

August 26, 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, Michelle Beck, Jennifer Mullins, Patrick Zelonka, Kristina Fox and Craig Williams were present. Secretary/Treasurer and Engineer were present. The Mayor and Solicitor were absent.

### Public Comments:

Bill Kerr & Dot Doty, representatives of Apollo First Lutheran Church, wanted to extend their appreciation to the borough council for the partnership on the Community Block & Multimodal Grant. First Lutheran Church council has committed to contribute \$33,000 to help with the local match that the borough is required to give. Dot Doty gave council handouts explaining their church project to the entrance on N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. The church needs a curb cut for Meals on Wheels because it is getting very difficult for the volunteers to get the carts over the curb. They need to complete this project or they will be unable to continue the Meals on Wheels program. The program is very important to the community. Dot also discussed a garbage can filled with rocks near the Church and asked if someone could have it removed. They are not sure why it was put there and it does not serve any purpose.

Lee Mathews would like to see the parking issue on N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street resolved before there is an accident. Council explained that they are aware of the issue and are in the process of trying to resolve the problem but need to follow the proper procedures first.

Rev. Karen Graham, the Pastor of Kingdom Come Ministries International, commended the management of Apollo Borough. The ministry purchased property right next to the church and planned to dismantle the house to make it a vacant lot. She said she closed on August 11<sup>th</sup> and the demolition took place on August 20<sup>th</sup>. She wanted to come to the meeting and publicly thank the Borough Administration, Deanna Shupe and Jamie Johnston for all of their help through the entire process.

Doug Vogel from Vogel Disposal wanted to introduce himself and said in all of his years of bidding he has never seen a tie on the bids but understands there is one with Waste Management this time. He said they have been doing trash collection with Apollo for around 7 years and feels that sometimes it's better to stick with what you have. He will be at the meeting for any questions before the vote takes place.

James Serena addressed the parking issue on N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and would like it to be resolved. He has spoken with the police officers about alternatives. Council is looking into something to help with this problem.

Amy Hoch also voiced concerns pertaining to the parking issue on N. 2<sup>nd</sup>. She said it is very dangerous and worries about her children driving on that street. Council has assured her that they are actively looking into the situation to get it resolved.

Rose Burkett said she has called about the overgrown bushes in the alley behind her house. Her husband has cut the bushes a few times and the lady has thanked him although there is nothing she can do about it. Rose said she would like something to be resolved about the overgrown bushes on N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street/800 Terrace Avenue. Council advised they would look into the situation.

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Mark Tarle to go into Executive Session at 7:20pm. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to come out of Executive Session at 7:49pm. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to accept the Garbage Bid. Roll Call: John Steele – Waste Management, Jennifer Mullins – Waste Management, Patrick Zelonka – Shank, Mark Tarle – Waste Management, Kristina Fox – Shank, Craig Williams – Waste Management and Michelle Beck – Waste Management. Motion passed by majority to accept Waste Management's trash removal bid.

**Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made by Craig Williams and seconded by Michelle Beck to approve the July 22, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

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

A motion was made by Mark Tarle and seconded by Jennifer Mullins to pay the Solicitor's Invoices of \$4439.50. Motion passed unanimously.

**Engineering Report:**

Rich Craft reported on the discussion of the First Lutheran Church curb cut project and making sure it's ADA compliant. The church should contact the borough to see if they need a driveway permit.

Engineer will get back to the person on N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Terrace regarding their curb cut request. He feels that the curb cut will be a problem for storm water runoff and drainage.

A motion was made by Mark Tarle and seconded by Patrick Zelonka to approve a 60 day extension for Kerr Manufacturing sub-division plan per their written correspondence. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Jennifer Mullins and seconded by Kristina Fox to pay the Engineer's Invoices of \$4420.84. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Public Safety was informed by the Police they have everything they need for the new computers for the police vehicles.

The Borough dump truck will not pass inspection without a front bumper. Council all in favor to purchase the bumper so the dump truck would pass inspection.

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

**Secretary/Treasurer Report:**

Monthly expense report was submitted.

The new Apollo Borough website is progressing and should be up soon. An amateur photographer has volunteered to take some pictures around town to add to the website free of charge.

Michael Mollick, our Emergency Management Coordinator resigned. Council will need to fill the position.

Councilman Craig Williams discussed the horrible condition of the basketball courts at Owens Grove Park. The asphalt is cracking and new rims are needed to replace the double rims. Discussed possibility of a DCNR grant to help Council will need to speak with Parks & Recreation. State Representative Jason Silvis was in attendance and said he will talk to the County Commissioners to see if they can come to Apollo to see the basketball courts.

Apollo Trust Bank asking approval from council to close the alley behind the bank for their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on September 1<sup>st</sup> from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Council approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Patrick Zelonka and seconded by Mark Tarle to do a full page ad for the Lion's Club Veterans Dinner fundraiser. Motion passed unanimously.

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

John Steele discussed the vote for the garbage bid explaining that the bids were very close. Council voted and the majority thought Waste Management would provide better service. Even though Vogel/Shank did have good customer service, they were not as neat as they should have been and the borough received a lot of complaints.

Finance committee to start working on the 2022 budget.

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

Approval of items for payment as follows (7/22/21 – 8/24/21)

Garbage Fund- \$8309.80  
General Fund (includes payroll) - \$50877.82  
Liquid Fuels Fund – 3826.26  
Parking Fund - \$162.79  
Sewer Fund - \$5552.14  
Sewer Separation Fund - \$2395.03  
**Total – \$71123.84**

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

There is a change in the Personnel/HR Committee Chair – it is now Craig Williams.

Nothing new with personnel at this time.

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

Patrick will look into the procedure for the parking issue on N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The Solicitor needs to look into the procedure for painting yellow lines. Patrick said he will also see that the issue with the rocks in the garbage can gets resolved.

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

Pastor Andy had a presentation pertaining to property mapping and survey data. The program is called Summer of Serve. Five years ago this survey mapping was done in Kittanning. They mark the homes needing improvement by the amount of repairs that need done and rate them from 1 to 5. Properties marked as 5 would mean they will require the most repairs. If a property only needs a coat of paint it may be marked as 1. Pastor Andy said the summer of serve started simply by the church knocking on resident's doors asking if they could help with repairs to their home by power washing their deck or painting their porch. They had a 13.91%

improvement on their 1<sup>st</sup> year and 13.41% the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. He presented Apollo Borough's Property Improvement Map and several homes were marked as 5. The Borough can start their own improvements from this map using donations and willing people in the community that would want to help out their neighbors and improve Apollo. Linda Steele asked State Representative Jason Silvis if there were Façade Grants available. He said he can look in to it.

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

There is a change in the Public Relations/Citizens Advisory Committee – it is now Michelle Beck.

The discussion on a Social Media Pages has been tabled.

On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Events Committee will be having their annual Halloween festival naming it Falloween. The Halloween parade will go to the Plaza and end with a vendor market and craft fair.

The Events Committee will be asking the local businesses if they would like to get involved with the Falloween festival.

The evening of Falloween there is a plan to have a bonfire to include roasting marshmallows and hotdogs. Events Committee will need a couple fire rings for the bonfire. John Steele offered to donate burn barrels. Volunteers are desperately needed. Please email [apollopaevents@gmail.com](mailto:apollopaevents@gmail.com) to volunteer.


Roaring Run Trail is having a 5K Fundraiser the evening of October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the same day as the Falloween festival.

A motion was made by Michelle Beck and seconded by Kristina Fox to adopt the Fireworks Ordinance 283-21. Motion passed unanimously. The ordinance will take effect once signed by the mayor.

The Food Truck Ordinance requires a resolution for the fees before it is adopted.

At 9:09 p.m. a motion was made by Jennifer Mullins and seconded by Patrick Zelonka to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

  
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John Steele  
Council President

  
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Deanna Shupe  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer