

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
November 17, 2020**

The meeting was held via Zoom with the following members present:

Caroline Thompson	Uri Feiner	Matt Curtin	Matthew Ross
Kim Segal-Morris	John McCann	David Bria	

Council member(s) not in attendance:

Also in attendance were Mayor Harding, Chief Joseph Kelly, Engineer Liz Colletti, Solicitor Ernest Closser, 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

IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Susan Taylor, 25 Lookover. Yardley Historical Association has had to cancel open houses at the Library. They are trying to arrange lights for the building in honor of Bill Farkas for the season.

Mr. Bria – General note that state restrictions will change regarding Covid. Any news received will be distributed to the community as it becomes available.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kim Prickett – 20 W. College Avenue. Ms. Prickett made a statement regarding the handling of public comment during the last meeting and also about comments made by Ms. Perlmutter during the prior meeting as well as past meetings.

Mr. Bria – The personal matters between Ms. Perlmutter and the Pricketts are not ones that can be handled or solved by Council. The property dispute matters need to be handled in the court system.

Ms. Perlmutter – 18 W. College Avenue. Spoke regarding code enforcement and zoning issues with respect to her disputes with the Pricketts.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED November 17, 2020

- A. Approval of Minutes dated November 4, 2020
- B. Bills List dated November 17, 2020
- C. Event Permit Hebrew Academy Parade December 16, 2020 (rain date 12/17)

Ms. Thompson moves to approve the consent agenda dated November 17, 2020, which is seconded by Mr. McCann. A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

Ms. Perlmutter brought up a concern about the minutes of the 10/20/20 meeting and generally how meeting minutes are recorded and distributed. Mr. Bria noted that meeting minutes are not intended to be word-for-word recitations of the meeting and that meetings are public and available online in their entirety.

VII. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

The police department will have extra patrols on duty on Thanksgiving Eve, which is traditionally a night requiring an increased need for enforcement.

VIII. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Nothing in addition to report provided in the meeting materials.

IX. PROJECT UPDATES

A. Main & Afton Intersection – The Engineer asked Armour and Sons about cutting down existing pedestrian signal poles and were advised to include the request as part of a regular maintenance call. The cost should be approximately \$100 per pole. The Manager will investigate including this work in the future during a regular maintenance call.

Susan Taylor – Pole specifications were not included in the review by the Yardley Borough Historic District. Had they been reviewed, the issue would have been addressed earlier.

Pete Guidotti, 44 S. Bell. Proposes a discussion with the Historical Society so that work does not need to be redone in the future.

B. Mary Yardley Bridge – DVRPC Trails Grant has been submitted and received with the expectation of announcement of award in July 2021.

There will be a site visit 11/18 to verify if additional survey points are needed based on elevation project. They are also looking at if erosion on west abutment has worsened.

Susan Taylor – Do you anticipate starting construction in the spring? Engineer says it depends on funding. Ms. Taylor notes that private fundraising is close to exceeding the 35k goal.

C. PECO Property – Council needs to motion to put together a formal offer letter mentioning the contingency of the grant in order to move forward with the PECO negotiations.

Mr. McCann motions to authorize the solicitor to send an offer letter for the purchase of the Peco lot, contingent of receiving grant funds, which is seconded Mr. Ross. The motion passes 7-0.

D. North Main Street Sidewalks - Phase II

In a holding pattern with Penn Dot. Waiting for HOP permit and direction regarding moving utility poles. Comments have been received from residents and engineer is considering a meeting with residents and regarding the project.

Matt Ross will arrange meeting for affected residents.

X. MANAGER'S REPORT

- Budget work continues.
- Reconsidering holiday market plans due to Covid.
- The Little Library has been installed. Donovan Dolan did a great job.
- All members of the public are welcome to scheduled budget conversations with the Manager.
- Bryan Marshall resigned from Civil Service Commission. The Manager suggests appointing the alternate, Brian Welch.
Mr. Ross motions to accept the resignation of Bryan Marshall from the Civil Service Commission, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson.
The motion passes 7-0.
Mr. Ross motions to appoint Brian Welch as a full member to the Civil Service Commission, which is seconded by Mr. Feiner. The motion passes 7-0.

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

XII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Thank you to Chief Kelly and the Police Department as well as Manager Johnson and Ms. Segal-Morris for their support on Veterans' Day.

XIII. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Matthew Curtin – Environmental Advisory Commission, Reading Avenue Committee

Met with Michael Thompson, Chair of Environmental Advisory Commission. Gained understanding of current work analyzing watershed and water issues.

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

Regarding Manager Johnson's performance review Ms. Thompson asks the entire council can provide input to the review. Mr. Closser will advise.

F. John McCann – Community & Economic Development Committee, Historic & Architectural Review Board, North Main Street Traffic Committee
Thanks to Council and staff as we approach Thanksgiving.

G. Uri Feiner – Community Outreach Committee, Experience Yardley, Shade Tree Commission

Nothing to report.

XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A lengthy high-level discussion was held regarding the history of the floodplain ordinance and proposed changes that have been suggested by the Planning Commission. Susan Mazzitelli, consultant and flood hazard mitigation specialist, assisted in providing information.

Mr. Bria suggests advertising the ordinance in December with a vote in January.

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Thompson motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:50, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. The motion passes 7-0.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean