

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
March 21, 2017**

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

Katherine Cadwallader	Rich Wayne	Mike Ruttle	Ryan Berry
Jef Buehler	Bryon Marshall		

Also in attendance were Mayor Chris Harding, Assistant Borough Manager Paula Johnson, Police Chief Joseph Kelly, Solicitor E. Closser, and Borough Engineer Tom Beach. President Katherine Cadwallader called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Mr. Buehler made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2017 Council meeting. Mr. Ruttle seconded. Motion carries unanimously.

REPORTS

Progress Reports

Solicitor

No report

Borough Manager

No report

Mayor

Mayor Harding stated that he received correspondence from a New Jersey resident with regards to a traffic stop in Yardley Borough. He will be composing a response and will make it available to other Council members. Mayor Harding also received information regarding the VFW and the American Legion Memorial Day Observances at local cemeteries and parade.

Police

Chief Kelly discussed grant received for aggressive driving campaign which runs from March 21 - April 30, 2017.

Borough Engineer

Mr. Beach provided update regarding elevation projects. Mr. Beach stated that he met with PennDOT on March 8th and anticipates having a conference call with PennDOT tomorrow regarding the North Main sidewalk project.

Council Vice President (Community & Economic Development Committee)

Mr. Ruttle provided a status on the South Canal Street easement/street issue. He has concluded from his search for records that the street indication is a surveyor error.

Mr. Ruttle stated that he attended the Planning Commission meeting and the revised sign ordinance has been circulated to Yardley Business Association (YBA) members.

Council President

Ms. Cadwallader shared that Ms. Ruth Biddle, a long-time Administrator for the Sewer Authority, passed away approximately 2 weeks ago and she would like to pass on her condolences.

Council Committees

Community Outreach

Mr. Buehler discussed his work with three business and property owners on development within the Borough. He encouraged everyone to attend the expansion and grand re-opening of Pilates Bodies on April 1st.

Public Safety

Mr. Marshall stated he is working with Chief Kelly on staffing issues and applicants and will have an update at the next Council meeting.

Public Works

Mr. Wayne discussed the Multi-Modal Grant award and provisions in place for the start and duration. He stated that the grant funds will be distributed after expenses, therefore the Borough may need to break up the project for cash-flow and budget concerns. Council members agreed that Mr. Wayne should work with the Solicitor to generate a request for a permission letter from PennDOT requesting the ability to apply for reimbursement of expenses pending the finalization of the contract. Mayor Harding asked about timeframe for the project and Mr. Wayne stated that they anticipate breaking ground this year.

Mr. Wayne received an invitation from our State Representative to tour certain projects with PennDOT officials and will be looking at Yardley.

General Government

Mr. Berry stated the General Government committee met prior to this Council meeting and discussed what Mr. Wayne presented this evening. Additionally, the Committee reviewed the Resident Budget Advisory Committee budget format and will be talking with them directly about questions and recommendations. Mr. Berry discussed an update to the woods at the Reading Avenue property and stated that the buyer submitted an application to the Zoning Hearing Board. The General Government committee will be moving forward with adjustments to the Borough website in order to provide better communication to residents.

Bill List

Mr. Berry made a motion to approve the bill list dated March 21, 2017. Mr. Buehler seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Cadwallader stated that the Council meeting is being recorded tonight.

John Bachalis, 181 Harper Avenue, asked if any of the Council members have thoughts or ideas on the high cost of water and sewer. Mr. Wayne responded that there is an independent sewer authority that sets the rates and that they meet monthly.

Roger Crook, 104 North Main Street, discussed the Budget Resident Advisory Committee and its purpose.

Irene Silveus, Resident, provided joint Facebook page information for Lower Makefield Township and Yardley.

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

1. **17-07 76 South Main Street (sign)**.....**Mr. Ruttle**
Mr. Ruttle made a motion to approve certificate of appropriateness 17-07 for 76 South Main Street sign. Mr. Buehler seconded. Discussion: Mr. Ruttle explained that this has been approved by HARB and this is considered a change in tenant. Motion passes unanimously.
2. **17-08 7 South Main Street (sign)**.....**Mr. Ruttle**
Mr. Ruttle made a motion to approve certificate of appropriateness 17-08 for 7 South Main Street signs as modified. Mr. Buehler seconded. Discussion: Mr. Ruttle explained that this location is the old Foster Jewelry

building and significant consideration and discussion was made with regards to the sign concerns between HARB and the applicant. Motion passes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Banner Permit (Restaurant Week: August 14-28, 2017)**.....**Mr. Buehler**
Mr. Buehler made a motion to approve the Banner Permit for Restaurant Week, August 14-28, 2017 as submitted. Mr. Ruttle seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
2. **Payment Certificate #4 (2014 FMA: 81 Morgan Avenue)**.....**Mr. Wayne**
Mr. Buehler made a motion to approve payment certificate #4 for 81 Morgan Avenue in the amount of \$35,547.54. Mr. Ruttle seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
3. **Payment Certificate #5 (2014 FMA: 45 Maple Avenue)**.....**Mr. Wayne**
Mr. Buehler made a motion to approve payment certificate #5 for 45 Maple Avenue in the amount of \$44,299.28. Mr. Buehler seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
4. **Bid Award (2014 FMA Elevations: 59 Morgan and 61 North Delaware)**.....**Mr. Wayne**
Mr. Wayne stated the he will be making separate motions on each property. Mr. Wayne made a motion to approve alternate bid number 2 in the amount of \$201,597.50 to J&P Excavating for 59 Morgan Avenue elevation. Mr. Buehler seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Mr. Wayne made a motion to approve the base bid in the amount of \$189,281.00 to Premier Builders Inc. for 61 North Delaware elevation. Mr. Ruttle seconded. Discussion: Mr. Wayne stated that there was a lower bidder for the project but they were unresponsive. Motion passes unanimously.

5. **BRRAM Update**.....**Mr. Wayne**
Mr. Wayne discussed the status of BRRAM (Bucks Residents for Responsible Airport Management) and that an increasing number of Yardley Borough residents are concerned about airport noise.

John Wilcox, 81 North Delaware Avenue, BRRAM Board Member, stated that he and the Committee are concerned about the noise level and the increased airplane traffic coming to and from the Trenton-Mercer Airport. Mr. Wilcox stated that in order to address the lawsuit issues quickly they need additional funding from their community partners.

Mr. Wayne made a motion that Yardley Borough contribute \$3,000 to BRRAM. Mr. Berry seconded.

Discussion: Mayor Harding asked about the Borough's financial commitment to BRRAM and what contributions had already been made. Mr. Wayne stated that the Borough budgeted \$2,000 last year but paid nothing in 2016, and paid \$2,000 earlier this year.

Jill Harrison, 37 Ludlow Road, stated that she appreciated BRRAM's efforts and is disappointed that the state didn't require an assessment in 2012.

Skip Garlits, 30 Delaware Rim, asked Council to consider a larger contribution in the amount of \$10,000.

Motion made by Mr. Wayne to contribute \$3,000 to BRRAM passes unanimously.

Adjournment

At 8:21 pm Mr. Ruttle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wayne seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Fitzgerald, Recording Secretary