

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting  
October 15, 2019**

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

Ryan Berry                      Bryon Marshall  
Caroline Thompson              David Bria

Council member(s) not in attendance: Mike Ruttle, Matt Ross and Sandi Brady

Also in attendance were Mayor Chris Harding, Chief Joseph Kelly, Solicitor James Esposito, Engineers Tom Beach and Liz Colletti, 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. Berry moves to approve the minutes from the October 1, 2019 meeting, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson. A vote was held and the motion passes.

**Progress Reports (Time Stamp: 7:31 pm)**

Solicitor

n/a

Borough Manager

- Two trash and recycling bids have been received. Solicitor is reviewing and they should be on 11/6 agenda.
- Snow bids are due 10/18.
- Rec Board is hosting a Halloween parade and party on Saturday 10/26.
- Manager, Mayor, and Chief conducted a street survey. A list of sign replacements has been created.

Mr. Berry asks about the flagpole in Buttonwood Park which needs to be replaced. Ms. Johnson responds that the work should be done soon with a commercial grade, heavy duty commercial flagpole.

Ms. Thompson asks about the snow bids and if they have to change based on the speed tables installed on Breece. The Manager responds that the companies will be informed, and they do tours of the Borough once the contract is granted.

Mayor

n/a

Police Chief

n/a

### Borough Engineer

- Main/Afton signal improvements have been submitted to PennDot.
- Liquid Fuels Road Program – Speed bumps rather than speed tables were installed on 10/8. Contractor will make the change.
- Yardley Walk – A meeting was held with DEP, Lennar, Ingram, and HOA. There is consensus about what maintenance is needed. DEP promised work would be prioritized and streamlined and hopefully give approval in early November.

Mayor Harding asks about timeline on gas lines on Reading Ave. Liz will reach out to PECO about this and report back.

### Council Vice President

There was a meeting regarding Trenton Mercer Airport development with Steve Santarsiero's office. The airport is ready to move forward with expansion projects and there was a finding of no significant impact (fonsi) on the most immediate project. Unless LMT steps up and has their lawyer look into the fonsi then the project will go ahead. Mr. Bria asks for consensus from Council to make phone call to chair of LMT, Dan Granier, to offer support for their lawyer to review the fonzi to see if there is anything in there worth filing suit over. Consensus is granted.

### Council President

Halloween – Encourages community to support parade and Canal-o-ween.  
Carve-a-thon has been moved to the PECO lot.

### Council Committees

#### Community Outreach-Ms. Thompson

Harvest Day – Next year's Harvest Day is moved to 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of September so as not to conflict with Rosh Hashana.

There will be a proposal for a change to Borough code regarding headcount for the Planning Commission presented at the next meeting.

There was a resignation from Zoning Hearing Board. Committee is actively accepting applications.

Ms. Thompson moves to accept the resignation of Irene Silvius from the Zoning Hearing Board, which is seconded by Mr. Berry. Motion passes.

#### General Government-Ms. Thompson

Budget Townhall – Borough Manager and Financial Assistant presented a very helpful PowerPoint which covered all changes. Preliminary budget and tax levies will be presented for a vote at next meeting. General Government is recommending that big, one-time purchases be made line items. It is neater and offers foresight into what's coming next year.

#### Community & Economic Development – Mr. Berry

Zoning Hearing Board – There is a meeting 10/28 at which two cases will be heard. CED committee will meet 10/29, where the floodplain ordinance and PEMA's feedback will be discussed.

Public Safety – Ms. Brady

n/a

Public Works-Mr. Bria

Mary Yardley Bridge Committee will meet 10/16. They are hoping to move forward with preliminary work this year and hoping to finish project by late spring next year.

Mr. Berry –A revised scope for the grant will need to be provided.

**Bill List (Time stamp: 7:42 pm)**

Ms. Thompson moves to approve the bills list dated 10/15/19, which is seconded by Mr. Bria. Motion passes.

**Correspondence (Time stamp: 7:43 pm)**

n/a

**Public Comment (Time stamp: 7:43 pm)**

Rich Wayne, 115 Windsor Road, Chair of Harvest Day.

Mr. Wayne thanks Ms. Johnson, Chief Kelly, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Berry for all the hard work done for Harvest Day.

He also addresses the issue of drainage installed in Whiskey Hill, Windsor Drive. He asks why no one in the area got a notice that work was being done and how was it decided how the work would be done.

He requests approval to put river rock where there is no erosion which the engineers say is fine. Mr. Marshall will look into why notifications weren't sent out to residents.

Kim Prickett, 20 W. College. An e-mail has been sent requesting a meeting with borough officials, but she has not gotten a response yet. Ms. Johnson says the solicitor is reviewing her request. Mr. Closser will get back to the Pricketts.

Is Borough going to do anything about the issue of non-borough paperwork being put into the file for 20 W. College Avenue? Mr. Marshall responds this is being looked into.

John Bachalis – 181 Harper Avenue. Thanks to Council for taking advantage of Green Grant from PECO.

**Certificates of Appropriateness (Time Stamp: pm)**

n/a

**Old Business (Time Stamp: 7:53 pm)**

1. Adoption of Brake Retarder Ordinance No. 480.....Mr. Berry  
Mr. Berry motions to adopt Ordinance No. 480, the full text of which is attached to the meeting minutes, which Ms. Thompson seconds.  
Mr. Bria asks if the Borough is able to enforce this ordinance. The Chief answers yes but not until the signs are erected.  
Ms. Thompson requests that residents be notified if signs are going up in private property.  
A vote was held and the motion passes.

**New Business (Time Stamp: 7:55 pm)**

1. Resolution No. 19-11 PECO Green Region Grant.....Mr. Berry  
Mr. Berry motions to pass Resolution No. 19-11, the text of which is attached to the meeting minutes, which Mr. Bria seconds.  
Mr. Bachalis donates \$2,500 so that a larger matching grant can be received.  
Mr. Berry amends the resolution to be further resolved that if donations come in they will be incorporated into the match, which Mr. Bria seconds.  
The application is due October 31st so any addition donations need to be received by that time.  
A vote was held and the motion, as amended, passes.

Mr. Berry moves to adjourn the meeting to executive session at 8:01, which Ms. Thompson seconds.

The public portion of the meeting was reconvened at 8:20.

Mr. Bria makes a motion to send Solicitor, Mr. Esposito, to the Zoning Hearing Board to oppose the application of Camille Whiteman and Warren Fusfeld at 137 S. Delaware Avenue, which Ms. Thompson seconds.

Mr. Berry is okay to send the solicitor but votes no because he wishes to remain neutral in the matter.

The variance is for approval to build a deck in the floodplain along Delaware Avenue.

A vote was held and the motion passes 3 to 1 in roll call vote as follows: Thompson, yes, Berry, no, Bria, yes, Marshall, yes.

Mr. Bria makes a motion to send Solicitor, Mr. Esposito, to the Zoning Hearing Board to oppose the application of Robert White for the vacant property on North Main Street.

Mr. Berry is okay to send the solicitor but votes no because he wishes to remain neutral in the matter.

The application is seeking five variances to build new construction on a vacant lot in the floodplain.

Both applications would not be allowed under the new ordinances being considered.

A vote was held and the motion passes 3 to 1, with a nay vote by Mr. Berry.

Mr. Berry motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:23, which Ms. Thompson seconds.

Submitted by,  
Mary Ann McLean