



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MORRISVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019**  
**7:00 P.M.**

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The Morrisville Borough Council met on Monday, June 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Morrisville Municipal Building, 35 Union Street, Morrisville, PA for a Regular Council Meeting.

Virginia Cyphers took roll call.

**Those in Attendance:**

Borough Council: Debbie Smith, President  
Danielle Larison, Vice President  
Justin Bowers  
Eileen Dreisbach  
Corryn Kronnagel  
David Nay  
Ted Parker  
Michael Yager

Borough Officials: Scott Mitchell, Borough Manager  
Michael Levin, Solicitor  
Virginia Cyphers, Assistant Borough Secretary  
Micah Heitz, Finance Director

Not Present: Dave Rivella, Mayor

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Elora Das, Borough Engineer of Gilmore & Associates, gave a presentation where she reviewed the ten grant applications that they are working on for Morrisville Borough.

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**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

1. Robert Perry – *600 Prospect Ave.*  
He stated, due to the technical difficulties with the audio, he will come back and speak at the next meeting.
2. Holly Harman – *Hillside Avenue*  
She complimented the Exploring PA Boroughs show which featured Morrisville Borough and aired on PCN. She stated that the library completed their book sale over the weekend.
3. Peggy Walsh – *444 Stockham Avenue*  
She stated that it was wonderful to hear about all the work being done on the grants. She wanted to acknowledge all the volunteer work that everyone does. She wants council to rectify a situation that the Morrisville Environmental Advisory Council had with regards to a tree being taken down at the tot lot while construction was being done.
4. Constance Beadle – *Osborne Avenue*  
She likes the little libraries, the bird habitat environment, the gardens at the library and the dog park in Morrisville. She spoke about the issue with the tree at the tot lot and feels it was a minor issue and it could have been handled with a conversation. She suggested that the MEAC do a project at Patriots Park, possibly planting wildflowers which are good for the bees.
5. Jane Burger – *90 W. Maple Avenue*  
She talked about ARLE grants and wanted to know if they need to be resubmitted, she thought that council voted for them in December. She spoke about LERTA and hopes that council supports it.

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

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**MINUTES**

**Motion 6A and 6B** - Motion to approve the Borough Council meeting minutes of May 14, 2019.

**Motion** made by Ms. Larison.

Seconded by Ms. Dreisbach.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions on this motion? All in favor? Opposed?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 8-0.

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**ACTION ITEMS**

**Motion 7B** - Motion to approve the bill list and pay bills.

**Motion** made by Mr. Bowers.

Seconded by Mr. Parker.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on the bill list? Can we have a roll call please?

**Motion** carried by roll call vote 8-0.

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**REPORTS**

**George McClay** – *Chief of Police* – He talked about the previous issues with the Police Department prior to him being hired as Chief of Police in February of 2014. Some issues he mentioned were low morale, poor equipment, lack of training, no supervision, man power shortages, labor relation board issues and federal lawsuits. He stated since he was hired the department is now well trained, it is a well-equipped professional law enforcement organization, the lawsuits were all settled back in 2014, up to date policies were put into effect, the Morrisville Police Department was one of the first departments in the county to implement the body camera policy. All of this was done within the budget. The crime rate has dipped 50% in the last 5 years. He

wanted to know how Council could pass up the opportunity to have an outside organization conduct a free study of the Police Department.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Motion 9A** - Motion to award the 2019 paving contract to General Asphalt Paving Company, Inc., for a total amount of \$317,340.80.

**Motion** made by Mr. Yager.

Seconded by Ms. Dreisbach.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on this motion? Can I have a roll call please?

**Motion** carried by roll call 8-0.

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**Motion 9B** - Motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the appropriate Borough Officers to sign documents pertaining to the Green Light Go Grant application with PennDot.

**Motion** made by Mr. Parker.

Seconded by Ms. Dreisbach.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions on this motion? Can I have a roll call please?

**Motion** carried by roll call 8-0.

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**Motion 9C** - Motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the application for the Flood Mitigation Program Grant through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (Levee Study Phase II).

**Motion** made by Ms. Larison.

Seconded by Mr. Yager.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on the motion? Can I have a roll call please?

**Motion** carried by roll call 8-0.

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**Motion 9D** - Motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the Borough Engineer to submit an application for the Automated Red Light Enforcement Program Grant through PennDot (Pennsylvania Avenue and Philadelphia Avenue intersection).

**Motion** made by Mr. Parker.

Seconded by Ms. Larison.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on the motion? Can we have a roll call please?

**Motion** carried by roll call vote 8-0.

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**Motion 9E** - Motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the Borough Engineer to submit an application for the Automated Red Light Enforcement Program Grant through PennDot (Pennsylvania Avenue and Trenton Avenue intersection).

**Motion** made by Ms. Larison.

Seconded by Mr. Parker.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on the motion? Can I have a roll call please?

**Motion** carried by roll call vote 8-0.

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**Motion 9F** - Motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the Borough Engineer to submit an application for the Automated Red Light Enforcement Program Grant through PennDot (Upgrading the existing traffic signals with battery backups, generator plugs and pre-emption).

**Motion** made by Ms. Dreisbach.

Seconded by Ms. Larison.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on the motion? Can I have a roll call please?

**Motion** carried by roll call vote 8-0.

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**Motion 9G** - Motion to approve the Resolution granting certain tax exemptions on the assessed value of certain improvements to industrial, commercial or other business properties within an established district in the Borough of Morrisville, Bucks County, PA, pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act (LERTA), contingent upon approval from Bucks County and Morrisville School District.

**Motion** made by Mr. Parker.

Seconded by Ms. Larison.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on this motion?

Jeff Darwak, Executive Director, Bucks County Redevelopment Authority answered questions regarding LERTA.

**Motion 9G Revised** - Motion to approve the Resolution granting certain tax exemptions on the assessed value of certain improvements to industrial, commercial or other business properties within an established district in the Borough of Morrisville, Bucks County, PA, pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act (LERTA), contingent upon approval from Bucks County and Morrisville School District.

Ms. Smith stated, we'll take a vote on that.

**Motion** carried by roll call vote 8-0.

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**Motion 9H** – Motion to appoint the Chairperson of the Environmental Advisory Council.

**Motion to nominate Peg Mongillo** made by Mr. Yager.

Ms. Smith asked, are there any other nominations?

Ms. Smith asked, can I have a roll call please?

**Motion** to nominate Peg Mongillo carried by roll call vote 8-0.

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Mr. Nay requested to un-table the DCED motion to perform a study of the Morrisville Police Department.

**Motion 9I-1** – Motion to un-table the motion that was made last month to allow the DCED to perform a study of the Morrisville Police Department.

**Motion to un-table** made by Mr. Yager.

Seconded by Mr. Parker.

**Motion to un-table DCED** carried by roll call vote 8-0.

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**Motion 9I-2** - Motion to reconsider the previously tabled motion to authorize the DCED to perform a study of the Morrisville Police Department.

**Motion** made by Mr. Nay.

Seconded by Ms. Kronnagel.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions on it? Roll call on this please.

**Motion** carried by roll call vote 6-2. (Nay votes being Mr. Bowers and Ms. Larison)

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Mr. Nay requested to make a motion for Council to direct the Borough Manager to do a cost analysis regarding bringing Code Enforcement personnel in-house.

**Motion 9J** - Motion to authorize the Borough Manager to do a direct cost analysis for in-house Code Enforcement personnel.

**Motion** made by Ms. Kronnagel.

Seconded by Mr. Nay.

Ms. Smith stated, we'll take a vote.

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**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

1. Jane Burger – *90 W. Maple Avenue*

She commented that there was a lot going on to be doing a cost analysis at this time.

2. Kurt Holthenrichs – *300 Melvin Avenue*

He commented that if there was a single in-house person to do code enforcement, zoning, fire, plumbing, engineering that the job wouldn't get done.

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

**Motion** fails by roll call vote 3-5. (Nay votes being Mr. Bowers, Ms. Dreisbach, Ms. Larison, Ms. Smith and Mr. Yager).

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**BOROUGH OFFICIALS**

Mr. Nay talked about the red bridge project at the canal that he is working to improve. He stated that it should be done in November or December due to the fact that they are letting the wood cure and there will be less traffic during that time.

Ms. Smith stated that she just received information about the Bucks County Tour of Honor in the fall. She stated that anyone can do a donation individually or take up a collection to do an ad. She also received information from RRTS Residents for Regional Traffic Solutions, regarding the proposed expansion of Mercer County Airport.

Mr. Nay stated that two residents have reached out to him regarding tree removal between the sidewalk and the curb. He asked Mr. Mitchell what the current policy is to have those trees removed and is it posted anywhere?



Mr. Mitchell stated that it's been on the website since before he came to the Borough. He said that Borough trees are trees that are on Borough property and that any trees in the right of way, just the sidewalk and the curbs and the grass, are the private property owners responsibility.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** to adjourn.

**Motion** made by Mr. Parker

Meeting adjourned.