

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
May 19, 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, Code Enforcement 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 7:31.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
All council members and Mayor Harding present.
- IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - Farmers’ Market is open under social distancing regulations.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - Ms. Dawn Perlmutter – Section 5.104 concerns a board of appeals for code enforcement. Ms. Perlmutter asks if Borough has a board of appeals. Mr. Bria – A board of appeals is not currently set up but it is on the radar and may be coordinated with LMT to save time and money.
- VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED May 19, 2020
 - A. Approval of Minutes dated May 5, 2020
 - B. Bills List dated May 19, 2020Ms. Thompson makes a motion to approve the consent agenda dated May 19, 2020, which is seconded by Mr. Berry. A vote was held and the motion passes 7-0.
- VII. POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT
 - Updates
There has been an uptick in speeding complaints and accidents due to more people on the road. Police department is handling with enforcement.
- VIII. ENGINEER’S REPORT
 - EAC grant from Wastewater Shed Management. Council needs to make a decision on sequence of payments and needs to purchase equipment totaling \$1500 after taxes and shipping.

Ms. Thompson's preference is for grantor to pay the engineer directly rather than pay directly and seek reimbursement.

Ms. Thompson motions to approve expenditure for Growing Greener grant for testing supplies totaling \$1500, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote held and motion passes 7-0.

- Main St. Sidewalk, Phase 2. In November Borough was awarded 125k which wasn't enough to cover all of project. Applied for PA Small Sewer and Water grant to cover remainder but this grant will be awarded in September rather than July. Existing HOP expires in 2021. The grant is open again for reapplication as well. Engineer would like a decision by 2nd June meeting. Mr. Bria will get this on the calendar for a vote in June.

Mr. Feiner – Can there be an extension on the HOP? Engineer will check on this.

- ML7 – Engineer has received as-builts and they are moving forward to close out project.

- Payment Certificates for Green Light Go Project

Payment Cert 1 – \$33,285.70

Mr. Ross motions to approve Payment Certificate 1 to Armour and Sons Electric for \$33,285.70, which Mr. Berry seconds. Motion passes 7-0

Payment Cert 2 – \$168,938.48

Mr. Ross motions to approve Payment Certificate 2 to Armour and Sons Electric for \$168,938.48, which Mr. Berry seconds. Motion passes 7-0

IX. PROJECT UPDATES

A. Main & Afton Intersection – Payment certificates voted on. Next step is to submit reimbursement forms.

B. Mary Yardley Bridge - PHMC has responded to Borough's application. They have noted a preference for a powder coated aluminum bridge. They did not comment on FRP option so Council wonders who makes the ultimate decision about the material. A lengthy discussion followed regarding coating choices and bridge materials as well as maintenance issues and dealing with graffiti in the future. The engineer has responded to PHMC that the Borough's preference is aluminum with polyurethane coating. The response from PHMC came in on the day of this meeting so Council hasn't had time to fully consider their response.

Ms. Thompson motion to move forward with design phase for an aluminum bridge, which is seconded by Mr. Feiner.

Mr. Ross – Asks if this can be moved to a separate agenda item for next meeting because aluminum is an inferior product for this project and needs further discussion with pros and cons all presented at one time for the group's consideration.

Mr. Ross motions to postpone discussion until next meeting, which is seconded by Mr. Berry. A lengthy discussion followed regarding postponing this item until the next meeting.

A roll call vote was held on the issue of postponing the discussion until next meeting.

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

The motion fails with a vote of 5-2.

A vote was held on the original motion to approve the design phase of an aluminum bridge. The motion passes with a vote of 6-1.

C. PECO Property –The appraisal was completed with a value of approximately \$55,000, which is much lower than expected. Engineer will reach out to PECO discuss the disparity in their offer price versus the appraisal value.

X. MANAGER’S REPORT

A. Updates

- Additional 60k in tax money coming in for May. Office will be sending bills on 5/31. Gentle delinquency notices will be sent.
- Easement completed with Fosters.

B. Pedestrian Safety Improvements

- Letter received from Dawood Engineering recommending signage to be placed on Main Street discouraging crossing the street outside of crosswalk areas. Mr. Ross motions to install signs discouraging people crossing mid-block and to use the crosswalks with PennDot covering the cost. Mr. Feiner asks about the size of the signage and information about whether or not signs of this nature are effective. A discussion followed about this type of signage and a picture was shown of the proposed sign. Mr. Ross withdraws motion. No motion is being made on this issue.

XI. SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Nothing to report.

XII. MAYOR’S REPORT

Memorial Day Event – Gathering at 6:35 am at Legion Hall in Yardley followed by 7am salute and playing of Taps at six local cemeteries.

XIII. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Ryan Berry – Environmental Advisory Commission, Reading Avenue Committee Reading Ave Committee won’t be meeting in the near future. Grant opportunities should still be considered. Suggestion to earmark the PECO grant application for Reading Ave project.

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

- Sandy Run Girl Scout Council will hold bridging and silver award ceremony. Letters of recognition will be sent from Council.
- Parks and Rec are looking at the logistics of reopening tot lot and looking at Quiet Streets Initiative.
- General Government is looking at 5 stagnant funds that haven't been touched in a year and requesting to move that 5k into general or reserve funds. Ms. Thompson motions to move these funds to capital reserve, which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris. A vote was held and passed 7-0.

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

- David Appelbaum from Experience Yardley – Music on Main cancelled for this summer. They have determined it will be too hard to maintain social distancing requirements. They are working on a community art project – stay tuned.

XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Berry – Does the Borough anticipate cleaning up streets and gutters around the area? There will be no street cleaning that normally followed parades this year. Public works contractor could do this but it is expensive. Ms. Thompson – perhaps community could participate in these community activities during the summer.

Mr. Jerry Taylor – Weeds and excess grass in the gutters is very unsightly and gives a bad impression. Also, Yardley Country Club may be in violation of the weed ordinance.

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

Certificate of Appropriateness 20-7a, 70 S. Main, Stained glass window. HARB voted 3-1 against the application. Mr. Jerry Taylor, chairman of HARB, gave overview of the application and the HARB decision.

Kim Prickett, owner, gave her rebuttal and support for reconsideration of her application. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the house, the 1890 date, stained glass and other issues.

Mr. McCann motions to accept the HARB recommendation denying the certificate of appropriateness, which Mr. Ross seconds.

Ms. Prickett notes that she will paint the peak one color and will not put effort into maintaining the peak outside of routine maintenance.

Ms. Perlmutter asks if HARB meetings are conducted by Zoom. The meetings are being held by Zoom and public is invited.

A vote was held and the motion passes 5-2.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Berry motions to adjourn the meeting at 9:19, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson. Motion passes 7-0.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean