

Yardley Borough Council Meeting
May 15, 2018

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

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

Also in attendance were Mayor Chris Harding, 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.

Minutes

Ms Thompson moves to approve the minutes of May 1, 2018, which is seconded by Mr Berry. Motion carries.

Progress Reports;

Solicitor

No report

Borough Assistant Manager

Assistant Manager Paula Johnson provided a written report for the Council to review prior to the meeting.

Mayor

Mayor Harding thanks everyone for their support of the Carry the Load event. The Mayor also states that any potholes on Main Street need to be patched or marked before the Memorial Day parade, to avoid injury to anyone marching in the parade. The Mayor encourages everyone to come to the opening ceremonies that begin at the American Legion building at 7am.

Police Chief

Chief Kelly notes that today, May 15, is National Peace Officers Memorial Day, honoring the 21,541 Police Officers who gave their lives in the line of duty, 919 of which served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Borough Engineer

Mr Beach reports that most of the storm sewer work on North Main Street has been completed, and the curb work will follow.

Green Light Go project is still waiting on PennDot.

The 2018 Road program is ready to be reviewed and may go out for bid in June, for work in to be done in July and August.

Council Vice President

No report

Council President

Mr Marshall received correspondence regarding EDU's (Equivalent Dwelling Units/sewer capacity), which the Borough could purchase for upcoming projects. The Reading Avenue project is no longer going forward, and the Buttonwood Barn project is not an immediate concern. The Borough will go back on the waiting list for possible purchase of EDU's at a later date.

Council Committees

General Government

Ms Thompson notes that the Budget Calendar has been given to Council for review. Ms Thompson also asks if any Council members would join her on the Community Outreach Committee.

Public Works

Mr Berry received an inquiry about replacement of the flagpole in Buttonwood Park. Ms Brady believes there may be some funding through a donation, and asks for consensus from Council to replace the flagpole, which is granted.

Community & Economic Development

No report

Public Safety

No report

Community Outreach

No report

Bill List

Ms Thompson moves to approve the Bill List dated May 15, 2018, which is seconded by Mr Bria. Motion carries.

Public Comment

Katy Lyons, 57 Morgan Ave, states that she and her husband, Ross Adrian, signed contracts in October 2015, to enter into the FMA grant elevation program, and at that time, paid a \$5,000 refundable deposit. The grant was completed in March of 2017, but the deposit has not been returned. The other homes involved with this grant had language on their documents which indicated that deposits would be returned at the completion of the entire project. Katy Lyons points out that their documents did not include that language, and believes the deposit should be returned. The Solicitor feels that there is minimal risk of any additional costs for this homeowner. Mr Ross makes a motion to return the deposit to the homeowners within 3 weeks, which is seconded by Ms Thompson. Motion carries.

Irene Silveus, 135 Pennsylvania Ave, gives a report for the Communication Advisory Board, which will be meeting on May 16th. Ms Silveus would like to keep Council informed of their progress, and will copy Council members on the Board meeting minutes.

Certificates of Appropriateness

18-11 62 South Main St (sign).....Mr Ross
Mr Ross moves to approve Certificate of Appropriateness 18-11, which is seconded by Mr Bria.
Motion carries.

18-13 151 South Main Street (roof, siding, gutter, shutters, lighting).....Mr Ross
Mr Ross moves to approve Certificate of Appropriateness 18-13, which is seconded by Mr Bria.
Motion carries.

Old Business

1. Vote to Advertise Ord. No 475 Treasurer.....Ms Brady

The current Borough Ordinance mandates that the Borough Manager shall also be Treasurer. An amendment has been made so that it now reads the Borough Manager may be Treasurer. Ms Brady moves to advertise Ordinance No 475 regarding the offices of Borough Manager, Secretary and Treasurer, which is seconded by Mr Berry. Motion carries.

2. Discussion of Borough Manager Search Process.....Ms Thompson

- a) Debrief of Search Firm Interviews-there has been interviews conducted with two search firms, one from Pennsylvania and one from New Jersey. Four council members favor the firm from New Jersey, although it is the more expensive of the two. One Council member prefers the local company from Pennsylvania. Four of the Council members believe that a search firm is necessary for the hiring process. Mayor Harding suggests that Council should try to negotiate the price, if going with the more expensive option.

- b) Pros and Cons of Hiring a Search Firm
Ms Thompson moves to hire a Search Firm, to be determined at a later date. Motion seconded by Mr Ross. Motion carries, with Mr Marshall abstaining.
The Consensus of Council is to renegotiate with both Search Firms given the fact that the Borough is now looking for a part-time Manager.

New Business

1. Discussion of Yardley Borough Council Rules of Order.....Ms Thompson

A rough draft is presented for new Rules of Order, to supplement what is already in place. The new rules are intended to make the meetings more concise, and insure that all present are respectful and given a fair chance to speak. The rules would need to be adopted every year. Brian Welch, 22 Reading Ave, does not see the need to put time

limits on the person speaking. Mr Welch also asks about consequences to a Council member who misses many meetings.

Don Carlson, 14 Creekview Lane, suggests giving priority to agenda items.

2. Adoption of the 2019 Budget Calendar.....Ms Thompson

Ms Thompson explains that a copy of the Draft Budget will be made available by mid July, and there will be a Town Hall type of meeting for public input in July or August. Ms Brady feels a better time for a Town Hall meeting would be in September, when fewer people would be away on vacation. Ms Thompson moves to adopt the 2019 Budget Calendar, with a change in the Town Hall date to September, which is seconded by Mr Bria. Motion carries.

3. Yardley Walk Path Adjustment.....Mr Ross

A proposed adjustment to the walking path, which runs from Yardley Walk to the intersection of Coldspring Ave and Windsor Road would move the path 15 feet to the east, in order to better follow the true property line and to reduce erosion and storm water on Windsor Rd. Up to 50% of the northern portion of the path would be affected by this change. Lennar would be responsible for the cost of this change. Mr Ross moves that Yardley Borough Council approve a minor location adjustment to the northern walking path on tax map parcel 54-001-020 in the Yardley Walk development plan, and to direct the Borough Engineer to insure this change does not alter the form or function of the path. Motion is seconded by Mr Bria. Motion carries.

4. Appointments to the Human Relations Commission.....Ms Thompson

Ms Thompson moves to appoint Kimberly Minitier to the Human Relations Commission, which is seconded by Mr Bria. Motion carries. Ms Thompson moves to appoint Julie Buehler to the Human Relations Commission, which is seconded by Mr Berry. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourns at 8:45

Submitted by,
Cheryl Cler