

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
May 1, 2018**

The meeting was held in Council Chambers with the following members present;

Ryan Berry	David Bria	Sandi Brady	Caroline Thompson
Matthew Ross	Bryon Marshall	Michael Ruttie	

Also in attendance were Mayor Chris Harding, Assistant Borough Manager Paula Johnson, Chief Joseph Kelly, Solicitor E. Closser and Borough Engineer Thomas Beach. President Marshall called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Marshall announced a change in order to tonight's agenda. New Business item No 2. Is being move to the front of the agenda to accommodate the family in attendance. Council will be going into Executive Session at 8:00 and will reconvene at 9:00 to complete the remaining items on the agenda.

2. Hiring Part Time Police Officer.....Mr Bria

Mr Bria makes a motion that Yardley Borough conditionally hire Dakota Martin as a part time Police Officer, pending certification from the Pennsylvania Municipal Police Officer's Education and Training Commission. Motion is seconded by Ms Brady, which passes unanimously.

Minutes

Ms Thompson moves to approve the minutes of April 17, 2018, which is seconded by Mr Berry. Motion carries.

Progress Reports;

Solicitor

No report

Borough Assistant Manager

No report

Mayor

The Carry the Load Event will start with the Rally on Thursday, May 3rd, at 3pm at the Veterans Monument. The walk will be honoring Marine Captain Samuel Schultz, who was killed recently in a military helicopter crash.

Police Chief

Chief Kelly reports for the month of April, the Police Department answered 545 calls for service, issued 5 parking tickets, 134 traffic citations, investigated 11 motor vehicle accidents and made two arrests, one being a DUI.

Borough Engineer

1. Mr Beach reports that the 2018 Road Program will be ready for bid in about 2 weeks.
2. The Borough has been coordinating with PennDot for the Main and Afton signal improvements.
3. Construction of the North Main Street Sidewalk has begun, with some tree removal and utility work.

Council Vice President

Mr Bria states that Perry Warren's office is waiting for a PennDot response regarding the traffic study on North Main Street.

Council President

No report

Council Committees

Public Works

Mr Berry notes that the Mary Yardley Bridge will be a project for future discussion. Mr Bria adds that representatives from Morrisville Sewer Authority will attend a meeting with Yardley Borough Sewer Authority on May 30, regarding the replacement of the Waste Treatment Plant.

Community & Economic Development

Mr Ross reports that at its last meeting, the committee discussed a possible revision to the sign ordinance, which will be sent to the Planning Commission for review.

Public Safety

The Committee reviewed the police statistics for the month, and also had a discussion with Code Enforcement and Emergency Management Coordinator Wes Foraker.

Community Outreach

No report

General Government

A priority list for projects was given to Council members, to aid in the budgeting process. A new budget calendar will be ready for the next Council meeting.

Bill List

Ms Thompson moves to approve the Bill List dated May 1, 2018, which is seconded by Mr Berry. Motion carries.

Public Comment

Keith Gilbert, contractor for a new business at the rear of the building at 62 South Main St, asks about a sign approval for the business. Mr Gilbert states that it has been 2 months, and the sign for the business has not yet been approved. Several HARB meetings were canceled, and then HARB required more information. Council will look into the delay, and try to expedite the process.

Irene Silveus, 135 Pennsylvania Ave, asks about the potential new Sewer Facility, and whether Yardley Borough would have any capital equity in the new plant. The Solicitor notes that there has been no decision made for renovation or replacement of the facility.

Don Carlson, 24 Creekview Lane, represents the Yardley Walk Homeowners Association, has concerns about final punch lists to be done. Mr Beach replies that the Borough is only responsible for site work and not the buildings. There is money held as a Performance Guarantee, which is not released until all work is completed. After a final punch list is completed, there is an 18 month maintenance bond set up, to cover any future problems. Mr Beach will include the Homeowners Association on the final punch list.

Council Adjourns to Executive Session (personnel) at 8:00 pm and returns at 9:00pm.

Certificates of Appropriateness

21-23 East Afton Ave (Roof).....Mr Ross
Mr Ross moves to approve Certificate of Appropriateness, which is seconded by Mr Bria.
Motion carries.

Old Business

1. Borough Manager Job Scope/Description.....Ms Brady

Ms Brady and Mr Berry met with Paula Johnson in two separate meetings, to try and determine the job scope of a Borough Manager. It seems as though the Borough Manager works on Special Projects, at times, and Business as Usual items at other times. The Pennsylvania Borough Code requires that the Borough Manager also hold the title of Treasurer, performing many tactical and day to day tasks, many of which Paula Johnson has been doing for years. The Yardley Borough Ordinance for a Manager states that the Manager is responsible for the budget, and the Borough Treasurer handles accounts payable and receivable. The recommendation is to hire a part time manager, based on the amount and type of work required. The job would be up to 25-30 hours per week, with a flexible 5 hours, to cover evening meetings.

Ms Brady makes a motion to initiate a search for a part time Borough Manager. Motion is seconded by Mr Berry. Ms Thompson asks how much of a cost saving it would be to make the position part time, and is told about 30-40%. Ms Thompson also asks if the position would be hourly or salaried, and has concerns about possible turn over of a part time worker.

David Appelbaum, 39 Breece Drive, feels that a full time Borough Manager is necessary.

Irene Silveus asks about our Police Chief, and is told that the current Chief is part time, and the previous Police Chief was full time.

Mr Berry feels that the previous Borough Manager did not work many weekends and nights. Mr Ruttle takes issue with that statement, and feels that the Borough Manager was hard working. A dispute follows as to whether Mr Ruttle has the floor, and is clarified by Council President.

There follows some discussion on hourly or salaried, and possible overtime pay. Mr Ruttle questions who will supervise the Borough Manager, and that it must be done contractually. Mr Ruttle feels that scaling back the position will create a service deficit and is not in the Borough's best interest. A Roll Call vote follow; Ms Thompson Nay, Mr Berry Aye, Ms Brady Aye, Mr Bria Nay, Mr Marshall abstains, Mr Ruttle Nay and Mr Ross Aye. With 3 for and 3 against, Mayor Harding is called upon to break the tie. The Mayor votes Aye. Motion carries 4 to 3.

New Business

1. Discussion of Assistant Treasurer.....Ms Brady

Ms Brady notes that the Borough Secretary, Paula Johnson, has been acting as an assistant Treasurer, doing all the accounts receivables and accounts payable. Ms Brady would like the Solicitor to draft an Ordinance to allow the Borough Secretary to also be assistant Treasurer. Mr Ruttle points out that the Commonwealth's Borough code says that the Secretary cannot be the Treasurer. The consensus of Council is that the ordinance should be drafted.

3. Event Permit-The Great Duck Race, June 9thMs Thompson

Ms Thompson moves to approve the event permit for the Great Duck Race on June 9th, conditional on receipt of a letter of agreement from DCNR, which is seconded by Mr Berry. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourns at 9:40

Submitted by,
Cheryl Cler