



The Morrisville Borough Council met on Monday, March 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Morrisville Municipal Building, 35 Union Street, Morrisville, PA for a Regular Council Meeting.

Ms. Smith stated, if you'll all please rise for a moment of silence and our Pledge of Allegiance.

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: Dave Rivella, Mayor
Scott Mitchell, Borough Manager
Michael Levin, Solicitor
Virginia Cyphers, Assistant Borough Secretary

Not Present: Micah Heitz, Finance Director

Junior Councilperson: Garrett Foy

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no special presentations this evening.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

1. Jack Buckman – *617 Rutland Road*

He spoke about the controller position that was eliminated years ago and wanted to know if it was legal. He feels the Borough should pay the previous controller, or if the vote didn't count they should put the controller position back on the ballot. He asked Mr. Parker if he could look into lowering the school taxes that he feels are high. He would like to know if Rutland Road can be repaired it is in bad shape.

2. Courtney Rains Loo – *327 Hillside Avenue*

She wanted to thank Council for allowing her and her Christian band Right to Become to clean up the Morrisville Riverwalk (Dyke). She wanted to thank Mary Lou and Eric White for their thank you letter and their \$100 donation to help with the cleanup. They do the clean up the first Saturday of every month.

3. Noel Sperry – *531 Prospect Avenue*

He wanted to thank Council for all the work that's being done with the tot lot at Williamson Park and Patriots Park. He would like Council to focus more on looking at projects and programs to attract more businesses and ways to revitalize our downtown area.

4. Kurt Holthenrichs – *300 Melvin Court*

He stated that it's great to see the money coming in through the grants, the work being done by the engineers with Scott and Council supporting that work. He stated that it's not great to see more wasted money over

petty arguments, solicitor fees, pushing for possibly more judicial oversight and arguments that can be settled in house.

5. John Pasteur – *25 Dieter Avenue*

He stated that he was disturbed that there was no mention of the five people that lost their lives at the apartments in a moment of silence. He wanted to know where code enforcement was with that, he feels they need to start enforcing the rental properties, it could potentially save lives. He is still against cutting the police force and wants to know how much money we are saving by cutting the officer. He doesn't feel that Borough workers should have done the community service day at the YMCA because we don't own the building. He wishes Council would reconsider and put the truck enforcement officer back on the road.

6. Jane Burger – *90 West Maple Avenue*

She hopes that Council will move forward and vote to become part of the new enterprise zone, she feels it can help small businesses. She feels that with the hiring of a new police officer and the one that was hired a couple of months ago that we have the coverage of a full-time officer and that it should allow time for the truck enforcement officer.

7. Christopher Croteau – *473 Hamilton Boulevard*

He had questions about the recent council authorized approved volunteer day where the entire Borough was shut down on February 18, 2019, President's Day. He wanted to know who authorized the closing of Borough Hall. He wanted to know who was responsible for returning the illegal use of taxpayer funds used to pay the Borough staff for the volunteer day. He stated that government employees are strongly encouraged to volunteer their personal time to help all non-profits, however it should never be at taxpayer expense.

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

MINUTES

Motion 6A-6C - Motion to approve the Borough Council meeting minutes of January 22, 2019, February 12, 2019 and February 19, 2019.

Motion made by Ms. Dreisbach.

Seconded by Mr. Yager.

Ms. Smith asked, all in favor? Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.

ACTION ITEMS

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

Motion made by Ms. Larison.

Seconded by Mr. Bowers.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

REPORTS

Mayor Dave Rivella – He stated, good evening everyone, I do have a few times I'd like to address this evening and they actually will fit right in with a lot of the comments from public comment. I'd like to acknowledge Chief McClay for working during patrol hours that are not filled. The Chief and I have expressed concerns to the council and the manager that the 30-hour cap for the part-time officers makes it almost impossible to cover the streets. With summer months ahead I have a concern, the Chief and I both actually share this concern that some shifts may go unfilled. I can tell you that I do not recall seeing officer Zumpano's name on any patrol logs since being terminated as a full-time officer and being hired as a part-time, so he's clearly

not working the 30 hours a week. I'd also like to address the day of service. The first draft of the agenda for this evening included a motion authorizing the solicitor to pursue legal actions to remedy a personnel dispute with the Mayor, some time before the meeting a motion was removed from that agenda. Regarding the day of service itself, there is a lack of transparency given to me about the details of the event for which my department was expected to participate. I explained that I had safety concerns over shutting down the police department to the public and I questioned what I believe was a misuse of tax dollars in the form of labor being donated to the nonprofit.

Junior Councilperson – Garrett Foy – He stated that coming up in the spring April 4th, him and two other seniors will be attending Senator Tom Winston's Be A Senator For A Day at Bucks County Technical High School. He will be placed in a group of high school students from across the state and see what life as a Senator is like and also vote on fake bills. He stated, the experience from attending the council meetings are definitely going to help him while he's there. Coming up this week is his school's visitation day so any students who are interested in attending Conwell Egan can come for the entire day to see what a day is like at our school.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion 9A - Motion to authorize the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority to begin the process of expanding the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone within Morrisville Borough.

Motion made by Ms. Dreisbach.

Seconded by Mr. Yager.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9B - Motion to authorize the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority to create a LERTA District within Morrisville Borough.

Motion made by Mr. Nay.

Seconded by Ms. Larison.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9C - Motion authorizing emergency roof repairs to the Public Library estimated at \$18,700.00 plus an additional \$3.50 per square foot for any damaged wood replacement needed.

Motion made by Mr. Yager.

Seconded by Mr. Bowers.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9D - Motion to award the 2019-2020 Consortium Road Material Bid (as bid through the Bucks County Consortium) to: Hei-Way, LLC. Contract to run from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.

Motion made by Ms. Dreisbach.

Seconded by Mr. Yager.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9E - Motion to authorize the appropriate Borough officials to execute the revised contract with the Morrisville Police Association.

Motion made by Mr. Nay.

Seconded by Mr. Yager.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9F - Motion authorizing Morisville Borough to participate in the Bucks County Department of Health 2019 Mosquito Control Program and to treat municipal properties for mosquito control.

Motion made by Ms. Dreisbach.

Seconded by Ms. Larison.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9G - Motion to approve the hiring of a Part-Time Police Officer; Officer Jason Saucier to fill the vacant Part-Time position in the Morrisville Police Department.

Motion made by Mr. Nay.

Seconded by Mr. Yager.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9H - Motion to authorize the Engineer to submit an application for CDBG funding to the Bucks County Department of Housing and Community Development

for installation of new ADA ramps surrounding the Municipal Building and Ambulance Building.

Motion made by Mr. Parker.

Seconded by Ms. Larison.

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

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9I - Motion to authorize the Engineer to submit an application for CDBG funding to the Bucks County Department of Housing and Community Development for phase II construction of playground improvements at Williamson Park.

Motion made by Ms. Larison.

Seconded by Mr. Yager.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on this motion? When you're ready, can we have a roll call?

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9J - Motion to authorize the Engineer to submit an application for CDBG funding to the Bucks County Department of Housing and Community Development for installation of new ADA ramps surrounding the Summerseat historic building and demolished M.R. Reiter elementary school.

Motion made by Ms. Larison.

Seconded by Mr. Parker.

Ms. Smith asked, any questions or comments on this motion? We'll have a roll call Virginia whenever you're ready.

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion 9K - Motion to Designate an Official Voting Delegate and Alternate Delegate for the 108th General Assembly of Boroughs, June 9 – 12, 2019. The Designated Voting Delegate is appointed for the purpose of electing the Officers of the Association and voting on proposed resolutions and policies.

Motion made by Ms. Larison.

Seconded by Mr. Yager.

Motion to nominate Danielle Larison as Voting Delegate made by Mr. Yager.

Motion to nominate Mike Yager as Alternate Voting Delegate made by Ms. Dreisbach.

Ms. Smith asked, all in favor? Opposed?

Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion 10A - Motion to appoint Library Board: Three 3-year appointments to expire on 3/1/22. (FYI: Rachel Muckin expired 12/21/18.)

Motion to nominate Constance Beadle made by Mr. Yager.

Ms. Smith asked, roll call vote.

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion to nominate Megan Mendonca made by Mr. Bowers.

Ms. Smith asked, roll call vote.

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Motion to nominate Bruce Stevens made by Ms. Larison.

Ms. Smith asked, roll call vote.

Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0.

BOROUGH OFFICIALS

Ms. Smith stated that the Borough Engineer and the Morrisville Business Association are donating two welcome signs to replace the two on Trenton Avenue that are not in the best shape.

Discussion ensued regarding picking either the green and white sign or the blue and gold. It was decided that they would go with the green and white signs.

Ms. Smith thanked Mr. Bowers for putting together the Morrisville Borough Newsletter.

Ms. Kronnagel stated that the previous Career Day that was scheduled for last month that was cancelled due to the snow was rescheduled to March 28th, we still have room if anybody would like to participate, please feel free to reach out the school or me.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Mr. Yager.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.