

June 24, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Apollo PA 15613 (Soldiers & Sailors Hall).

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

### Public Comments:

Benjamin SeEVERS: Came to the meeting to speak on behalf of his grandmother who resides at 102 Terrace Avenue. They noticed graffiti around her home recently and feels that there are people hanging around that shouldn't be there. The graffiti looks terrible and they feel it may be drawing in a bad crowd. His grandmother had an incident a couple years ago where someone was on her porch and tried to get in. They are afraid that may happen again if it isn't looked into. Patrick Zelonka, Chair of Public Works, asked if they had checked in with State Farm to see if they have anything on their cameras since they are right there as well. Benjamin said he did not think of that but will be check with State Farm and thanked him for the suggestion.

Becky Kane: Commented on the students doing storm water murals. She was very impressed and thinks they are doing an amazing job. She said she wasn't aware of the technology and process involved in making the murals. The students said the murals should last around 20 years. She thinks it should be mentioned in the next newsletter.

Janice Hollis: 204 Terrace Avenue. For the past 3 years there has been water damaging their property that comes down North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street with gravel and dirt. Her husband is getting too old to shovel the dirt. She said it is really bad and when the drain fills up it gushes out. She knows council talked about putting in a speed bump to slow the water but understands it probably won't last. She commented that public works put a drain in and she knew it would not hold that volume of water. The Chair of property, Mark Tarle, called Janice prior to the meeting to let her know they are trying to come up with solutions. One idea was to put in a higher curb but it would not work due to it being a problem with her small car not being able to get over it to get into her driveway. Mark said the street, sidewalk and driveway are all on the same level which is part of the problem. Public Works will check with the engineer and discuss other options for a solution to the drainage problem.

### Executive Session:

A motion was made by Mark Tarle and seconded by Patrick Zelonka to go into Executive Session at 7:15pm. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to come out of Executive Session at 8:19pm. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Jennifer Mullins and seconded by Mark Tarle to proceed with the Apollo Borough Revitalization Project for N. 4<sup>th</sup> St, N. 7<sup>th</sup> St and N. 9<sup>th</sup> streets including Lutheran Church Lane. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Michelle Beck to approve the submission of an application to the Armstrong County Development Block Grant Program in the amount of \$110,000 for the construction of handicap ramps at the various revitalization project intersections. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to approve the commitment of \$134,297.10 worth of Apollo Borough funds to the revitalization project. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Mark Tarle to direct the Apollo Borough Engineer to prepare a Multimodal Grant Application for the above referenced project. Motion passed unanimously.

Council will have the Apollo Borough Solicitor prepare the public-private partnership agreement with the First Evangelical Lutheran Church and West-In-Arms for the Multi Modal Grant Application due 7/31/2021.

Apollo Borough will be able to use COVID-19 Relief money towards the Grant.

**Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made by Michelle Beck and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to approve the May 27, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Solicitor's Report:**

A motion was made by Mark Tarle and seconded by Michelle Beck to pay the Solicitor's Invoices of \$4082.00. Motion passed unanimously.

**Engineer's Report:** The Engineer was absent.

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Mark Tarle to pay the Engineer invoices of \$1724.04. Motion passed unanimously.

Becky Kane asked if we have heard anything about updates on other projects in the area. John Steele advised council is working on one project at a time to stay on task. She asked about the N. 11 Street bridge project. Council advised they have not started on that yet. John said he will know when they start because they will probably call him since his business is located where the project is starting.

**Public Safety: Mark Tarle, chair.**

Proceed with process to put the gate up on nuisance property 900 block of North Warren Avenue.

**Mayor's Report:** The Mayor was absent.

The OIC turned the police report in to council.

**Secretary/Treasurer Report:**

Council approved the Apollo Borough website to be shut down until it can be revamped.

Monthly Expense Report was given to council.

Winner of the Leonard Miller Scholarship, Taylor Kuntz, sent a Thank You card.

**Finance Committee Report: John Steele, chair.**

A motion by Mark Tarle and seconded by Patrick Zelonka to pay the bills, including payroll. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of items for payment as follows (5/26/2021- 6/23/2021)

Garbage Fund- \$8050.00  
General Fund (includes payroll) - \$56629.57  
Liquid Fuels Fund - \$182.58  
Parking Fund - \$100.54  
Sewer Fund - \$5954.64  
Sewer Separation Fund - \$2395.03  
Event Fund - \$1227.00  
**Total – \$74539.56**

Trash Collection contract with Shank will be ending on September 30th. Council approved to advertise for bids once bid specifications are reviewed.

A motion by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Michelle Beck to pay \$875.00 for the mapping project fee to Pastor Andrew from Living Water Church. Motion passed unanimously.

Jen Mullins, chair of Public Relations, explained how Pastor Andrew from Living Water Church helped Habitat for Humanity secure a \$2.2 million grant for the Wick City section of Kittanning. His dream is to rehab all of Armstrong County and is a reason why he has agreed to do the mapping for Apollo Borough.

**Personnel/HR Committee Report: Jennifer Mullins, chair.**

No updates.

**Public Works & Streets Committee Report: Patrick Zelonka, chair:**

Sink hole by the Post Office was repaired.

Security door installed on the borough building back door. Trim coat still needs finished.

Evaluating drain problem on N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & Terrace Avenue for a solution.

Public Works removed some dead trees from Owens Grove Park and waiting on more bids to come in on removal of the big oak tree.

**Property & Planning Committee Report: Mark Tarle, chair.**

Subdivision for Kerr Manufacturing on N. 11<sup>th</sup> Street approval is being tabled due to more documentation/information needed on the development.

**Public Relations/Citizens Advisory Committee Report: Jennifer Mullins, chair.**

Citizens Advisory Committee was contacted by Mike Krafick from Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission to set up a NARCAN Drive thru event to offer it to those in need and give a mini training on how to use it. The NARCAN drive thru could be scheduled during the July 28<sup>th</sup> Wheel Good Wednesday food truck event. Council approved of the NARCAN drive thru unanimously.

Jen recapped on Pastor Andrew mapping Apollo Borough for blighted properties to help make the borough a better place to live.

Owens Grove Centennial is scheduled for July 24, 2021. The committee will have events for children as well as a DJ, cake & ice cream. There are plans to paint the Gazebo. Patrick Zelonka asked if anyone had smaller empty laundry containers to donate them to use for painting.


The newsletter needs sponsors for advertisements. The advertisements pay for the newsletter to be printed.

The Apollo Events Committee has a website. [www.apolloevents.org](http://www.apolloevents.org)

Council President, John Steele, said they are still working on revising outdated ordinances. He would especially like to commend council member Michelle Beck for all of her hard work.

Becky Kane inquired about the fence issue on Cunningham Lane. Council stated they are still working on it.

At 9:08 p.m. a motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Mark Tarle to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion passed unanimously.



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John Steele  
Council President



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Deanna Shupe  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer