

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting  
January 2, 2024**

The meeting was held in Borough Hall with the following members present:

David Appelbaum  
Michele Sharer  
Don Carlson

Jared Stump  
Uri Feiner

Kim Segal-Morris  
Caroline Thompson

Council member(s) not in attendance:

Also in attendance were Chief Kelly, Borough Manager Paula Johnson, Engineer Patrick Foley, and Solicitor Andrew Griffin.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chris Harding, Mayor

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

- Nomination for Council President Mayor Harding  
Nominations for Council President were entertained.
- Election of Council President Mayor Harding  
Mr. Carlson nominates Caroline Thompson for Council President. No other nominations were made.  
A vote was held with a result of 7-0.
- Nominations for Council Vice President Council President  
Ms. Sharer nominates Kim Segal-Morris for Council Vice President.  
Mr. Appelbaum nominates Uri Feiner for Council Vice President.  
Each nominee made a brief statement.
- Election of Council Vice President Council President  
A roll call vote was held, and Mr. Feiner was elected by a vote of 4-3.  
Mr. Appelbaum – yes  
Ms. Sharer – no  
Mr. Stump – yes  
Ms. Thompson – no  
Ms. Segal-Morris – no  
Mr. Carlson – yes  
Mr. Feiner - yes

HIRING OF PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER

Ms. Segal-Morris requests Council to consider a motion to Yardley Borough to hire Jake P. Kulchinsky as a full-time, Civil Service Police Officer subject to the terms of probation set forth in the collective bargaining agreement, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum.  
A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

Mayor Harding administered the Oath to Officer Kulchinsky

IV. REAPPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH PROFESSIONALS

- Appointment of Borough Engineer
- Appointment of Borough Solicitor
- Appointment of Right to Know Solicitor

Ms. Sharer motions to retain the aforementioned Borough professionals, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

V. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Experience Yardley will continue hosting Second Saturdays, called New Beginning, 1/13/24.
- Winter Farmer's Market will be 1/20/24. It will be held regularly on the first and third Saturdays of the month from 10-12.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VII. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED January 2, 2024

- Approval of Minutes Dated December 5, 2024
- Appointments and Reappointments to Borough Boards and Commissions
- Certificate of Appropriateness 23-39-15 S. Main-Sign
- Certificate of Appropriateness 23-40 – 40 S. Main St – Sign
- Certificate of Appropriateness 23-41 – 142 S. Main St. – A/C
- Certificate of Appropriateness 23-42 – 40 E. Afton – Sign
- FEMA funded 33 Brown St Elevation Payment Cert No. 5 Alternates Final
- FEMA funded 33 Brown St. Elevation Payment Cert No. 7 Final
- FEMA funded 46 Brown St. Change Order No. 3
- FEMA funded 46 Brown St. Payment Certificate No. 6
- FEMA funded 45 S. Delaware Ave Elevation Payment Cert No. 5
- FEMA funded 45 S. Delaware Ave Elevation Payment Cert No. 2 Alternates
- FEMA funded 77 Morgan Ave Elevation Payment Cert No. 4
- FEMA funded 25 N. Delaware Ave Elevation Payment Cert No. 1

Ms. Thompson requests to consider Item A separately.  
Item B will be discussed separately.

Ms. Sharer motions to approve items C-N of the Consent Agenda dated January 2, 2024, which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

Ms. Sharer motions to approve the minutes from the December 5, 2023 Council meeting, which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0-2.

Ms. Sharer motions to approve the Appointments and Reappointments to Borough Boards and Commissions, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum.

A discussion followed and Mr. Appelbaum presented all the names for consideration as well as introduced some of the candidates to Council.

Ms. Sharer amends her motion to approve the Appointments and Reappointments to Borough Boards and Commission pending receipt of complete applications at Borough Hall, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

#### VIII. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Police service statistics for December 2023 and year end. The department handled 495 calls for service (7323 annual), issued 10 parking tickets (35 annual), 40 traffic citations (786 annual), investigated 8 motor vehicle accidents (80 annual), and made 2 arrests (49 annual) (1 for DUI [8 annual]).

The Auxiliary Police Department collected 1215 pairs of socks for the homeless during their campaign.

#### IV. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Manager Johnson gave her monthly report.

B. Consideration to Accept the January 2, 2024 Finance Report  
Consensus was granted.

#### X. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Nothing outside of the provided report.

#### XI. PROJECT UPDATES

A. Mary Yardley Bridge

Met with DCNR and they were agreeable to the modifications proposed by Council. The Engineer will coordinate with the Borough on implementation.

#### XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

#### XIII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Congratulations to all new and returning Councilpersons.

#### XIV. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmembers should send President Thompson their preferences for Committee assignments within the next week.

Mr. Stump introduced himself to the community.

Mr. Carlson, Mr. Finer, and Ms. Thompson have attended recent Planning Commission meetings. PC is putting out an RFP for work on the comprehensive plan and the RFP will be presented to the next Council working session for review and discussion. The Borough office is writing a grant seeking funding for work on the Borough's comprehensive plan.

XV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

XVI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Borough Manager Performance Review

B. Consideration of Borough Manager Agreement & Performance – base Salary Increase

Ms. Segal-Morris motions to approve Borough Manager's base salary increase of 4%, which is seconded by Ms. Sharer.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

Ms. Sharer motions to renew the Borough Manager's contract for two years, which is seconded by Mr. Stump.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

C. Consideration of Zoning Hearing Board Decision – Abrams Hebrew Academy

Council recessed to Executive Session at 8:17.

Council reconvened at 8:37.

President Thompson reviewed the ZHB decision and conditions.

Mr. Woodring addressed Council with follow-up questions on the decision and conditions, the maintenance agreement, and the process going forward. A vote to appeal can be made at the next meeting on 1/16. It is hoped that a meeting with all interested parties can happen before 1/16 to discuss the conditions of the maintenance agreement.

No motion was made to appeal the ZHB decision.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Sherer motions to adjourn at 8:51, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

Submitted by,  
Mary Ann McLean