previous statewide LSA grant and has recently submitted a second LSA grant for the paving of a few roads. The DCNR "Other Parks" grant has been awarded for a paved walking trail at Owens Grove Park to be constructed in the spring. We are still waiting to hear back on the Small Water and Sewer grant for repairs underneath Kiski Avenue at S. 5th Street. Discussed possibility of solar energy being put on the Riverfront Property.

Philip Tack from Orphans of the Storm no kill dog and cat shelter discussed the issues they have had with flooding and maintenance of their shelter and their desperate need for a new one. They have raised most of the money to build a new shelter through local donations, a USDA loan and a RACP grant, however, they are still short of \$800,000 and asking for help from the community. Philip handed pamphlets to the council with information.

Dan McAdoo from Apollo Trust Bank came to discuss the damage and erosion of Gulliford Way and see if repairs could be done. The council said they were told the street was damaged because of the heavy equipment the bank had on it when they put a parking lot in. Dan had pictures to show the street after they put the parking lot in, then showed recent pictures of the street with the current potholes and cracks.

Reverend Karen Graham from Kingdom Come Ministries discussed wanting to consolidate the 3 properties owned by the church and provided the completed application and drawing for the property/planning committee to sign. Before signing, council asked Reverend Graham if the church plans to change the use of the current house/property and she said they are not changing a thing. She said they may plan to demolish the house as they have done to the other blighted property a couple years ago, but they will come to the borough office for a demolition permit if they make that decision.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to approve the October 24, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to approve the November 20, 2023, special meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report:

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

Engineering Report:

A brief discussion reviewing the LSA Grant application submission.

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

Mayor's Report: Mayor Kenzevich: Absent

Public Safety: Mark Tarle, chair:

Brief discussion of graphics on new police car. Officers would prefer ghost graphics if the car must be marked.

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to approve free parking in the plaza from Thanksgiving until January 1, 2024, for holiday shoppers. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to approve the 2024 MMO forms for uniform and non-uniform employees for the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Diane Bradshaw and seconded by Cindy O'Block to approve the 2024 Council Meeting Dates. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mark Tarle and seconded by Cindy O'Block to approve the 2024 billing dates for Garbage and Sewer User fund. Motion passed unanimously.

The council was given a fee schedule to review and approve at the December meeting.

The council was provided with a monthly expense report for review.

Finance Committee Report: Jerrod Thompson, chair:

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to approve Ordinance 293-2023 to fix the tax rates for 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Diane Bradshaw to approve advertising the proposed 2024 Budget for public review. 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 (10/19/2023 – 11/20/2023):

General Fund (includes payroll) - \$35729.00

Garbage Fund – \$24226.45

Parking Fund - \$1958.43

Sewer Fund - \$5552.14

Sewer Separation Fund - \$2395.03

Event Fund - \$260.00

Landlord Fund - \$740.00

Total – \$76000.76

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

Stevenson Equipment said the new dump truck should be done in about 8 weeks.

The council asked about salt supply and public works said they are good with what they have for now.

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

Discussed during public comments by consultant Bob Regola.

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


Events working with Apollo Memorial Library on their Christmas event, Santa at the Library.

Other Business:

A motion was made at 7:57 p.m. by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to go into executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made at 8:08 p.m. by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to come out of executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

At 8:09 p.m. a motion was made by Cindy O'Block and seconded by Mark Tarle to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.



Jerrod Thompson
Council President



Deanna Shupe
Borough Secretary/Treasurer