

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
June 16, 2020**

The meeting was held via Zoom with the following members present:

Caroline Thompson	David Bria	Ryan Berry
Kim Segal-Morris	John McCann	Uri Feiner
Matthew Ross		

Council member(s) not in attendance:

Also in attendance were Mayor Chris Harding, Chief Joseph Kelly, Engineers Tom Beach and Liz Colletti, Zoning Officer Wes Foraker, and Borough Manager Paula Johnson.

- I. CALL TO ORDER – David Bria, President
The meeting, held by video conference, was called to order at 7:32.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
All council members and Mayor Harding present.
- IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - The tot lot is open with rules posted.
 - Outdoor dining has begun successfully in the Borough.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - Dawn Perlmutter, 18 W. College Ave. Asked about the content of this evening’s executive session. It is a personnel matter and a vote will be held.
 - David Applebaum, 39 Breece Drive – Beginning at Farmers Market this Saturday, Yardley Historical Association along with Experience Yardley will be displaying historic photos of Yardley landmark buildings and after Saturday the photos will be displayed in front of the existing building for everyone to view.
- VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED June 16, 2020
 - A. Approval of Minutes dated June 2, 2020
 - B. Bills List dated June 16, 2020
 - C. Certificate of Appropriateness 20-13-Sign-7 West Afton AvenueMr. Berry makes a motion to adopt the consent agenda dated June 16, 2020, which is seconded by Mr. McCann. A vote was held and the motion passes 7-0.
- VII. POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT
Updates
Resignation of Officer Nicholas Pellechia who has taken a full-time position with the New Hope police department.

VIII. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- A decision is needed on Phase 2 sidewalk project. RVE recommends doing the engineering prep so the project is shovel ready since those projects fare better in grant consideration.
Mr. Ross motions to have engineering done for the Phase 2 sidewalk project ending at the easement, which is seconded by Mr. Berry.
A vote was held and the motion passes 7-0.
- Liz Colletti presented a public education program regarding storm water issues on Mayor Harding's radio show this week.
- EAC project – Equipment order was placed and engineer is working with local water quality lab. ASA is hoping all equipment will be installed by end of June.
- PECO – GTRP grant could be used for Reading Ave so committee should look at applying for it.

IX. PROJECT UPDATES

- A. Main & Afton Intersection – Arms to be received in July.
- B. Mary Yardley Bridge - Continuing to push forward with preliminary design and permit application process. Updated costs provided to Council earlier today. PHMC is moving toward approval of epoxy coating.
- C. PECO Property – Waiting for meeting with PECO. Grant will only award up to 50% of the appraised value.

X. MANAGER'S REPORT

Updates

- Contacted PECO for meeting regarding purchasing lot.
- Thank to Chief and force for help and professionalism with peaceful protests.
- Also recognition of Wes Foraker, Mike Italia, Dave Divita and Council for efforts getting outdoor dining up and running. Many positive comments have been received from business owners and patrons.

Ms. Perlmutter commented that protests were not completely peaceful, but police handled the situation very well.

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Post office lease - Lease requires premises be painted withing 6 months of beginning of term. All other terms seem to be in order.

XII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report

XIII. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

- A. Ryan Berry – Environmental Advisory Commission, Reading Avenue Committee
EAC

Reading Ave – Committee needs to meet to decide about grant applications and plans moving forward. Should meet within next month.

- B. Matthew Ross – Public Works Committee, Planning Commission
Nothing to report outside of engineer’s report.
- C. Kim Segal-Morris – Public Safety Committee, Human Relations Committee, TTN
Airport Updates
Nothing to report.
- D. David Bria – Sewer Authority
Thanks to Chief Kelly and the force for a job well done during this stressful time with Covid and protests.
- E. Caroline Thompson – General Government Committee, Parks & Recreation Board
- Parks and Rec – Two summer races are rescheduled for the fall. Yardley 5k now on 10/25 at 8:30 am which is the same day as Carve-a-Thon. Memorial Mile now 11/8 at 3:00 pm.
 - Tot lot is open – any problems or concerns please contact Manager Johnson or a Council member.
- F. John McCann – Community & Economic Development Committee, Historic & Architectural Review Board, North Main Street Traffic Committee.
Mary Yardley Bridge Committee to meet to discuss fundraising projects.
- G. Uri Feiner – Community Outreach Committee, Experience Yardley, Shade Tree Commission
Nothing to report.

XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ms. Thompson raised the issue of the Borough’s line of credit with Newtown Bank.
What is comfort level with opening line of credit with a 50k draw?
General Government recommends that we seek this but only if repayment can be delayed until 2022.

Interest rate is 1.7% interest rate.

A lengthy discussion followed.

Ms. Thompson motions to instruct Solicitor and Manager Johnson to open negotiations with Newtown Bank on formal loan terms and repayment terms and if time is of the essence draft an ordinance prior to Council’s next meeting on 7/7/20 but not to advertise prior to next meeting, which is seconded by Mr. McCann. A vote was held and the motion passes 7-0.

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Bria read aloud a Proclamation of the Borough of Yardley, County of Bucks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, designating June 19th as Juneteenth Freedom Day.
The proclamation was read into the record and is attached to these minutes.

Ms. Thompson moves to approve the proclamation, which is seconded by Mr. McCann.
A vote was held and the motion passes 7-0.

XVI. Adjourn to Executive Session

Mr. Berry moves to adjourn to executive session at 8:30, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson. A vote was held and the motion passes 7-0.

XVII. Reconvening of Regular Session

The meeting reconvened in general session at 9:12.

Ms. Segal-Morris moves to approve disciplinary action as approved by Mayor Harding with respect to officer with badge number 7959, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson.

Ms. Perlmutter – What is discipline for? Mr. Closser answers that the nature of the discipline involves an internal department matter and not an issue with the public. Approval of this motion begins a formal process and is not the final determination of discipline.

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

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Thompson motions to adjourn the meeting at 9:15, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote was held and the motion passes 7-0.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean