

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
June 4, 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 Ruttie

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 amended minutes of the May 21, 2019 meeting, which is seconded by Mr. Berry. Per Mr. Bria the public works meeting is to be held May 30th, not May 7th as noted in the minutes. The motion passes with Mr. Marshall abstaining.

Progress Reports (Time Stamp: 7:32 pm)

Solicitor

It is budget time for the state. There may be impacts on Borough or Council. Relevant information will be shared as it becomes available.

Borough Manager

1. Budget requests have been sent out to all boards, commissions, and Council. They are due back in July.
2. Memorial Mile – Largest participation yet in the 5k. Commendation to the Rec Board for a terrific job.
3. The civil service test was administered on Saturday. 6 applicants took the test.

Mayor

Chief Kelly made a guest appearance on the weekly radio show for an hour-long interview.

Police Chief

Chief Kelly reports for the month of May 2019 the Police Department answered 518 calls for service, issued 8 parking tickets, issued 141 traffic citations, issued 6 non-traffic citations, investigated 8 motor vehicle accidents, and made 7 arrests, 0 being for DUI.

Borough Engineer

1. Liquid Fuels road program is out to bid, recommendations to be made at next meeting.
2. Signals at Main/Afton – final plans will be sent to PennDot this week and hopefully there will be a quick approval.
3. Mayor Harding asks about ML7 regarding the parking lot expansion. Engineer is reviewing their work. As a resident, Mayor Harding notes that there have been some drainage issues in the past. Can Engineer please ask them to look into it since they are on site?

Council Vice President

Thanks and commendation to Chief and police force for Memorial Day festivities as well as thanks to the VFW and American Legion for organizing the activities.

Council president

Nothing to report

Council Committees

Community Outreach-Ms. Thompson

Nothing to report.

General Government-Ms. Thompson

Regarding the bills list 35k was transferred for the Mary Yardley Bridge to Capital Reserve. The money is in Capital Reserve but will be clearly noted in the budget as earmarked for the bridge project.

Community & Economic Development – Mr. Berry

Did not meet last month.

Joint Planning Commission was last week. Commission meeting will be held Thursday 6/13 where they will discuss potential recommendations in regards to comprehensive review of the Floodplain Ordinance.

Liaison Report - Mr. Berry

The Reading Ave Committee met to consider potential budget requests for open space area and budget requests have been submitted to the Borough.

Public Safety – Ms. Brady

Mr. Brady, Wes Foraker, Paula Johnson and Chief Kelly met with DCNR to discuss flooding issues along the canal. Ms. Brady clarified the survey work that is being done. Two tracts of work are currently happening. A survey of towpath has been completed and they are waiting for engineer's reviews. The survey confirmed that there is a low spot. Once the engineer's review this then DCNR will look to address that issue. Potentially the issue could be addressed in 6 months or so. The second survey is a different study as the result of a grant that DCNR received and that study will take 10 months to complete.

Public Works-Mr. Ross

Last meeting discussed possible solutions for the dam in Yardley Walk. The residents are concerned about that. Research needs to be done and there will be more information at the next meeting.

The air conditioning for the police department is complete.

EAC – Mr. Ross

Nothing to report.

Correspondence (Time stamp: 7:42 pm)

1-Mr. Marshall relayed a letter from American Legion Post 317 thanking the Borough for its participation in the Memorial Day activities.

2-Mr. Marshall is in receipt of information that may or may not accelerate the decision about handling sewage in the future. A decision may have to be made by the end of the year although this is speculative at this point.

3-Mr. Lyons, on behalf of the Continental Tavern, provided Council with a prospectus and a challenge to remedy parking issues in the bureau. This will be sent to committee for review.

Bill List (Time stamp: 7:44 pm)

Ms. Thompson moves to approve the 6/4/19 bill list, which is seconded by Mr. Bria. Motion passes.

Public Comment (Time stamp: 7:44 pm)

Kim Prickett, 20 W. College. Asks for an update on payment for tree removal in Ms. Perlmutter’s yard. Mr. Stosser indicates a lien has been placed on her property.

Certificates of Appropriateness (Time Stamp: 7:45 pm)

None

Old Business (Time Stamp: 7:45 pm)

None

New Business (Time Stamp: 7:45 pm)

1. Resolution 19-04 Promulgation of the Emergency Operations Plan.....Ms. Brady
This is a formality only. The resolution was passed in February 2018 but was not signed by all on Council.

Ms. Brady moves to sign the promulgation of the EOP, which Mr. Ross seconds.

Ms. Thomson notes the misspelling of Matt Ross’ name.

Mr. Bria notes the document control issue which should be looked into.

Vote passes.

2. Resolution 19-05 Climate Change Legislation.....Mr. Bria

Mr. Bria introduced subject matter experts Tom Wells, Mike Haughey from the Citizen's Climate Lobby to present Resolution 19-05, details of which are included in the meeting materials.

The resolution concerns House Bill HR763 – Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019.

Mr. Wells and Mr. Haughey presented information regarding HR763 and requested Council's support for the Resolution 19-05. To show that there is political will in the communities to take legislative action. The resolution requests that Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick co-sponsor this bill in the House and Senators Pat Toomey and Robert Casey co-sponsor the corresponding Senate Companion Bill to HR763.

Mr. Berry – Asks why Congressman Fitzpatrick hasn't cosponsored this bill when he cosponsored a similar bill in the last session. Mr. Wells and Mr. Haughey explained the history of the bills and Mr. Fitzpatrick's positions.

Ms. Thompson – Notes that in her opinion the bill is pretty mild considering the enormity of the problem and she gives her support.

Mr. Ross – While he is in favor of addressing climate change, he feels that this bill adds a tax to something that's already being highly taxed and that the bill won't actually address climate change issues.

Mr. Berry – How are refunds handled? Every adult in each household gets a check every month.

Mr. Mayor – What are other local communities doing? Newtown Borough – Meeting tomorrow. Newtown Township – Group needs to go back and meet with them again. LMT – Not sure how that is going to go.

Ms. Brady –She is abstaining from the vote because she thinks the people of Yardley didn't elect her to weigh in on federal issues. Recommends that community members write to their representatives directly.

Mr. Marshall – Asks how the Yardley EAC responded to the presentation. They were very receptive but Michael Thompson felt that the EAC is not a gatekeeper but shouldn't weigh in, rather issues like this should go to Council.

Mr. Bria moves to adopt Resolution 19-05, which endorses U.S. House Resolution 763, The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, requests that Brian Fitzpatrick co-sponsor that legislation in the United States House of Representatives, and further requests that Senators Bob Casey and Pat Toomey co-sponsor the bill at such a time it is introduced to the U.S. Senate, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson.

A roll call vote was held as follows: Ms. Thompson, yea; Mr. Berry, yea; Ms. Brady, abstain; Mr. Bria, yea; Mr. Marshall, yea; Mr. Ross, nay. The motion passes 4-1 with 1 abstention.

Mr. Berry motions to adjourn at 8:30, which is seconded by Mr. Bria.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean