

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
August 3, 2021**

The meeting was held via video conference with the following members present:

Caroline Thompson
David Bria
Matt Curtin

Uri Feiner
Matthew Ross

Kim Segal-Morris
John McCann

Council member(s) not in attendance:

Also in attendance were Mayor Harding, Chief Joseph Kelly, Borough Manager Paula Johnson, Engineer Liz Colletti, and Solicitor Andrew Griffin.

I. CALL TO ORDER –David Bria, President

The meeting, held in Borough Hall, was called to order at 7:30.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. APPOINTMENT OF POLICE OFFICERS

Ms. Segal-Morris motions that Yardley Borough extend a conditional offer to hire Heather Carnivale and Andrew Nagel as part-time Police Officers, pending certification from the Pennsylvania Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission (MPOETC), which is seconded by Mr. Ross.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 6-0.

Ms. Carnivale and Mr. Nagel were sworn in by Mayor Harding.

V. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Regarding the recent legislative change regarding agendas at public meetings, Mr. Feiner asked if items can be added to the agenda in the case of an emergency. Mr. Griffin responded that the new act hasn't gone into effect as of yet but in theory emergency items could be added to the agenda.
- David Applebaum – Mini Music Festival Under the Pavilion is planned for 8/21 in the afternoon, which will lead directly into the Music on Main event that evening. Music on Main will be held every Saturday from 6:00-8:00 through 9/4/21.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- David Applebaum, 39 Breece Drive. Interested in building community and building a thriving town, especially in light of recent public discussion around parking. A report created by Frank Lyons of the Continental was discussed and Mr. Applebaum is trying to gauge interest by the Council in reaching out for ideas on parking in the community. A suggestion is raised to develop a new parking map to advertise to visitors and publish on our website. David Bria responds that

the biggest parking lot in town in private. Walking a few blocks to get to a destination shouldn't be seen as a burden, rather it's a sign that lots of people are coming to town and frequenting businesses and activities. In principle, Mr. Bria supports the development of a map but current budget doesn't support what it would cost. Mr. Curtin and Mr. McCann suggest that CED work on this project with Mr. Lyons and Applebaum.

- Albert Celini, 18 Van Horn, thanks Council and the engineer for staying on top of the ML7 violations and remediation. He requests that the engineer meet with the residents to discuss the plan. Ms. Colletti agrees to arrange a time to meet with residents.
- Susan Taylor, 35 Lookover Lane. Debate about matters in town shouldn't happen on social media. Announcement of new social media initiative by the Yardley Historical Association showing old advertising and connecting it to current businesses and locations.
- Dawn Perlmutter, 18 W. College Avenue. Spoke regarding parking and zoning.
- John Simone, owner Yardley Town Center. Spoke regarding parking and the deeper issues at hand regarding parking in the community.
- Mr. Bria – Council will not intervene in matters involving disputes between private parties.

VII. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED August 3, 2021

- A. Approval of Minutes Dated July 20, 2021
- B. Bills List Dated August 3, 2021
- C. Banner Permit-Harvest Day

Mr. Curtin asks that the minutes from 7/20/21 be removed from the consent agenda. A motion to approve the Consent Agenda minutes (minus item A) Dated August 3, 2021 is made by Ms. Thompson, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A change is requested to add two more days to the banner permit request. A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

Ms. Segal-Morris motions to approve the Minutes Dated July 20, 2021, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote was held, and the motion passes 6-0 with Mr. Curtin abstaining.

VIII. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Police service statistics for July 2021: There were 545 calls for service and the department issued 77 traffic citations, issued 1 non-traffic citations, investigated 7 traffic accidents, and made 5 arrests, 2 for DUI.

Dawn Perlmutter suggested creation of a public safety plan when an emergency is pending, such as the recent tornados in the area. Mr. Bria suggests that Council look at what resources are available in the County and what other channels of communication are available. Chief Kelly notes that communication did go out on the police Facebook page.

It is noted that all the major forms of broadcast communications available are opt-in so it is challenging to reach residents who do not choose to receive notices.

VIX. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Vote to Bid for Record Digitalization

- Manager Johnson requests permission to advertise for bids to digitize Borough records. Scantek has provided a thorough evaluation. Funding for this unbudgeted expense would come from the proceeds from sales of property, permits, and business taxes.

Ms. Thompson motions to authorize the Manager to advertise for bids for the digitization of Yardley Borough records, which is seconded by Mr. Ross.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding security, storage, and document retrieval and formatting.

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

B. BCO Proposal

- Ms. Thompson motions to accept proposal to hire Barry Isett as building code official, which is seconded by Mr. Ross.

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

C. 2022 Budget Calendar

- Approval of the budget calendar

Ms. Thompson motions to adopt the 2022 budget calendar as presented, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

X: ENGINEER'S REPORT

Updates included in submitted report.

XI. Project Updates – as needed

A. Main & Afton Intersection – as per submitted report

B. Mary Yardley Bridge - as per submitted report

C. PECO Property – as per submitted report

D. North Main Street Sidewalks, Phase II -

Mr. Ross motions to move forward with the application process for PennDot TASA, which would cover 100% of construction on the Phase 3 sidewalk project taking the sidewalk out to Dolington, which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris.

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

XII. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

XIII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

XIV. COUNCILMEMBER REPORT

A. Matthew Curtin – Environmental Advisory Commission, Reading Avenue Committee

Nothing to report.

B. Matthew Ross – Public Works Committee, Planning Commission

Nothing to report.

C. Kim Segal-Morris – Public Safety Committee, Human Relations Committee, TTN Airport Updates

Nothing to report.

D. David Bria – Sewer Authority

Nothing to report.

E. Caroline Thompson – General Government Committee, Parks & Recreation Board

Nothing to report.

F. John McCann – Community & Economic Development Committee, Historic & Architectural Review Board, North Main Street Traffic Committee

Nothing to report.

G. Uri Feiner – Community Outreach Committee, Experience Yardley, Shade Tree Commission

Nothing to report.

XV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

XVI. OTHER BUSINESS

Decision of Appeal – Tap Room

Mr. Bria motions to appeal the Zoning Hearing Board decision regarding the Tap Room. No second was made therefore the motion fails.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn to executive session at 8:44 pm was made by Mr. McCann, which is seconded by Mr. Ross.

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

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean