

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
October 6, 2020**

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

Caroline Thompson	David Bria	Uri Feiner	Matt Curtin
Kim Segal-Morris	John McCann	Matthew Ross	

Council member(s) not in attendance:

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

I. CALL TO ORDER – David Bria, President

The meeting, held by video conference, was called to order at 7:30.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

All councilmembers present.

IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. McCann reminds the community that fundraising efforts for Mary Yardley Bridge are underway.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Dawn Perlmutter, 18 W. College Avenue.
Ms. Perlmutter raised a few issues about obscene signage and graffiti in the Borough. Mayor Harding will check this out.
- Michele Sharer, 31 N. Main and President of Friends of Lake Afton. There will be a lake clean-up day on 10/17/20 8-12. Volunteers are appreciated.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED October 6, 2020

- A. Approval of Minutes dated September 15, 2020
- B. Bills List dated October 6, 2020
- C. Certificate of Appropriateness – No. 20-21 – Sign for 35 South Main
- D. Banner Permit – Kayden’s Day

Ms. Thompson motions to approve the consent agenda dated October 6, 2020, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote was held, and the motion carries 7-0.

VII. POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Updates

- October 2020 Service Statistics

Police responded to 735 calls for service, issued 6 parking tickets and 67 moving traffic citations, issued 1 criminal citation, investigated 5 traffic accidents, and handled 6 arrests, 1 of which was for DUI.

- For years 2015-2018 the Borough averaged 101 traffic accidents per year. 2019, the total was 80. 2020 is on target for 52 accidents for 2020. The police department's traffic safety initiatives are working.
- Adoption of amended civil service rules.
Ms. Segal-Morris motions to approve the amended civil service rules, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote was held, and the motion carries 7-0.

VIII. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Updates

- Nothing additional to report outside of submitted report.
- Mr. Ross motions for final release of \$4,000 for Lakeview Properties project, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson. A vote was held, and the motion carries 7-0.

IX. PROJECT UPDATES

A. Main & Afton Intersection – Scheduling final walkthrough and final payment certificate.

B. Mary Yardley Bridge

Grant opportunity – DCNR suggested applying for DVRPC regional trails program which is due in early November. 300k max award with 20% match. It could cover anything having to do with the towpath as part of the bridge project. The engineer would need a motion to approve preparation of the grant. DCNR will support our application with a letter of support. Council asked several questions about the grant. The engineer will bring more information to the next meeting and a vote will be planned at that time based on that information.

C. PECO Property
Holding pattern awaiting PECO.

PECO Green Grant opportunity - \$10,000 max award with 50% match. This grant could be used for recreational improvements or Reading Ave. A discussion followed regarding this grant opportunity and Council decided not to pursue it.

D. North Main Street Sidewalks - Phase II

Submitted DCDMTF application.

PennDOT MTF grant is due 11/6. The Borough was highly encouraged to reapply for this grant. A discussion followed regarding the scope of the grant application.

Mr. Ross makes a motion to have RVE prepare the grant package to go to the current easement, which is seconded by Mr. McCann. A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

E. Site visit at 18 Van Horn. An erosion issue was identified with the outfall at the ML7 parking lot. The engineer will follow up.

Mr. Feiner – Discussion of decorative crosswalks via the TIP, Transportation Improvement Program. Liz will check into this and report back.

Susan Taylor – Urged caution when considering decorative crosswalks.

X. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Updates

B. Extension of Farmers Market December 5th and 19th

Thank you to the Yardley Framers Market made a \$500 donation to the Borough for the upkeep of Buttonwood Park.

Ms. Thompson motions to approve extension of Farmers Market into December for a holiday market with vendors to be determined at a later date, which is seconded by Mr. Curtin. A vote was held, and the motion carries 7-0.

Susan Taylor – Suggests that Borough-centered non-profits should be invited to participate. Afton Library will be open with train display in December.

A vendor would like to roast chestnuts during the market which involves a small oven fueled by propane, necessitating Council approval to allow cooking in Buttonwood Park. Mr. McCann motions to approve vendor roasting chestnuts, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

C. Pop up toy store on Afton Avenue – October – December.

Ms. Thompson asks if any guidance has been received from the county on restaurant opening, capacity, and outdoor dining going into the colder months. Wes Foraker – Issues regarding heating and tents in colder weather are currently being considered.

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

XII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Harding will check out graffiti discussed earlier.

Chief Kelly appeared on this week's radio show, thank you to him.

XIII. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Matthew Curtin – Environmental Advisory Commission

Nothing to report.

B. Matthew Ross – Public Works Committee, Planning Commission

Mr. Ross did a walkthrough of Whiskey Hill with Engineer. Issues will be before Council soon.

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

Nothing to report.

D. David Bria – Sewer Authority

Will be unable to attend next Council meeting, 10/20.

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

Budget work continuing.

Reading Ave Committee – Unable to find an arborist. Working on other alternatives.

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

CED -Talking about branding Yardley Borough, logo, signage, promotion

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

Community encouraged to participate in human relations committee.

XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Vote to Advertise Ordinance on Processions and Assemblages and Event Plan Application.

Applicants need proof of insurance or good faith effort to obtain insurance. Assemblies without a permit will be fined. The ordinance is an attempt to balance 1st Amendment rights with a means to protect the health, safety, and welfare of citizens. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the ordinance and its enforcement.

Ms. Segal-Morris motions to advertise the proposed amended ordinance, which is seconded by Mr. Feiner. A vote was held, and the motion passes 6-1.

B. Final Sub-division O’Hara/Harper Avenue #2

Mr. Scott represented Mr. and Mrs. O’Hara regarding their plan to subdivide the property on Harper Avenue. Necessary variances have been received from the ZHB and the Planning Commission has approved the plan.

Mr. Bria makes motion to approve the final subdivision of the O’Hara property on Harper Avenue subject to the conditions outlined in the engineer’s report with exceptions granted for items number 2 and 6 , which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the subdivision of the property.

A roll-call vote was taken as follows:

Caroline Thompson y

David Bria y

Uri Feiner y

Matt Curtin y

Kim Segal-Morris y

John McCann y

Matthew Ross y

The motion passes 7-0.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McCann motions to adjourn the meeting at 9:24, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson. The motion passes 7-0.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean