



MEETING MINUTES  
MORRISVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
AGENDA MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020  
7:00 P.M.

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The Morrisville Borough Council met on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Morrisville Municipal Building, 35 Union Street, Morrisville, PA for a Council Agenda Meeting.

Mr. Parker stated, please rise for a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Virginia Cyphers took roll call.

**Those in Attendance:**

Borough Council: Ted Parker, President  
Bob Paul, Vice President  
Justin Bowers  
Eileen Dreisbach  
Helen Hlahol  
Nancy Sherlock  
Michael Yager

Borough Officials: Scott Mitchell, Borough Manager  
Dave Rivella, Mayor  
Randy Flager, Solicitor  
Virginia Cyphers, Assistant Borough Secretary  
Micah Heitz, Finance Director

Not In Attendance: Scott Robinson

Jim O'Brien, President of the Morrisville Little League introduced himself and congratulated the newly elected Councilmembers. He stated he was looking forward to working with Council and wanted to continue the strong relationship with the Little League and the Borough. He stated that their registration numbers are down significantly and he asked if there was a way that they could stretch the \$7,000 payment out that is due to the Borough. He stated that their opening day is Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> and he would love for any of Council to participate if they are available.

Mr. Parker stated, under announcements for next week on 4B is a DCED Police Management Study that will be presented at the regular meeting.

Mr. Mitchell stated, just so you're aware, Council will hold an executive session following this meeting to discuss legal, personnel and real estate matters. There will be no voting and Council will not need to return to public session following the executive session.

### **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

1. Jane Burger – *90 West Maple Avenue*

I attended the October School Board meeting where one of the agenda items was accepting the sale of a tax parcel that's in the repository which is basically the graveyard for tax properties out of a lien and were never sold at the sheriff sale and I think all three taxing authorities have to approve that and I'm not seeing it on the agenda and if I missed it in February, I'm sorry, because I was here but I do have what the tax parcel number is if you want to follow up on that, it's for the public, 24-012-033, no one at the school board meeting identified the actual location of this tax parcel but their share would be about \$1,500 so ours would be somewhat less than that since their taxes are higher than ours. So I'll give this to you and if you could follow up on that and see if there's something that should come to us.

Mr. Mitchell stated, actually I am aware of it, it is going to come to us, I believe it's going to be on the April agenda, because we were waiting for the other taxing authorities to agree to the amount.

Ms. Burger stated, okay, because sometimes the County likes to be the last player. Do you know the location of where this property is?

Mr. Mitchell stated, I believe it's South Delmorr Avenue, and it's a sliver of a property that was supposed to be attached to the property next to it, but somehow they had different parcel numbers. I don't know the whole backstory, the County has been working to resolve the issue.

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

#### ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Yager asked, do we know when the bids are being pulled for the 2020 road paving program?

Mr. Mitchell replied, the bid opening is tomorrow at 10:00 am.

Discussion ensued regarding the 2020 road paving program.

Discussion ensued regarding designating an official voting delegate and alternate delegate for the 109<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of Boroughs for June 7<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Discussion ensued regarding adopting a resolution authorizing the Borough Engineer to submit a grant application in the amount of \$82,750 to CDBG for the Morrisville Borough Public Library roof replacement.

Discussion ensued regarding adopting a resolution authorizing the Borough Engineer to submit a grant application in the amount of \$440,000 to CDBG for certain ADA ramps along Washington Street, Hillcrest Avenue, Grandview Avenue and Melvin Avenue.

Discussion ensued regarding adopting a resolution authorizing the Borough Engineer to submit an application in the amount of \$697,339 to the CDBG for Manor Park Playground and to authorize the Borough Manager to execute the necessary documents.

Discussion ensued regarding requesting PennDOT to conduct a traffic study of South Pennsylvania Avenue to one, reduce the speed limit to 25 miles per hour from 30 miles per hour and two, implement a traffic control device at South Pennsylvania Avenue and Post Road and/or South Pennsylvania Avenue and Cleveland Avenue as well as traffic calming measures.

Discussion ensued regarding approving the rehiring of Officer Kyle Arias as a part-time police officer.

Discussion ensued regarding a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the signing of the PennDOT reimbursement agreement for the Bridge Street Crossing Project – Delaware Canal Towpath.

Ms. Sherlock stated, I have something I'd like to present to Council. I don't know if they're willing to move forward with it, it would be a resolution in support of the Jake Schwab Workers Safety Bill, House Bill 1082 and Senate Bill 464 and it involves our workers in the Borough and the safety regulations under OSHA because currently they're not covered under OSHA, private companies are, but local municipalities are not.

Discussion ensued regarding supporting the Jake Schwab Workers Safety Bill.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Sherlock stated, I'm just asking for feedback. Everyone received the design for the stage that the students are doing, the backdrop and I'm just looking for feedback. No one has commented on it yet, or the colors or the actual design. I thought the design was a little busy. I talked to the art teacher and thought maybe they could, I think there's a jukebox at the bottom of that design and maybe that doesn't need to belong there, but other than that, I was just curious what everybody feels. Right now, the wood has been purchased and they're prepping it with the primer but no design has started yet until this council agrees to whatever they want.

Ms. Hlahol stated, I trust the kids, whatever they want to do.

Mr. Parker asked, could they redesign what they've already done?

Ms. Sherlock stated, well, they would redesign a little bit, if there was something that we thought was offensive or wrong or too much or too less or whatever. It's very different because of the colors. She was going for the California sunset versus what we have down there right now which is black and white which is you know, it's very decent what's down there, but definitely needs to be redone which is why this has all started. Is there an objection or suggestions?

Mr. Parker stated, I have no objection.

Mr. Bowers asked, are they putting in any sort of protective coating over top of it like any anti-graffiti so that if it gets graffiti it can be cleaned off easy?

Ms. Sherlock stated, I don't think it was purchased but maybe if we have somebody out there that wants to volunteer their purchase of it. I don't think it was discussed, but it's a good idea.

Mr. Bowers stated, I like all the colors, but my concern with that would be over time being out in the sun out in the weather, how long until it starts to fade.

Mr. Yager stated, it's under cover, so it would take a while.

Ms. Sherlock stated, plus they take it down. Well they didn't this year, but they normally take it down every winter.

Mr. Parker asked, could they give us a list of colors they were using?

Ms. Sherlock stated, well they did, I sent that to you. I bought the plywood, they're providing the paint, but I didn't have anybody pay for the primer yet, that bill didn't come in yet, so if anybody wants to cough up a couple dollars that would be good. I thought it was going to be less than what it was. I think I'll tell her that everybody seems to be in agreement and to go forward.

Mr. Parker stated, if anybody has any objections, now is the time.

Ms. Sherlock stated, now is the time, because they want to get started. This is an actual school project that they're actually being graded on and then they'll be here at some point in time, probably at the May meeting and we can just recognize them. I'm excited.

Mr. Parker stated, I don't hear any objections.

Ms. Sherlock stated, okay. I'll talk to her tomorrow.

#### **BOROUGH OFFICIALS**

Mr. Bowers stated, Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, the Friends of Morrisville Dog Park will be hosting their 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Dog Wash at Four Paws Doggie Day Care from 9:00 until 12:00 and 1:00 to 3:00 you can walk in and there will also be House Paws Veterinary service there will be doing free nail clippings, so if your dog needs a bath after that warm winter and all the mud, bring him on down.

Ms. Sherlock stated, I have a question for all of Council, there was some talk and I don't know if it was rumor or if it was real talk about having alcohol in a certain part of Williamson Park that it's allowed. I'm not really sure what part that is allowed, but the Fire Department is having a Brew Fest I believe in the park in September, at least they are planning one and then the Business Association is also planning on having some sort of Oktoberfest of some sort. Jane might be able to speak to that more. One of the questions that continues to come up is about whether we can have alcohol in the park. It's always been my understanding that we couldn't, but apparently someone said that there's a small portion that is not part of what was originally Williamson Park and I don't know the part that was.

Mr. Parker stated, I believe the reason that area was discussed was that it's off of the main area and it could be contained easier, it's not like that particular plot of land would be excluded from anything that was before.

Ms. Sherlock stated, so the safety issue was – the only place that has a fence is the tennis courts.

Mr. Parker stated, I think that's what they were thinking.

Ms. Sherlock stated, so it's not really that it's allowed to have alcohol, it's just that if you were going to allow it, that would be the best place to do it, is that the thought process?

Mr. Parker stated, whoever put that out there, I think that was their thinking behind it.

Ms. Hlahol stated, well there are other towns like Yardley that have Brew Fests, Washington's Crossing has it and they don't have it fenced in, so I don't really have a problem if they want to have –

Mr. Paul asked, does this go back to the original lease restrictions?

Ms. Sherlock stated, that's was my understanding.

Mr. Paul asked, has anything been done to clear those up or are those still in effect?

Mr. Mitchell stated, still in effect.

Mr. Paul stated, that's what I thought.

Ms. Sherlock stated, so that's the difference between us and Yardley and Newtown.

Ms. Hlahol asked, how about over there by Delmorr and Philadelphia Avenue, I know that's open space, is it possible to move Brew Fest there?

Mr. Parker stated, I just want to remind everybody that another event had come before Council and we approved that and that included alcohol, so it could be done. At this point, as far as the Fire Company, I think they're looking at it, they're working on it. I don't think they have anything final. I think they're working on bringing something to Council, that's what the Chief said this evening at the Emergency Services Committee, so I think we need to wait until they finalize their plans to bring it to Council and provide us with all the information on what they'll do to restrict under-21 from being able to get into the area where the alcohol is served, their security plans and so forth, so I think we need to wait until we hear from the parties who are going to actually put on these events.

Mr. Parker stated, since there are two entities that are looking into doing events that include beer in the park, would we be okay with having the Solicitor look into it just to give a definitive answer? No objections, you're all right with that?

Mr. Mitchell stated, I think this was already done last year. Somebody last year proposed an event in the park that was going to have beer and Council made an exception and approved that event.

Mr. Yager stated, I think it fell through.

Ms. Sherlock stated, we had put out RFP's for professional services and we've never discussed any of those professional services and I was just wondering if that's something we're going to eventually talk about.

Mr. Parker stated, I believe it was to advertise.

Mr. Mitchell stated, well it will be up to Council to decide if and how you wish to discuss them but the proposals are due on Thursday.

Ms. Sherlock stated, okay, thank you.

Mr. Mitchell stated, and as we've been getting them we've been putting them into the various folders on the drop box.

Ms. Hlahol stated, so after Thursday we could start reviewing all of them and deciding.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** to adjourn made by Mr. Yager.

Seconded by Mr. Bowers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

*Council went into Executive Session to discuss legal, personnel and real estate matters.*