

MEETING MINUTES
MORRISVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2017
7:30 p.m.

The Morrisville Borough Council met on Monday, November 20, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Morrisville Municipal Borough, 35 Union Street, Morrisville, PA for a Regular Council Meeting.

Mr. Kerner stated, will begin with a moment of silent prayer, followed by a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mr. Sooby took roll call at this time.

Those in Attendance:

Borough Council: Fred Kerner, President
Ted Parker, Vice President
Corryn Kronnagel
Danielle Larison
Bill Pepitone
Todd Sanford
Debbie Smith

Borough Officials: Mayor David Rivella
Robert C. Sooby, Borough Manager
Dave Sander, Solicitor
John Later, Superintendent of Public Works

Junior Councilperson: Sade Ricketts

Not Present: Victor Cicero
Robert A. Seward, Assistant Borough Manager/Code Enforcement

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

4A. Special Presentation, swearing in of Sade Ricketts as the Junior Councilperson for the school year 2017-2018.

4B. Special Presentation of Miss Winterfest, Brynn Brown and Junior Miss Winterfest, Gianna Lynch.

4C. Special Presentation by Tony Spagnoli, Program Manager, Pennsylvania Environmental Council. He gave an update regarding the canal crossing at Bridge Street.

4D. Special Presentation by Peter Place, CPA, of Lopez Teodosio & Larkin, LLC, presented the Independent Financial Audit he performed for Morrisville Borough.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

1. *Jim Schaffer - 10 Manor Lane, N., Lower Makefield, President of Morrisville Little League*
He talked about the proposal MML submitted to Council and that they hope to reach an agreement that benefits the Borough, the League and Williamson Park. He supplied Council with 2017's roster. He stated that MLL carries Insurance and that Borough shouldn't be burdened with additional insurance for their activities in the park. He also stated that MLL pays PECO bills for the park and if there are any additional bills to please forward them to MLL. MLL has never collected an outside fee for field use.
2. *Holly Harman - S. Pennsylvania Avenue*
She had some questions about the bill list. She wanted to know where Overton Ave was. She asked about the Civil Service bill for Rudolf Clark LLC. She asked about a PECO bill. She wanted to know when the mess from the fire on Park Avenue was going to be taken care of.
3. *Joyce Gaunt - 104 Hillcrest Avenue*
She stated that she supports Morrisville Little League. Her three sons played and her father worked the fields and her mother worked the concession stands. Many volunteer hours go into the organization.
4. *Peggy Walsh - 444 Stockham Avenue*
She supports Morrisville Little League. She talked about Legislative gerrymandering and stated that PA is the third most gerrymandered state in the Nation. She was asking Council to support the Resolution to move from partisan redistricting method that's now used to a non partisan independent commission.

5. **Bill Farrell - 307 N. Pennsylvania Avenue**
He wished Victor Cicero well and health. He talked about the trash collection and wanted an update on the backlog of sanitation. He spoke about the election and he wished everyone a good Thanksgiving.
6. **Luke Carmen - 56 Green Street**
He talked about the drug trafficking on his street, the corner of Green & Washington. He is offering up his house for surveillance and to have cameras put up.
7. **Jane Burger - 90 West Maple Avenue**
She mentioned that resident Madeline Jones who used to come to the meetings to speak passed away. She congratulated the ones that won the most recent election and thanked the ones that didn't for their service. She talked about the new trail that will be crossing the Calhoun Street Bridge, it is the 911 Memorial Trail that begins in New York City at the site of the World Trade Center and travels South crossing our Calhoun Street Bridge to the Pentagon in Washington and to Schwenksville, then back to New York City. She talked about the Gerrymandering Resolution and she wanted to encourage Councils support for that. She talked about the budget meetings and hoped that Council would have them soon and have their preliminary budget soon.

There being that no one else wished to speak, public comment portion was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 6A - Motion to approve the Special Borough Council Meeting minutes of Tuesday, September 12, 2017.

Motion made by Ms. Smith.

Ms. Larison seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments on those minutes? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote, 7-0.

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Motion 6B - Motion to approve the Regular Borough Council Meeting minutes of Monday, September 18, 2017.

Motion made by Ms. Larison.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments on those minutes? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote, 7-0.

Motion 6C - Motion to approve the Special Borough Council Meeting minutes of Tuesday, October 10, 2017.

Motion made by Ms. Smith.

Mr. Pepitone seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments on those minutes? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote, 7-0.

Motion 6D - Motion to approve the Regular Borough Council Meeting minutes of Monday, October 16, 2017.

Motion made by Ms. Kronnagel.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments on those minutes? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote, 7-0.

REPORTS - ADMINISTRATIVE/MANAGEMENT

Borough Manager's Report - Robert C. Sooby - He talked about the budget and stated that they had some complications with the software and everything is worked out and they are moving forward. He had the Engineer Kurt Schroder talk about the \$140,000.00 grant they received through DCED Flood Mitigation Program. He thanked Senator Chuck McIlhinney and State Representative Perry Warren, without their help they wouldn't have obtained the funds.

Solicitor's Report - Dave Sander - He stated, no separate report this evening Mr. President.

Mayor's Report - David Rivella - He acknowledge Congressman Fitzpatrick in the room who came out to hear about baseball. He talked about the Highland Park sign and that they are still working on a ribbon cutting ceremony. He mentioned Winterfest and that he was working on the festivities for Borough Hall. He gave information about the Santa Paws event at the Ambulance Squad. He thanked Templo Christian Jireh Church in Morrisville and Pastor Mario and his congregation for inviting the Police Department on Sunday and recognizing Law Enforcement.

Junior Councilperson's Report - Sade Ricketts - She talked about the Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast at the High School and mentioned that the Thanksgiving football game against Bristol is away. She talked about the field trip the Seniors took to the Franklin Institute today and two weeks ago they went to UPenn. She mentioned that the National Honor Society is gathering items for a food donation basket.

REPORTS - COMMITTEES

Ms. Kronnagel mentioned the Business Outreach Meeting was held at Hot Rods, where they provided food as well. She mentioned that Small Business Saturday is this Saturday. She mentioned that they had Michael Roeding, from the Bucks County Planning Commission who will be at the next Council meeting to give the blueprint from the County from the surveys that were filled out in March. They also had representatives from the County Economic Development Committee, Habitat for Humanity and Wells Fargo. Next meeting will be in January at Ben's Deli.

Ms. Larison mentioned that the Beautification Committee will be at the Plaza this Saturday, they will be decorating the Plaza for Christmas at 10:00 am.

Police Chief's Report - Chief George McClay - He mentioned that he had a very productive meeting with the Citizen he just met with. He mentioned that this past month he got together with all the religious leaders in town for a lunch. He paid \$100.00 for internal parts to rebuild the existing Parking Meters with the help of John Later. Crime stats have been down and are looking good. Our police arrested a man again who was out of jail only 5 days, he was caught stealing. They have 9 ballistic helmets from a PIMA Grant. They were notified that they did

not receive the Cops Ahead Grant. He's hoping that Council will look at the numbers and increase them for next year as they start the budget hearings.

FINANCE

Mr. Sooby read the bill list.

Mr. Kerner asked, are there any questions or comments on the bills?

Mr. Sanford stated, I am abstaining on voting for invoices for vendor Sanford Motors, Ltd. due to family member conflict of interest. Report date 11/08/17 GL-1710 Page 3 in the total amount of \$968.87 and also on report date 11/19/17 GL-1711 Page 2 in the total amount of \$1,156.26.

Mr. Kerner mentioned the museum passes that will be available next year at the Library with your membership.

Ms. Larison had a question about Rudolph Clark \$723.99.

Mr. Sooby replied, that was for extended research due to the Civil Service right to know.

Ms. Kronnagel explained what Civil Service does.

Motion 8A - Motion to pay the bills.

Motion made by Mr. Parker.

Ms. Larison seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner stated, any other questions on the bills? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote, 7-0 with abstentions.

Motion 8B - A Resolution of the Borough of Morrisville Bucks County Pennsylvania accepting dedication of Bucks County Tax Map Parcels No. 24-9-107-1 and 24-9-107-3 from the School District of the Borough of Morrisville repealing all inconsistent resolutions or parts thereof providing a severability clause and providing an effective date.

Motion made by Mr. Parker.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion.

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Mr. Kerner asked, any discussion or comments on this motion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Mr. Parker stated, it's been a long road and a lot of people on this Council have worked together on this and I'm glad to see it come to a conclusion.

Mr. Kerner stated, as am I.

Dave Sander stated, closing will be on Tuesday November 28, 2017. This is just a technical item that Council has to take action on so that we can attach this Resolution accepting dedication to the deed of dedication to ensure a transfer tax free conveyance.

Ms. Smith stated, I also want to thank all the boards, including the MEAC. I'd like to thank the Commissioners who went above and beyond and the Council also and all the Representatives that helped us get all those grants through.

Mr. Kerner stated, all those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote, 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Motion 9A - Consideration of tabled motion "to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise hiring a full-time code enforcement officer".

Motion to lift the table made by Ms. Larison.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any discussion?

Motion carried by roll call vote, 6-1. (nay vote being Ms. Kronnagel.)

Mr. Kerner stated, a Motion to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise hiring a full-time code enforcement officer.

Discussion ensued about hiring a full-time code enforcement officer or outsourcing code enforcement.

Mr. Kerner asked, any further comments or discussion about this?

Motion fails by roll call vote, 5-2. (nay vote being Ms. Larison, Mr. Parker, Mr. Pepitone, Mr. Sanford and Ms. Smith)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion 10A - Motion to name the existing levee trail, "The Capital Riverwalk".

Motion made by Ms. Larison.

Mr. Pepitone seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments on that motion.

Mr. Kerner explained how they came up with the name.

Mr. Kerner stated, all those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote, 7-0.

Motion 10B - Motion to pass Greater Philadelphia Region Circuit Trails Resolution.

Motion made by Ms. Larison.

Ms. Kronnagel seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments on that motion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote, 7-0.

Motion 10C - Motion to put a hiring freeze in place until January 2nd 2018.

Motion made by Ms. Smith.

Ms. Larison seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments from the dais?

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Ms. Kronnagel stated, I don't know where this is coming from. The Borough Manager does the hiring and firing, I don't know where this is coming from.

Discussion ensued regarding the hiring freeze.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments from the dais? Roll Call Vote.

Motion carried by roll call vote, 4-3. (nay votes being Mr. Kerner, Ms. Kronnagel and Mr. Parker).

Motion 10D - Motion to authorize the Borough Manger to advertise for a Borough Solicitor for January 2018.

Motion made by Ms. Smith.

Mr. Pepitone seconded the motion.

Mr. Kerner asked, any questions or comments from the dais?

Ms. Smith stated, same thing, just for reorganization. I think the new Council coming in would like to have the opportunity to be open about it and have new applications come in and for everybody to take a look at it. I'd like to thank Mr. Sander and please do also apply and be under consideration with the entire Council.

Dave Sander replied, thank you Ms. Smith.

Mr. Kerner asked, any other questions or comments? Roll call vote.

Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

BOROUGH OFFICIALS

No discussion by Borough Officials this evening.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Kerner stated, the Thanksgiving breakfast is this Thanksgiving from 7-9 at the High School, It benefits the Morrisville Student Loan Fund.

ADOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Ms. Kronnagel and seconded by Ms. Larison.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.