

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
October 18, 2022**

The meeting was held in Borough Hall with the following members present:

Matthew Curtin
David Appelbaum

John McCann
Matt Ross

Caroline Thompson

Council member(s) not in attendance: Don Carlson, Kim Segal-Morris

Also in attendance were Chief Joseph Kelly, Borough Manager Paula Johnson, Engineer Patrick Foley, and Solicitor Ernest Closser.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Caroline Thompson, President

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. APPOINTMENT OF FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER

Mr. Ross motions to extend an offer of appointment as a full-time police officer, effective 10/18/22, to Dakota Romberger, which is seconded by Mr. Curtin.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0.

V. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lake Afton cleanup day, Saturday 10/22/22 8am-12pm.
- Canal-o-Ween begins Sunday 10/30 with Carve-a-thon taking place 12-3. Organizers are looking for volunteers to help with lighting duties and on Sunday, 11/6, for cleanup. Of note the pumpkins are shredded and returned to the land rather than thrown in the trash.
- Shirley Lee Corsey, Conservator of Gather Place, spoke to thank the community for their support at the AME open house. She will be speaking at the Old Yardley Library on 10/20 at 7:30 about Hidden in Plain Sight, a presentation about the African American community in Yardley dating back to 1790s.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Earl Markey, West College Ave. Addressed Council regarding the Right to Know Law.
- Peter Klabe, 116 S. Bell Ave. Addressed Council regarding the size of political signs in the Borough. Council President Thompson researched this issue and discovered that the Supreme Court's 2017 *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* decision determined that the policing of political signs is unconstitutional. This ordinance will be updated in Borough code next time updates are made.
- Dawn Perlmutter, 18 W. College Ave. Addressed Council regarding Right to Know matters and the policing of signage in the Borough.

VII. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED October 18, 2022

A. Approval of Minutes Dated October 4, 2022

B. Certificates of Appropriateness:

22-32 – 121 S. Main Street – Railing/Arches/no shutters

22-34 – 35 S. Main Street – Add new sign to existing sign

22-35 – 24 S. Main Street – Replace sign post

C. Approval of Halloween Parade: 10/29/22, Rain Date 10/30/22. Parade route Borough Hall to Buttonwood Park via S. Main Street (sidewalks)

Mr. Appelbaum motions to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2022 meeting, which is seconded by Mr. Ross.

Dr. Perlmutter: Raised issues with the approval for 121 S. Main.

Mr. Taylor from HARB offered some historical context on the property and changes that have been made over time. He notes that the proposed changes will make the building more historically appropriate. He suggested making previous HARB applications available when considering applications in the historical district.

The Mayor will come back to HARB by next June with arches and window canopies for its approval.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0.

VIII. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Office Heather Carnivale, tendered her resignation to accept a full-time position in another Bucks County municipality

IX. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Accept Finance Report Dated October 18, 2022

Consensus of council grated to accept financial report

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

XI. MAYOR'S REPORT

Addressed Dawn Perlmutter's open letter.

Dr. Perlmutter rebutted Mayor Harding's comments.

XII. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Kim Segal-Morris – Public Safety Committee, Human Relations Committee, EY
N/A

B. Matthew Ross – Public Works Committee, Sewer Authority, APO
Phase 2 sidewalk should start in 2-3 weeks.

C. Matt Curtin – General Government Committee, YMFC

Budget will be shared this week with Council and then will be presented to public.

D. John McCann – Community & Economic Development Committee, Historic & Architectural Review Board, Shade Tree Commission

Nothing to report.

E. David Appelbaum – Community Outreach Committee, YBA, Parks and Rec
Community Outreach Meeting 10/11.

Student volunteers from Drexel are working on website and social media for Gather Place.

F. Don Carlson – General Government, ZHB, Sewer

N/A

G. Caroline Thompson – Planning Commission

Nothing to report.

XIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ross motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:19, which is seconded by Mr. McCann.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean