



The Morrisville Borough Council met on Monday, September 20, 2021 at 7:14 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Morrisville Municipal Building, 35 Union Street, Morrisville, PA for a Regular Council Meeting.

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

Ted Parker asked for roll call.

**Those in Attendance:**

Borough Council: Ted Parker, President  
Bob Paul, Vice President  
Justin Bowers  
Helen Hlahol  
Scott Robinson (via Zoom)  
Nancy Sherlock  
Michael Yager

Borough Officials: Judith Danko, Borough Manager  
Scott Holbert, Solicitor  
Virginia Cyphers, Assist. Borough Secretary (via Zoom)  
Micah Heitz, Finance Director (via Zoom)

Not in Attendance: Dave Rivella, Mayor  
Duane Nicol

Mr. Holbert stated, prior to tonight's meeting Council held an executive session where personnel matters were discussed.

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**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Joe Donnelly with the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission gave a presentation on some changes that they are going to be making to their facilities in Morrisville.

*Discussion took place regarding the presentation.*

**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

1. Molly Rafferty – *123 Delaware Avenue*

She stated, last month I briefly explained Ecoremedies process the reason they're here as well as their inability to remedy their shortcomings. I touched on human and environmental dangers of emission exposure. Since then a fire occurred at Ecoremedy August 23<sup>rd</sup>, two days shy of their mandated stack test. The severity of the fire has halted operations. The fire was deemed accidental and it was identified by the Fire Marshal that there was no sprinkler system or smoke detectors at the facility. From their mystery emissions, uncontrollable odor, negative air pressure claims and now to a lack of fire safety equipment this demonstration project has further demonstrated irresponsibility in consideration and to be utterly dangerous. Before any building permits are approved chapter 3 sections 306 and 307 of the international building code need to be recognized and enforced so we can be assured that the facility will be properly classified based on level of hazardous materials regardless of structure status permanent or temporary. With that comes enforcement of the International Fire Code and the International Mechanical Code. The building should have been equipped with an indoor sprinkler system. In many cases it's required to have an outdoor a perimeter fire safety system based on the gasification process and tempering chamber as well as a regulated shell temperature monitoring system for equipment with a designated chemical fire safety system for protection of equipment with safety operation overrides. With the designated operations and equipment within the facility under normal plant review building sub code officials and fire safety sub code officials would have addressed and

required the adequate fire safety equipment as well as the proper building structure which would not have been a wood pole barn. Example, this structure had no ceiling under normal building code guidelines it would have had a mandated two hour fire rated ceiling minimum and the ceiling height would have been determined based on operating temperatures. All wood would have been covered with a fire rated material also with the two hour fire rating minimum or depending on the intensity of the heat produced from the equipment could have clearly warranted a masonry structure with a steel truss roof or at least a wood structure with the proper fire rated material on all flammable wood surfaces. This was a shameful oversight Ecoremedy's only accomplishment here was successfully and consistently diminishing their credibility after all their deficiencies it would be irrational to allow them to resume operations whether it be here in the Borough or in Falls Township. If you do allow them to resume operations it must be done to code. Thank you.

2. Deborah Colgan – *120 W. Hendrickson Avenue*

She stated, at last month's Council meeting there was a comment that suggested the borders of Williamson Park are somehow murky this is far from the truth, the borders of Williamson Park have been well documented for decades and are recorded at the County. The park area as we know it is the park but I'm really here to comment on a document titled Borough of Morrisville Certified Redevelopment Area and Morrisville Riverview North Redevelopment Area Plan July 2021. The RDA says that they created this document at the borough's request this document seeks to expand the RDA's development area in Morrisville by declaring Williamson Park and its surrounding parcels as blighted, it tries to justify the takeover of public land that serves the whole community for a private development that caters to a few. I hope you all have read it and are appalled that the Borough would direct the creation of such blatant distortions. While it is marked a draft its whole premise is based on the idea that parking areas and open spaces are "economically or socially undesirable land uses" and it uses misinformation to try and make its case. It fails miserably and anyone associated with this document should be very embarrassed. Council should denounce this report immediately and dump it in the trash. It bears repeating, the park has existed and has continually been

in use since 1939 providing a venue for a wide variety of recreational activities in a lovely riverside setting. It provides massive storm water management and many environmental benefits. The unprecedented flooding events in the region should be a cautionary tale. High-density apartments, commercial buildings and restaurants do not need to be built in the flood risk area there are much smarter places to build, more importantly it's just irresponsible. Instead of this disastrous Select Morrisville proposal we should be talking about how to improve the physical appearance of our Borough. I know that there are serious budget issues but we cannot afford to allow our town to become dilapidated and blight to actually become a reality. We must use some of the rescue plan dollars to fund Public Works some Public Works, either hire some more workers preferably or at least outsource some jobs such as sorely needed painting it's needed everywhere. We also need to restart grant applications for Williamson Park improvements, there's money we're missing out on. In action on improving Williamson Park is stretching into years now it's inexcusable to continue. Let's get back to productive work that benefits Morrisville and stop wasting time and money on ill-fated and unfeasible concepts thank you.

3. Mary Hrenda – *343 Crown Street*

She stated, the draft document dated July 21<sup>st</sup> titled the Borough of Morrisville Certified Redevelopment Area and Morrisville Riverview North Redevelopment Area plan which council has recently received is dishonest and was written to achieve an illegal act. The document seeks to expand the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority's Redevelopment Area in Morrisville in order to take Williamson Park for private development. This is illegal under Pennsylvania's Donated or Dedicated Property Act. Under this act public property belongs to the public the government entity in charge of the park must protect and maintain the park for the public's use and may not change its use from that as of a public park. The document includes 15 photographs taken of properties in the proposed redevelopment area and comparison to seven criteria from the 1945 Urban Redevelopment Law that the RDA uses to falsely demonstrate that the area is blighted and in need of redevelopment. Anyone who lives in Morrisville would quickly see that the documents aim is to manufacture a false

impression that Williamson Park which makes up approximately 40 of the approximately 44 acres that make up the proposed redevelopment area as blighted and to take it for redevelopment under false pretenses. Most of the photos used are small parcels that are not part of the park. Most of the criteria used are highly subjective and depend on the motivation of the person writing the document also they do not apply to Williamson Park. Only three of the 15 photos used to falsely demonstrate that the area is blighted are actually of the park, two of these are in the parking area next to the levee near the Calhoun Street Bridge and the restrooms for the canal tow path in Delaware Canal State Park. This lot is used for parking by residents living on the west side of Delmorr Avenue and all their homes without space for parking on their house lots. Clearly this parking lot is not blighted and serves the community well. The other photo of the park is of the now closed snack bar for the pools that were destroyed in the 2005 flood, it has been painted by the Borough since it was closed and is now with its roof patio and picnic tables used quite often for picnics and outdoor meetings. It's quite popular since it's adjacent to a parking lot in the park ready to use and near a basketball court and plenty of room to play. Notably, there are no photos of the popular well-used tot lot, no photos of the well-maintained little league ballfields, three of which are lighted, nor any of the basketball courts or tennis courts, nor the stage nor the large picnic pavilion nor the levee trail nor of any views of the river from the trail. Most of the non-park photos are of small parking lots along the Delmorr Avenue side of the park needed by residents living in older homes across the street they are needed used and not blighted. Reject this document and save Williamson Park.

4. Don Rice – *343 Crown Street*

He stated, it's been a difficult month for Williamson Park transparency, first came Senator Santarsiero's secret meeting at Borough Hall. Invitees were the Borough Council and Manager, County Commissioners, State Representative Warren and special guest Department of Community and Economic Development Secretary Dennis Davin and of course Joe McGrath. I attended the meeting though uninvited and saw that the apparent purpose of this meeting was to show publicly elected and appointed officials support for McGrath's Williamson Park development.

The Borough's participation was inappropriately used to infer its support for McGrath's development. What happened to public neutrality by borough officials? Why was the public not invited? Why has the public not been told? Where is transparency? Next came the secret RDA report the Borough of Morrisville Certified Redevelopment Area and Morrisville Riverview North Redevelopment Area Plan you've been hearing about. This report is unprofessional, unethical and illegal and its biased conclusions are one, Williamson Park is blighted, two, the park needs to be included in the Riverview North Redevelopment Area so the park can be redeveloped. At last Friday's RDA meeting I was able to ask the Executive Director why they wrote this report, their answer was that Borough Council, you guys requested this report with resolution 9J passed at the December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 council meeting Resolution 9J, "The Bucks County Redevelopment Authority to aid Morrisville Select's completion and submission of a full subdivision and land development application" the RDA maintains Council asked for the secret report by passing resolution 9J. Your solicitor wrote on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 that "at this time all the Borough Council has done concerning Williamson Park is listen to a conceptual plan for a proposed land development project" obviously the RDA disagrees, this past month demonstrates that Council's claim of neutrality and transparency is not supported by their actions thank you.

5. *Dina Tanzillo – 136 N. Pennsylvania Avenue*

She stated, I'm one of four generations of my family to live on the island in Morrisville Pennsylvania. My father is still happily situated on the narrow sycamore line street Central Avenue he has a lovely postage stamp sized backyard that overlooks south field. Our neighborhood is a horseshoe-shaped street situated in Williamson Park and we have long endured flooding and traffic issues. We are two of many residents who are very upset about the proposed redevelopment of the community park. We believe that this development will bring about changes that will greatly devalue our homes and diminish our everyday quality of life. As you know the free Trenton Makes Bridge is heavily traveled and Bridge Street is already unable to

accommodate our current traffic needs. We have struggled with traffic on Park and Central Avenues for years and have difficulty getting in and out of the neighborhood due to the number of cars clogging access at Bridge Street. Currently one car at a time is able to navigate Central Avenue and there is a need for drivers to extend passage to each other on a regular basis. I won't even get into the issues that we experience during snow events there's no place to put it. The addition of a new commerce area will result in even more traffic, increase the number of cars parked on our narrow one-lane street and further limit access to residents and emergency responders. We are also very concerned about the impact that future flooding events will have on our residents. Changes to the topography of Williamson Park have created what can best be described as a bathtub without a working drain. We all know that additional paving and construction will result in more widespread and extensive devastation when flooding events occur in the future and that new stores and residents will also be affected when flooding and drainage problems occur. Finally, we're concerned about what this development will attract. My father and his neighbors are likely to find a loading dock for a food store in their backyards in addition to tractor trailers delivering food items at all hours of the night there will be smelly dumpsters full of trash and rats. The area is likely to attract panhandlers and homeless from nearby and there will be an increase in crime. Light and noise pollution will become a regular issue for the residents many of whom purchased their home with the understanding that Williamson Park was to remain a park and not allowed to be sold or used for this kind of development. Additionally, Morrisville is a small walking community with active bus routes and more than our fair share of bridges. The roads surrounding Williamson Park are already regularly clogged with cut through traffic, speeding, congestion and pedestrian safety issues will become more pronounced as a result of this proposed development. Community parks increase property value, access to open space, team sports, sledding, basketball, tennis, picnic areas, music and movie events as well as the beauty of nature and improved quality of life. We are eager to benefit from improvements that will allow our residents and surrounding communities to benefit from our beautiful park. Once the park is gone, it will be gone forever.

6. Kathryn Price Engelhard – *227 Robertson Avenue*

She stated, I just noticed that there was a decrease in complaining about our garbage pickup on the Facebook social media that we have and wondered if you'd seen an impact at the Manager's office of complaints since last Borough meeting?

Ms. Danko replied, I'll try to answer that for you. Our complaints in the previous month were in abundance and they have begun to dwindle.

Ms. Price Engelhard replied, that's what I thought, that's good to hear. Thank you.

Ms. Danko replied, yes we've been taking a lot of action at the Borough office level with the representatives of the sanitation company and they have been very compliant in helping us.

Ms. Price Engelhard replied, we've noticed that in my surrounding neighborhood so thank you.

Ms. Danko replied, good to hear thank you.

7. Elizabeth Lester-Abdalla – *1328 Polo Run Drive*

She stated, while I'm a resident of Lower Makefield and not Morrisville my husband and I spend a lot of our time here in Morrisville and plan to buy a house here. One of the main attractions to Morrisville is the dedicated green space that is Williamson Park. Bucks County is widely known for its many beautiful parks and natural resources, part of the reason we moved to Bucks County and Morrisville is lucky to be a part of that with Williamson Park and the preserve. However, unlike larger neighboring areas Williamson Park is the bulk of the green space here in the Borough. Any development of the park would eliminate so much of the little green space for the residents of Morrisville and many people from the larger area enjoy when experiencing the outdoors. During COVID we have seen how vital that has been to have places to gather safely outdoors where you can socially distance and breathe air free from a mask. These times of isolation have also enlivened many people's desire for the outdoors. I



know many have taken advantage of that in Williamson Park specifically starting with the Borough and the popular Annual Labor Day Picnic, the Summer Music Series and Jazz Fest and continue on with the birthday parties. The birthday parties I see in the park, the dog walkers, the sledders I saw in the winter, the community groups and little league. All of which is to say it was extremely disheartening to think of all that disappearing. I know that Council has made clear at past meetings that the park is not on the monthly agenda and there is nothing to discuss until we have something submitted to the Council from the developer but then the developer meets with the Council and the State's Economic Development Secretary and our local reps and County Commissioners about the park without public input and feedback. Then there's the draft of the expansion of the redevelopment area that we've heard with the RDA. The redevelopment area solely to cover the part of acreage and designated as blighted which would allow the RDA to take possession of the park. You can see how upsetting that may be to people who support development in the Borough and would love to have development here but do not want it at the expense of the park. There is no way the park meets any of the statutory definitions of blight and to designate it as such by selectively pointing to very minor periphery aspects of the park and places that are not even a part of the park without at all acknowledging that the rest of this proposed redevelopment expansion area is a public park that is well loved, well used and well maintained is uninformed at best and intentionally deceptive at worst. I hope that all members of council are alarmed as I was about any proposed expansion to the Morrisville redevelopment area to include the park. I don't need to tell you that this is the primary public green space in the Borough, it is a large attraction of living here. Please do not allow for the development of the park and seek other places for development. Thank you so much.

8. Eva Kastner-Puschl – *85 Central Avenue*

She stated, I'm speaking tonight in front of you for a special cause. I would like to take a brief moment to introduce myself. I have lived in Morrisville for a while now and I have come to love this beautiful town. Fairly recently I have been invited to participate in the Miss America Pageant as you can see here on my sash that I'm proudly

wearing tonight. In running I'm representing this town as Miss Morrisville Pennsylvania for America in next Sunday's state competition held in Manayunk, Pennsylvania in the beautiful Venice Island Theater. So I have been telling a few community members about that and they encouraged me to speak tonight in front of all of you and in front of our audience who is watching at home so I would like to say a few words about myself. My background is in music, pedagogy and Business Administration and I love to connect with people and make things happen. I have worked with arts organizations, taught music in schools, sung in churches, played in churches as well, sung with ensembles in wonderful concert halls here in Philadelphia, New York and other places and have been also involved with fundraising. Getting involved here in the community in Morrisville over the last year and a half has really made me feel very much at home and I could see how many people care about this town. As a resident near our beautiful Williamson Park the canal and the towpath and as a lover of nature and the outdoors I get to enjoy the benefits of being outside and I understand the importance it holds for our entire community and well-being. Living a healthy lifestyle and having access to open space is one of the things that I'm advocating for. It fills me with joy to see kids playing and it was a truly special occasion and experience to have been invited to sing the national anthem in May at Memorial Day at the Little League Tournament. Since the spring I've been serving on the board of the Morrisville Free Library where I help with programming and fundraising and that being said we're still selling raffle tickets for the painting of the library by local Bucks County artist Gary Hackett and if you're interested, my colleague and our president Bruce Stevens is here tonight and please go see him and support the library. I am running for the state title for Miss Pennsylvania for America as I mentioned earlier and I'm proud to represent Morrisville. I'm asking for your support there is currently an online contest and you can vote online for the fabulous face contest, the portal is still open for five more days. It's \$1.00 a vote and I'm very happy to say that the majority of the funds raised are going to support Victoria's Voice Foundation to prevent drug addiction. So if you're interested please come see me later I really appreciate the opportunity to speak before all of you. Thank you.

9. Bruce W. Stevens – *714 Crown Street*

He stated, as my colleague said, we have had a painting done by Craig Hackett of the Morrisville Library. Our intention is to pursue its classification as a historical site and to that end Jeffrey Marshall with the Heritage Conservancy in Doylestown will be working with us so that we have good direction. As you know he's done about 40 different sites in the County. For those of you who haven't had a chance to participate in the lottery I have tickets. Thank you.

10. Suzanne Zukoswski – *277 Althea Avenue*

She stated, I did not prepare something to speak to you tonight but I thought we were coming to listen about a ruling on the chicken ordinance. My husband and I have been residents in the Borough for nearly 20 years. We pay more than eight thousand dollars in taxes and we now live next to a poultry farm. Renters, not homeowners at 111 Melvin have upwards of 25 to 30 fowl at once and have admitted to having up to seven roosters. I have written complaints to the Borough, to the health department, to the SPCA concern for the animals how many are being kept in a small space. I really credit George McClay for being the most responsive in hearing our complaints. We have literally had to rearrange our house, move our bedroom, we have had to tape corrugated plastic along our fence line because while our current ordinance requires that people remove excrement daily and off-site twice a week this has not happened a single time since the onset of March. The tenants would hose the excrement into our garden, we have had chickens on our property more times than I can count, had to put a fence in our front yard where previously for 15 years I would mow both their yard and ours because I think the property looks better that way. I believe the Council is not upholding the current ordinance for the standards set. We really were hoping that Council was voting on the ruling tonight so to say that we're disappointed that it's again at the end of the agenda and the strategy is to present to a committee this approach was mentioned back in your July meeting I believe, tenants pleaded guilty to a noise disturbance in court back on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 60 days later we still have two roosters next door. I ask you please expedite the revision to the ordinance.

11. Jane Burger – *90 W. Maple Avenue*

She stated, something different I just want to say a thank you to Council President Ted Parker for making sure to pull together a committee to have a Labor Day event in Williamson Park. It was a great event, I was pleased to see so many young families that were there this year. I also want to thank the many volunteers and residents that each took a part in doing something to make it a successful day. I have one question, at that meeting it was talked about a food truck frenzy a festival or a music festival something that's planned for October again in in our park but I wasn't sure if that was going to be a Borough event or if it's -- I'm not sure if the person speaking was a member of our EDC which is separate but yet appointed by you if it's something that the Borough is a sponsor, a co-sponsor, would that be something you'd want to add to your agenda tonight or if it was again a totally private event by someone outside then they would go through the administrative process for use in the park. I just wasn't sure that if this is something that the Borough was going to be able to participate and maybe you could add that as you do the approval for the Labor Day Park or other Borough sponsored events so thank you.

