

MEETING MINUTES
MORRISVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015
7:00 p.m.

The Morrisville Borough Council met on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 7:03 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Morrisville Municipal Borough, 35 Union Street, Morrisville, PA for a Special Council Meeting.

Mrs. Sherlock stated, I will ask everyone to stand for a moment of silent prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. Sherlock took roll at this time.

Those in Attendance:

Borough Council: Nancy Sherlock, President
Fred Kerner, Vice President
Victor Cicero
Corryn Kronnagel
Ted Parker
Todd Sanford
Debbie Smith

Borough Officials: Mayor Dave Rivella
Robert Sooby, Assistant Borough Manager

Not in Attendance: Tom H. Bates Jr., Borough Manager
Jeffrey Johnson
Robert A. Seward, Code Enforcement Officer
Alyson Fritzges, Solicitor
Scott J. Stoddard, Borough Engineer
George McClay, Chief of Police
Anna C. Zuckerman, Junior Councilperson

Mrs. Sherlock stated she would like to add a motion to the agenda regarding the Peco Green Grant, the deadline is December 31st and waiting until the next meeting would not allow enough time. This is a grant that requires a 50% match, up to \$10,000.00. Does Council wish to pursue this? Everyone agreed to add it to the agenda.

Mrs. Sherlock read the proposed ordinance to advertise (motion 5A)

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

1. Jane Burger- *90 West Maple Avenue*
She asked if there has been a date set yet with the judge to petition for our tax increase.

Mrs. Sherlock replied, the attorney has filed the correct paperwork and we are waiting to hear.

There being no more public comment, the public comment portion was closed.

FINANCE

Motion 5A - Motion to advertise an ordinance levying the taxes for the 2016 fiscal year.

Motion made by Mr. Kerner.

Mr. Cicero seconded the motion.

Mrs. Sherlock stated, are there questions or comments on the motion? Mrs. Sherlock took roll call.

Motion carried by roll call vote, 5-2. (nay votes being Mr. Sanford and Ms. Smith)

Motion 5B - Motion to apply for the Peco Green Grant for the purpose of a PA system on the stage in Williamson Park as first choice and a signage board as second choice and third choice would be to extend the existing trail, not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Motion made by Mr. Cicero.

Mr. Kerner seconded the motion.

Mrs. Sherlock stated, are there questions or comments on the motion? Mrs. Sherlock took roll call.

Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

BOROUGH OFFICIALS DISCUSSION

At this time, the meeting was kept open in case Council needed to vote on something else, and continued with the agenda for December 21st.

Mrs. Sherlock stated, we will add special meeting minutes of November 30th 2015 and December 1, 2015.

Motion 10A to register Robert Sooby as the Right to Know Officer, Ms. Smith believes it is too early, we should not do this until next year.

The numbers & letters on the new business section need to be adjusted and #3 is Economic Development, not Environmental.

Everyone needs a copy of Janet Rivella's request to be on the EDC and the MEAC.

Council discussed the fee schedule.

Mrs. Sherlock stated that the sanitation figures need to be changed, but the rest of the fees could stay the same. Bob Seward and Tom Bates have reviewed it and the figures are good. One other change would be to add the fee to remove a banner if the participant does not remove it within 10 days, (weather permitting).

Ms. Smith believes we should reduce the fees, she thinks they are too high.

Mrs. Sherlock believes they are on par with surrounding communities, except for those more wealthy communities.

Regarding the Library Board, there is a person interested who attended the last Library Board Meeting. The Library Board is recommending Rachel Muckin, she will be contacted to ask her to write her formal request.

Corryn would like to add a motion regarding Civil Service and a recommendation. We discussed Agenda/Special Meetings for next year. They will remain the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm, unless there is a gap and then it will be the 3rd Tuesday.

Council discussed an e-mail from Deborah Colgan regarding the EAC account that was charged \$514 for advertising the bids for the tree plantings at the Riverfront Preserve, and the bank fees they were charged. Everyone agreed the Borough can pay for the bank fees and it was determined that the EAC should have a private account in order to keep all funds recorded correctly. Dave Rivella felt the EAC should attend a meeting to discuss and we should not make any decisions until we hear from them. Mrs. Sherlock stated she believes we have heard in the form of this letter, she, Bob Seward, and Tom Bates have spoken to Debby. Mr. Bates said, let the Council decide if they want to pay for it out of the Recreation Funds. No one wanted to make the decision, they said to wait.

Mrs. Sherlock spoke with Linda Costa at PSAB regarding the Jr. Councilperson position, Linda Costa said we did not do anything wrong. There are about 50 ways to do it and 90% of the time Council is not involved and does not do interviews, the school or another agency will just present to Council. Council went above and beyond when we interviewed.

Mrs. Sherlock mentioned the Pennsylvania State Historical Marker for the Robertson Art Tile Company. She read what the marker is going to say, she mentioned Bob Seward has been in contact with Toll Brother which is the location of the former Robertson Tile Company. There is still a challenge regarding proper placement and Toll Brothers wants to see the wording because it may have to sit on their property. Mr. Seward stated that we may have to go before zoning due to size.

Mrs. Sherlock stated that the Borough Manager Candidate resumes were only sent to Council members, and no one else.

Mrs. Sherlock stated that she will ask the solicitor if the new Council members are able to read the Cornerstone summary report. The Cornerstone Report is sealed, but is the summary for new Councilpersons? If there would be any lawsuits they may need to read it. She thanked everyone who attended Winterfest. She said the houses look great, many people have decorated. She made a statement about the tree at Robert Morris Plaza. Regarding the decorated tree donation. The tree looks lovely, and what kind of scrooge would say anything bad about it, but she wanted to clear up something. Council was under the impression that the tree was going to be a Borough project, and that Ms. Smith was donating the tree and we would be putting it up and then we found out that a private citizen contacted the Fire Department to escort the tree to the plaza. No one on Council except for Ms. Smith was aware of this. This ended up being a private event. Not advertised by the Borough until the Wednesday before.

Council went into executive session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss personnel.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Mr. Kerner and seconded by Ms. Kronnagel.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.