

Yardley Borough Council Meeting
August 17, 2021

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

Caroline Thompson	Uri Feiner (via phone)	Kim Segal- Morris
David Bria	Matt Curtin	

Council member(s) not in attendance: John McCann and Matthew Ross

Also in attendance were Mayor Chris Harding, Chief Joseph Kelly, Borough Manager Paula Johnson, and Solicitor Ernest Closser.

I. CALL TO ORDER – David Bria, President

The meeting, held in Council Chambers, was called to order at 7:30pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

David Appelbaum, 39 Breece Dr. gives an update on events that have been happening. Music-on-Main was a success and thanks Chief Kelly. This is the 2nd day of restaurant week. Saturday is a Music-on-Main event that starts with the Farmers Market, then Philadelphia Saxophone Orchestra, and Lewis Brothers for Music-on-Main.

David Bria, Council President, states that the Borough has not issued any new guidance on Covid as of yet.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Rich Wayne, 115 Windsor Rd, representing Yardley Harvest Day, asks permission to temporarily move the fence in Fitzgerald field to make the space work for Harvest Day. He will put the fence back once it is over.
- Leanne Poffenberger, 160 Lincoln Ave, Shade Tree Commission is opposed to removing the fence. Gave background on the trees that were planted and their purpose. The trees are a great environmental value and were free because they are members of the Philadelphia Horticultural Society (PHS). She states removing the fences destroys the intent of why the trees are put there.
- Derek Bilick, 3 Halls Ln, also gives history of the trees and the PHS program and if trees are put at risk, it reduces the opportunity to receive trees in the future. The PHS gives guidelines but doesn't require fences around trees but was impressed with what the Borough did.
- Council questions the fences and when the set time to remove and if the trees will be protected during the event. Question on if the event can be moved to another place. Mr. Wayne states there is a tight configuration for Harvest Day and causes

a chain reaction for vendors and takes responsibility if something happens to the tree.

- Per Alstrom, 160 Lincoln Ave, argues on keeping the fence.

Ms. Segal-Morris motions to grant approval to temporarily remove one fence for Harvest Day, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson. A vote was held, and the motion passes 4-1.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED August 17, 2021

A. Approval of Minutes Dated August 3, 2021

B. Bills List Dated August 17, 2021

C. Event Permit-Mini Music Fest August 21, 2021

D. Certificate of Appropriateness No: 21-18-1 South Main Street (sign)
21-19-1 South Main Street (sign)
21-20-49 South Main Street (sign)
21-21- 197 South Canal Street (roof)
21-22 – 10 North Main Street (signs)
21-23 – 41 East Afton Avenue (fence)
21-24 – 121 South Main Street (steps)

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda August 17, 2021, is made by Ms. Thompson, which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris.

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

Mr. Appelbaum asks about a postponement date for Mini Music Fest for 8/28. No date was listed in the permit. Therefore this is not granted.

VII. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Nothing to report

VIII. MANAGERS REPORT

- Budget requests for 2022 budget are due Friday
- Elevation projects are moving forward
- Streetlights have been painted

IX. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

X. MAYOR'S REPORT

Thanks Isaac Appelbaum for calling into the radio show.

XI. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Matthew Curtin – Environmental Advisory Commission, Reading Avenue Committee
Nothing to report.

- B. Matthew Ross – Public Works Committee, Planning Commission
Not present.
- C. Kim Segal Morris – Public Safety Committee, Human Relations Commission, TTN
Airport Updates
Nothing to report.
- D. David Bria – Sewer Authority
Nothing to report.
- E. Caroline Thompson – General Government Committee, Parks & Recreation Board
Nothing to report.
- F. John McCann – Community & Economic Development Committee, Historic &
Architectural Review Board, North Main Street Traffic Committee
Not present.
- G. Uri Feiner – Community Outreach Committee, Experience Yardley, Shade Tree
Commission
Requests to discuss openly Resolution 21-06 WWII Monument on the Flagpole.
Councilman Feiner gives background on the meeting Community Outreach had on
the flagpole. There is an alternative place to fly flags on the facade of Borough Hall.
Each Council in attendance spoke:
- Councilwoman Segal-Morris states the flag is more visible in front of
Borough Hall.
 - Vice President Thompson was part of the meeting and checked the flag code
and does not conflict with any codes and does not believe it is disrespectful to
fly a flag below the American flag. She is concerned about the formality of
what was done in June would be considered incorrect. Does not want this to
be an ongoing issue.
 - Councilman Curtin asks about the formality of the resolution.
 - President Mr. Bria discusses the timing of this, and that the resolution is a
reaction. Has concerns about how we accept one thing but just not in this
certain spot.
 - Councilman Feiner discusses the alternative solution to flying a flag.

Mr. Feiner motions to approve Resolution 21-06, which is seconded by Mr. Curtin. A
vote was held, and the motion passes 3-2.

Several residents spoke in favor or against the Resolution:

- Ted Smith, 114 Yardley Commons, spoke in favor of the resolution.
- Leanne Poffenberger, 160 Lincoln Ave, spoke in favor of the resolution.
- Kim Pricket, 20 West College Ave, spoke in favor of the resolution.
- Mayor Chris Harding, 121 South Main St, does not see it as reactionary.

XII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Leanne Poffenberger, 160 Lincoln Ave, discusses the American Water Company is offering a grant to put up bushes that would be used as a nursery in the future. This is to control erosion and Yardley Borough was chosen because there are erosion issues. A decision needs to be made by Sept 12th.

Ms. Thompson motions to authorize Shade Tree Commission and the Borough Engineers to work on the grant application, which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris. A vote was held, and the motion passes 4-0.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn to executive session at 8:39 pm by Ms. Segal-Morris, which is seconded by Ms. Thompson. A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0.

Submitted by,
Patty Sargent