*Discussion took place regarding the Food Truck Festival.*

12. Joshua Kuntz – *40 Union Street*

He stated, I'm super tired and crazy exhausted it's been a long month but it's nice to see all of you as we only have so short of time to be able to bond in these three minute conversations. I was not very prepared today but I just wanted to throw a little bit of something. Earlier in the month after the flood I had found some energy and some time and went over to the preserve and as picking up some trash because I had a trash bag with me so it was a great little occurrence but it was a little bit sad because it kind of remind me of the impending climate cataclysm that's coming our way and it's depressing. It reminded me like while I was going around

there was a joke that I saw online about the retirement plan for boomers versus millennials and it was like boomers were saying something along the lines like if I just get like a \$100,000.00, I'll be able to retire and then it's like millennials were like I'm going to die in the climate change wars in 50 years great and so that's like the retirement plan for my entire generation and I laughed and then I cried and showed it to friends they laughed they cried but there's some of the sentiment that I think is out of there and it's like a weird time that we all exist within but I think that it can be a really inspiring moment to try to rally ourselves and find space to see if we can make a change that we can make and then we have to kind of stay positive about things and be constructive not just kind of preventing the bad but seeing if we can do good. I don't know if we have any ability to request to say like the Bridge Commission but if they're making this wonderful new building maybe they can include eco-friendly or environmentally friendly aspects to it solar paneling or something like that to help offset some of the natural taxation on the environment that any building that is constructed naturally has because that requires electricity, it requires climate, especially new buildings especially luxury buildings so these are just some things that might be cool if we can push for and move with. I don't know if we even have that authority or anything so that was just kind of some of my thoughts I wanted to say thank you guys as always because I know that as I am tired I'm sure you're tired it's an exhausting time and I think that even if -- we're all trying to do the best we can and we're all trying to do a good job and I think that that's something that can be underappreciated now especially when we feel like that we're not doing the same good job but I hope that all of our efforts align and that I hope that we do good and I hope you find energy and time and space as we all need it thank you.

13. Hannah Cohen & Debushish Ghosh – *391 E. Magnolia Drive*  
(read by Councilperson Justin Bowers)

We moved to Morrisville at the beginning of this year. Our favorite thing about Morrisville's Williamson Park we play tennis or basketball

almost every weekend sometimes during the week and we've enjoyed the community events hosted in the park. We think of this as Morrisville's greatest attraction to young couples and families looking to set down roots. The second thing we've really enjoyed about Morrisville is the walkability. We can walk to our grocery, pharmacy, restaurants, bowling and of course Williamson Park. However, we are starting to consider moving elsewhere there are a few reasons for this. Williamson Park may not continue to exist as the dynamic community center that it serves as today developers are considering taking away most of the space and a large portion would be parking Morrisville has enough parking and needs to capitalize more on pedestrian friendliness. Second point, we want more variety and cafe options in the town now that remote/hybrid work is much more common we both work remotely from home we are looking for more spaces where we can work from town things like cafes co-working spaces etc., we see this as a great opportunity for Morrisville. Third point, Morrisville is very walkable but there's not been investment in the sidewalk/lighting, we often walk to Morrisville Lanes for some bowling but the sidewalk is missing in parts along Trenton Avenue which makes the trek more dangerous. We would like to see the town Council help Morrisville maintain Williamson Park as an open space where the community can play sports, be active and host events as it is a critical part of what makes Morrisville attractive. Through partnerships we believe Morrisville can attract cafes and co-working spaces and capitalize on the remote/hybrid work trend happy to discuss more thank you. P.S., also we would like the option to participate remotely and speak considering the active COVID risk in the county with the delta variant.

*There being no further public comment, President Ted Parker moved to the business portion of the agenda.*

#### MINUTES

**Motion 6A** - Motion to approve the Borough Council Regular Meeting Minutes of August 16, 2021.

**Motion** made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Paul.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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### ACTION ITEMS

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

**Motion** made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Ms. Hlahol.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, roll call please.

**Motion** carried by roll call vote 7-0.

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### REPORTS

**Mayor's Report – David Rivella** – There was no report this evening.

**Police Chief's Report – Chief George McClay** –He stated, okay very quick tonight Council. Crime still is at 30% decrease from last year to date. Our three nightclubs that we've had tremendous problems with seem to be getting better working with Zoning, Liquor Control Board and the landlords. The numbers of people coming out of these places have decreased tremendously so I think we've gotten the message through to them but we can't stop now because of the Zoning issues. I'm working very closely with Zoning to keep that we'll see what the future looks like. I know tonight you're going to be voting on an extension of the 60-hour rule, just to give you some numbers of what's left in the vacation banks for the officers for the rest of the year, with three or four months left they still have almost 1200 hours of vacation that should be used before the end of the year and they have 828 holiday hours that are also in their bank. Most of the time is holiday hours they get paid for at the end of the year but there's a possibility they can use 400 of those and I need to cover the streets for those so there's still a tremendous amount of time that is still left on the books for

the officers to use so just please think about that when you vote on that issue thank you. Also, we put a new sign up this month on South Pennsylvania Avenue.

*Discussion to place regarding Jake brakes.*

**Manager's Report – Judith Danko** – She stated, everyone has the report in front of you regarding Code and Zoning are there any questions regarding that?

Ms. Hlahol stated, yes 131 Harrison they had written an email that that home would be demolished and then they said that they would follow up and they would let us know when it's going to happen and etc. and give us a timeline. Why is that not included in their manager's report?

Ms. Danko replied, that is a very good question.

Ms. Hlahol stated, okay all right, just as long as they can add it because otherwise I'm going to be calling you saying, what's the status.

Ms. Danko replied, yes thank you.

Ms. Sherlock asked, they gave us a separate email for that right? So the first question I have is on their first paragraph they talk about the Stockham building and so forth but then it says the holdings or litigation concerning the property in New Jersey, does that have anything to do with us or did it mean to say Pennsylvania, do you know?

Mr. Bowers replied, I believe that means that the two people that own the property are probably in court in Jersey over their ownership.

Ms. Danko replied, I believe so.

Ms. Sherlock stated, I guess it could be worded differently. Also there is a motion this evening for the property tax refund the date is wrong in the motion. I don't know if it



matters it's 243 not 23 for the Oszer property so I just wanted to mention that even though it wasn't in this report.

Ms. Danko stated, thank you Nancy.

Mr. Bowers stated, I just have one more comment, Judith I have an email into you and Code twice for a response on what it means when a property is posted for the grass specifically the one on North Lafayette. I don't necessarily need an answer now but I would like one relatively soon so I can get back to the neighbor who is concerned about it, what the next steps are and what that actually means and entails.

Ms. Danko replied, yes and I appreciate that email I'm expecting Code to answer that email shortly.

Ms. Sherlock stated, Mrs. Danko another please, what can be done about people still continuing to blow all their grass into the street, it's not just every now and then it's like the same contractors, the same gardening centers, I'm just wondering I know it's late in the season now but maybe could we send something out to all these vendors that come into town maybe and explain -- we have an ordinance that's against that but yet it is -- well residents do it too, so you please stop that. I don't know it's something that is bothersome but we don't really have control over.

Ms. Danko replied, I don't know that we can send something to the vendors because we'd have to really see who they are who they are, we can certainly create some type of a flyer or informational piece to be placed on all the social media sites of the Borough and actually that is a part of our MS4 program so we could probably do something twofold there so we'll work on something of that nature for the future.

Ms. Sherlock stated, some of them are very responsible I have to say I've seen them put tarps down or whatever that are very responsible but most are not. I think that's it with regards to that thank you. I'm so sorry, regarding 131 Harrison I know I had asked you this question in email and I guess the owner's allowed to do whatever he wants but it's just -- and I know it's been a troublesome property but I just thought

wouldn't it have been nice if maybe Habitat for Humanity purchased it from him or maybe they tried to restore it rather than just demo it and the property looks quite large which leads me to believe that maybe we're going to see two new buildings on that same property but that's just speculation.

Ms. Danko replied, certainly and coming in new I was just out at the property when it was troublesome and I was happy to see that the demolition permit was applied for and I helped expedite it due to the fact that the condition it was in so I was more hopeful at that time with not really knowing what other resources we had within the Borough and I know we certainly have there's a blighted list at this time and we do have several properties on that list and I've just gotten in contact with the Redevelopment Authority actually also so I'm understanding the process here in Morrisville more so now. Within the next several weeks hopefully we can come up with some more ideas and work with Code also but we don't have an application as of yet other than the demolition and I have not had a chance to review that as to who it was yet I plan on doing that.

Ms. Sherlock replied, okay thank you.

Ms. Danko replied, certainly.

Ms. Hlahol stated, and one last thing for me I noticed in the Public Works section that the school crossing signs were turned on and programmed the one outside of Holy Trinity is on at 7:45 p.m. I'm not quite sure how long it goes till but it is flashing.

Mr. Later (inaudible)

Ms. Hlahol stated, all right thanks.

Mr. Parker asked, anything else?

Ms. Sherlock stated, I apologize but I want to take this opportunity to thank our Public Works Department and the incredible job they've been doing. I know they sent

something out I don't think the public knows how much grass they cut either like the circles it's just incredible and I think they've be doing a great job with so many so many men down right now so thank you for that.

Mr. Parker stated, yes.

Ms. Sherlock stated, plus what was it 50 PA One calls this month I mean on top of their regular duty, very busy department for a few guys.

Mr. Parker asked, anyone else all right I'm going to move on to 8D Committee Reports I think the only one that happened last month was Parks and Open Space do you want to give that one Nancy?

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Sherlock stated, well I didn't bring the notes with me but I can just say that I think that the Labor Day was very successful. I think that the movie night was extremely successful um and something that's not Borough sponsored but the Michael Sherlock Foundation sponsors it but the Jazz Fest was extremely successful and I appreciated everybody that worked on all the events actually and just to remind everybody that this Saturday the 25th from 5:00 to 7:00 there's another concert right out front here on the lawn, it's Jody King the country western duo so that's just more grass for John to cut.

Mr. Parker stated, I just wanted to add that we were planning on selling hot dogs to raise some funds to pay for some of the events and hot dogs were donated and I'd like to thank Brud Anderson for that. We raised after expenses \$400 which I'm going to give to the Borough Manager to use towards the event on Saturday. Nobody else has a report we're going to move on to action items.

#### ACTION ITEMS

**Motion 9A** - Motion to acknowledge receipt of the annual Minimum Municipal Obligation Forms (MMO) for both the Police (Uniformed) and Non-Uniformed

Pension Plans to be submitted to the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System by October 4, 2021 and authorizing the Borough Manager to execute the necessary documents.

**Motion** made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Ms. Sherlock.

*No discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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**Motion 9B** - Motion to approve a millage payment in the amount of \$48,000\* to the Morrisville Fire Company, as per the 2021 Fire Fund Budget. (\*contingent upon receipt of payment in full for gas and diesel invoices.)

**Motion** made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Ms. Hlahol.

*No discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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**Motion 9C** - Motion to approve a millage payment in the amount of \$88,000\* to Capital Health, as per the 2021 EMS Fund Budget. (\*contingent upon receipt of payment in full for gas and diesel invoices.)

**Motion** made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Ms. Hlahol.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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**Motion 9D** - Motion to award the annual 2021-2022 Consortium Salt Bid (as bid through the Bucks County Consortium) to: Morton Salt, Inc., \$57.88 price per ton

(delivered) and \$57.00 price per ton (undelivered); contract to run to September 30, 2022.

**Motion** made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Ms. Hlahol.

*No discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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**Motion 9E** - Motion to approve a Borough Property Tax Refund, confirmed by the Bucks County Board of Assessments, in the amount of \$368.26 to Ludmila and Marek Oszer, 243 West Palmer Street, Parcel#24-008-573.

**Motion** made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bowers.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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**Motion 9F** – Potential Motion after discussion regarding request for a temporary waiver of the 60-hour limit for PT police officers through December 20, 2021.

**Motion** made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Ms. Sherlock.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

**Motion 9F (Amended)** – Motion after discussion regarding request for a temporary waiver of the 60-hour limit for PT police officers through October 31, 2021.

**Motion** made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Mr. Yager.

*No discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 5-2. (nay votes being Mr. Parker and Ms. Sherlock)

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**Motion 9G** – Potential Motion after discussion regarding Right-Of-Way Agreement Chambers Street Survey with Auto Tellers June 7, 2021.

**Motion** made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bowers.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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**Motion 9H** – Morrisville Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)

Appointment: (3 open positions: 1 position is 17 months of an unfinished term – expires 1/21/2023, 1 position; 18 months of an unfinished term – expires 3/1/2023, 1 position; 25 months of an unfinished term – expires 9/30/2023).

**Motion to nominate Kurt Kelly** for term 9/30/2023 made by Nancy Sherlock.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

**Motion to nominate John Cenevina** for term 3/1/2023 made by Ms. Hlahol.

*No discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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**Motion 9I** – Potential Motion after discussion regarding waiving the cost for Police coverage for the Winterfest parade if sponsorship efforts fall short.

Ms. Danko asked, Council President, may I read what the Mayor had written?

Mr. Parker stated, yes you can.

Ms. Danko stated, Mayor Dave had said in an email that he understands that Council may be considering waiving the fee for our police services during the Winterfest Parade for 2021. He said please know that I am not making a stance for or against doing so. Winterfest Parade is a wonderful community annual event also I know fully that our Morrisville Police Department must operate within a budget. I do want to share that it has been my belief that in local government it should be

assured that all will be handled consistently. In waiving the fee for one event Council could be setting a precedent that opens a door for organizations to request or even demand the police services fee is waived for other events as well moving forward respectfully, Mayor Dave.

**Motion** made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Mr. Parker.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

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

Motion seconded by Ms. Hlahol.

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion to table** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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**Motion 9J** - Motion to approve advertisement of the Ordinance to Levy and Earned Income Tax on Residents and Non-Residents of the Borough of Morrisville pursuant to the Local Tax Enabling Act for General Revenue purposes.

**Motion** made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Parker.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, roll call vote.

**Motion** carried by roll call vote 4-3. (nay votes being Mr. Bowers, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Yager)

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### **OTHER BUSINESS**

*Discussion took place regarding the Engineers Report and the curb program.*

Mr. Parker stated, 10B, discussion of amending the existing noise ordinance to include chickens roosters and other animals the discussion to include defining the necessary process to be followed one aspect of which is a review by the policy ordinance committee.

*Discussion took place regarding the amending the existing noise ordinance.*

**Motion 10A** – Motion to add roosters to the ordinance as a restricted pet/animal.

**Motion** made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson.

*Discussion took place regarding the motion.*

Mr. Parker stated, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

**Motion** carried by voice vote 7-0.

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### **BOROUGH OFFICIALS**

Mr. Bowers stated, I have three of them real quick. Number one I wanted to do this last meeting and didn't get to it, I want to say thank you to Micah and Virginia and all the staff who I know were working extra hours and extra hard during the time before we brought in a new Borough Manager, without our staff this Borough would be in a lot worse place. Secondly, when I say there's a circle back Scott, I was just hoping you could give a real brief update to the public on the memo you had sent us a month ago on the updated Sunshine Law rules just so the public's aware too.

Mr. Holbert stated, earlier this summer the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed an act of modifying the Sunshine Laws as it relates to the procedure for public meetings and agendas. Basically it requires the Borough now to do three things, one they have to come up with a written agenda at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting that written agenda needs to be posted publicly online at the meeting place and have to have when the meeting actually happens copies available and there are limits on when you can deviate or add to the agenda. There's about five exceptions of times you can add stuff to the agenda that wasn't on the published agenda and if you do use one of those exceptions you have to announce why you're doing it and you have to update the agenda the next day and post that replace the original posting. So the idea is these amendments were made to provide the public awareness of what Council is going to be talking about so now going forward from I believe it was August 30<sup>th</sup>, it went into effect, public agendas for every meeting need to be made public that's the idea.

Mr. Yager asked, every Council meeting right?



Mr. Holbert replied, every Council meeting, yes.

Mr. Yager asked, so we're not talking about committee meetings got it, I just want to make sure.

Mr. Bowers stated, anything where action is being taken.

Mr. Yager stated, just want to make sure.

Ms. Sherlock stated, food trucks were mentioned earlier still if anybody out there has a food truck, knows somebody who might want to get involved for October 9<sup>th</sup>, please let the Borough know. Winterfest was discussed I'll be real quick about it if you want to be in the Winterfest or you want to be Miss Junior Winterfest or Mr. Junior Winterfest please contact Donna Wilson at [shotomom@comcast.net](mailto:shotomom@comcast.net).

Mr. Parker stated, she's also on Facebook.

Ms. Sherlock stated, okay this is very important I know you don't want to listen to it but the trash and recycling collection the notice was put out to all the residents that on a holiday week the trash is delayed both times not just the one holiday so of course people put their trash out Wednesday night for Thursday and it wasn't getting picked up until Friday so I don't know how else to let people know but they've been –

Mr. Parker stated, there is no way because I do it myself I forget and put it out.

Mr. Bowers stated, on that matter Nancy I know some people have contacted the carrier and they tell them it's the normal day on the second day because their customer service center doesn't know what their contract says.

Ms. Sherlock stated, well then maybe they have to go back to listening to us I suppose because it was posted in more than one place.

Ms. Hlahol stated, it was only this last time though every other time it they never did the whole week they just did the day after the holiday. But the other thing that is happening with the garbage is that the guys are coming much earlier than they used to. They used to come at 2 o'clock in my neighborhood now they're there about 8 a.m and people have been putting garbage out after the trucks have come by so if you're still getting complaints it may be because of that as well.

Ms. Danko stated, I've also had staff place this information on the social media sites of the Borough and we've kind of put on there that they should follow our social media sites because we will most likely have the accurate information.

Ms. Sherlock stated, trash on Bridge has really been an issue though so I don't know how else to -- they put it out Friday afternoon Friday morning and it's there until Monday. So I just think that could Code come by and just give them a note like warnings. It's the same people all the time.

Ms. Danko asked, can you do me a favor just send the information?

Ms. Sherlock stated, sure. To go into our library you do need a mask just letting everybody know. We have the raffles which were mentioned earlier. Justin your Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, Monster March with your dogs. The Arts and Economic Recovery I attended, it was a free webinar about the arts and where we stand with economic recovery and how we can possibly start to do some other things to get grants and so forth and so on because I'm always trying to get grants. This one is actually for our attorney, you had sent something out regarding the opioid litigation and it had a deadline of September 21<sup>st</sup>, what's going on with that, do you know?

Mr. Holbert replied, yeah one of the opioid companies is in bankruptcy actually multiple are but this is the second one coming up and they reached a settlement and there was a voting thing going on and everyone's in favor of it, it was going to pass. We didn't have to do anything with that because yes you have counsel you are one entity, every other entity was voting for it and unless you want to remove yourself from the settlement and sue them independently there was really no action to be taken.

Purdue Pharma was this summer they had one and I can never say it's a German company, but they are multi-billion dollar settlements and hundreds of million dollars are coming to the state of Pennsylvania.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** to adjourn, made by Ms. Hlahol.

Motion seconded by Mr. Yager.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

<https://www.morrisvillepagov.com/meeting-videos/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvMKs1Ec2BU>