

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
March 19, 2019**

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

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

Council member(s) not in attendance: Mike Ruttle

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

Minutes (Time Stamp 7:30 pm)

Mr. Bria moves to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2019 meeting, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson. Ms. Brady makes one correction to the minutes pertaining to the Public Safety Committee report. The DEP was cited but the correct organization is the Delaware Canal Advisory Committee. The motion, as amended, carries with Mr. Ross abstaining.

Progress Reports (Time Stamp: 7:32 pm)

Solicitor

A number of municipalities have been receiving Right to Know requests asking for documentation of permits that have been issued for last 40 years. Yardley has received the same request and Ms. Johnson is responding accordingly.

Borough Manager

1. The police roof is repaired with no issues.
2. The door lock system is up and running.
3. Susan Mazitelli has is now formally certified as a flood plain manager.

Mayor

Nothing to report outside of his item on the agenda.

Police Chief

1. Extended thanks to Council, Mayor, and Borough Manager for getting roof done.
2. First annual police awards ceremony is scheduled for 5/21/19 in Borough Hall.

Borough Engineer

1. Grant funding – A list of all available grants was sent to Borough Manager. The Engineer will sit down with Ms. Johnson to discuss projects and what grants may be applicable to outstanding projects (crossing at Main/College).

2. Main and Afton – Comments have been received from PennDot and revised plans will be submitted back by end of March followed by permits to get the work done as soon as possible.
3. Yardley Walk – Engineer was notified by Lennar that they want a pre-paving punch list, specific to aprons, curbing, etc. This is not the final punch list. The HOA will be notified.

Council Vice President

1. Ms. Thompson and Mr. Bria attended the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company awards banquet. Mr. Bria thanks each member of the volunteer fire company, some of whom responded to over 400 calls over the course of the last year. John Marrazzo was recognized as firefighter of the year
2. The meeting set up by Steve Santarsiero's office and mentioned at the last Council meeting regarding the Trenton-Mercer Airport expansion has been postponed.
3. Community and Economic Development Committee – Mr. Berry and Ms. Brady have volunteered to attend the meeting and Mr. Bria would like clarification from Mr. Marshall about the structure of the committee.

Council President

1. Mr. Berry has volunteered to be chair of the Community and Economic Development Committee. In conjunction with this Mr. Berry will act as liaison to the Planning Commission.
2. Mr. Marshall mentions that the legalization of cannabis is an item coming down the pipe and asks Mr. Berry to keep Council up to date on new legislation.
3. Mr. Marshall and several community members of the community attended a program in Solebury regarding land use and the preservation of property.

Council Committees

Community Outreach-Ms. Thompson

Addition to the agenda from the Rotary Club.

General Government-Ms. Thompson

Communications were received from the Office of Perry Warren regarding House Bill 328 which has just come out of committee. The bill concerns flood insurance premiums and mapping and the committee is drafting a letter in support of the bill.

Reading Ave Liaison Report - Mr. Berry

Nothing to report outside of agenda item.

Public Safety – Ms. Brady

Next meeting will be 4/2 at 7pm where traffic calming will continue to be discussed.

Community & Economic Development – Mr. Bria

Nothing to report

Public Works-Mr. Ross

Breece Drive work is being sent out to bid ASAP.

EAC – Mr. Ross

Nothing to report.

Bill List (Time stamp: 7:43 pm)

Ms. Thompson moves to approve the 3/19/19 bill list, which is seconded by Ms. Brady. Motion passes.

Correspondence (Time stamp: 7:43)

Mr. Berry has received communication from a resident about the CVS parking lot. The resident reports that the lot is better but the way out still doesn't have proper signage. Ms. Johnson will reach out to Mr. Cramer to ask him to refresh the lines.

Ms. Thompson has received a complaint about how we handle cancellations of committee meetings. She has been asked if there a more wide-reaching approach to notifying the public than just posting a letter on the front door. Ms. Johnson notes that she can send an e-mail blast but she needs notice herself of the change or cancellation. Irene Silvius, 135 Pennsylvania Ave – FaceBook page is a good place to update these kinds of things.

Public Comment (Time stamp: 7:45)

None.

Certificates of Appropriateness (Time Stamp: 7:46)

19-03 49 South Main Street (porch)

Mr. Ross motions to approve certificate of appropriateness 19-03 for 49 South Main Street (porch), which Ms. Thompson seconds. The request has been approved by HARB as submitted provided the paint matches. The motion passes with Mr. Bria abstaining.

Old Business (Time Stamp: 7:47)

1. Reading Avenue Easement.....Mr. Berry
Mr. Berry presents the Grant of Conservation Easement and Declaration of Restrictive Covenants for approval The Planning Commission has reviewed the document and they voted to approve the easement with two notes. They encourage the solicitation of volunteer groups to plan, design, and maintain the land. Based on the Planning Commission's comments Mr. Berry revised some of the language regarding prime rates under General Provision.

Mr. Berry moves to authorize and direct the Solicitor to record this easement with the County, which Ms. Brady seconds.

A discussion followed regarding the use of terms such as prime rate, federal fund rate, default rates, basis points, Wall Street Journal (WSJ), etc. Pete Guidotti commented that the

Planning commission wished to avoid any link to a commercial advertisement such as the WSJ. The Commission suggests referring to a federal government entity that publishes the rate rather than a commercial entity. Mr. Closser suggests leaving WSJ in but adding clause that if WSJ is no longer being published another nationally recognized, reputable publication will be used.

Ms. Silvius states the language should be prime rate plus 200 basis points.

Mr. Berry makes a revised motion based on discussion, which Ms. Thompson seconds.

Mr. Ross asks if there are any estimates for easement maintenance. Mr. Berry says the committee will be working on this in April but there will be no cost in the current year. Mr. Bria asks that ongoing the Council be mindful of legal costs.

A roll call vote was held as follows: Ms. Thompson, yes, Mr. Berry, yes, Ms. Brady, yes, Mr. Bria, yes, Mr. Marshall, yes, Mr. Ross, yes. The motion passes unanimously.

2. Date change request for Yardley Car Festival.....Ms. Thompson
Ms. Thompson moves to approve the date change for the Yardley Car Festival to 5/4/19 with a rain date of 5/5/19, which Mr. Ross seconds. Motion passes.

3. Date Change of the Friends Meeting Flea Market.....Ms. Thompson
Ms. Thompson moves to approve the date change for the Friends Meeting Flea Market to 9/7/19 with a rain date of 9/14/19, which Mr. Ross seconds. Motion passes.

4. Special Event Permit Carry the Load May 1, 2019.....Ms. Thompson
Ms. Thompson moves to approve the special event permit for Carry the Load for May 1, 2019, which Ms. Brady seconds. Motion passes.
Mayor Harding thanks Council for its approval. Philabundance, Fox 29, Brian's Harley-Davidson and the Travis Manion Foundation are supporting the event.

5. Special Event Permit Beerfest May 11, 2019.....Ms. Thompson
Ms. Thompson moves to approve the special event permit for Beerfest in Fitzgerald Field on May 11, 2019, which Mr. Ross seconds. Mr. Bria asks if we charge for Fitzgerald Field, currently no charge. There are charges for police services. There is a pricing special of \$150 for 4 pack until the end of the month. Motion passes.

6. Special Event Permit Christmas Parade December 7, 2019.....Ms. Thompson
Ms. Thompson moves to approve the special event permit for Yardley Christmas Parade to be held 12/7/19, which Ms. Brady seconds. Motion passes.

7. Annex Property Lease.....Mr. Bria
Mr. Bria moves not to extend annual lease to tenant at 1 Delaware Avenue and issue 90-day notice of non-extension of lease, which Mr. Berry seconds. A discussion followed about the use of this property going forward. The current lease has an automatic annual renewal and requires 90 days of notice not to renew. Discussions will follow with the tenant. Motion passes.

New Business (Time Stamp: 8:08)

No Activity

Mr. John Bachalis, 181 Harper ask to make a statement expressing gratitude to the Council for passing conservation easement. He commends the Council for its willingness to act on behalf of the will of its citizens and to act for the long-term benefit and wellbeing of the citizens.

Mr. Berry motions to adjourn at 8:10, which is seconded by Mr. Bria.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean