



6:00 Executive Session – Personnel, Real Estate and Litigation

The Morrisville Borough Council met on Monday, October 18, 2021 at 7:32 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 (via Zoom)

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Bob Harvie, Bucks County Commissioner spoke about getting everyone fully vaccinated and spoke about the multiple grants that the County offered for assistance during the pandemic. He spoke about the Planning Commission starting a county-wide registry for vacant commercial properties. He also spoke about green energy and how the county has made a lot of strides recently moving towards more environmental initiatives. He asked the Planning Commission to draft a model ordinance using all the best practices so municipalities can incorporate it into their Zoning Law. He spoke about the upcoming election, mail-in ballots, voter registration and volunteers for poll workers on election day.

Mr. Parker stated, on the agenda we are going to move up two items to the beginning and then we're not going to change their numbering in the agenda so 9W which is a motion to approve the ordinance to levy an Earned Income Tax will be moved up that will be the first motion on the agenda and then the second motion on the agenda will be 9J, which is a motion to adopt a Resolution of the Planning Commission extending amending the boundaries of the Morrisville Borough Certified Redevelopment Area. Also on the agenda there were some duplicate motions 9M, and 9N are duplicative so we're going to combine them and we're just going to read off the first motion. Same thing for 9O, 9P, 9Q, 9R, 9S and 9T, those motions will be combined into one motion. Due to the large crowd we have tonight the PA Sunshine Act allows us to only hear from residents and taxpayers for the Borough and that's what we're going to do this evening. I want to acknowledge the Little League and they're cooperating with us and some of their parents are Borough residents I believe they have agreed to let their President speak on behalf of the group so I'd like to thank them for that so we're going to move on to public comment.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

1. Molly Rafferty – *123 Delaware Avenue*
She stated, I came here tonight to speak on behalf of the roosters of Morrisville. You may or may not know roosters are a biblical symbol.

In Christianity a rooster's crow at dawn is a reminder of Christian's victory of light over darkness and life over death. It's not a coincidence that roosters crow more on Sundays than any other day. After having a rough day we may be reminded that tomorrow is another day right and if you're blessed to have a rooster nearby he's the one who reminds you it's a new day or another victory. So the next time you hear a rooster crow perhaps you should take a moment and thank god for life. Roosters serve a purpose in a flock pulling a rooster from his flock is a decision that should only be made by the owner. Roosters are like watch dogs they sound their alarm when they see a potential danger. Prohibiting roosters would make us less safe. The feud near Osborne it's a classic Hatfield McCoy case I've heard both sides and spoiler alert it's not even about roosters. If the owner of the roosters is abiding the ordinances move on. I encourage Council to do their due diligence hear both sides not just the side with ruffled feathers. The Borough's code already covers the keeping of small animals. I encourage council to have the already existing ordinances enforced. If this was done, it wouldn't be part of your agenda tonight. Many people own dogs they bark throughout the day it's mostly normal but we're accustomed to the sound of a dog's bark. A rooster's crow may seem annoying or loud because people aren't as familiar with roosters as they are with dogs. Decibel-wise there's no difference between a medium-sized dog barking and a rooster crowing. So what is this really about, I would hope that it's not a favor for a friend kind of deal at the expense of innocent animals and isn't gender equality supposed to be a thing and in 2021 Morrisville is trying to prohibit male chickens, you can't make this stuff up. Keep in mind not everyone can have kids some people own chickens to compensate not being able to reproduce, please put that into consideration. The Borough should be focusing on more important pressing issues, leave our animals alone. I'll leave you with the final thought, perhaps the very thing you think you want banned is the very thing you're missing in life. If you have the land and you have the love in your heart adopt a rooster and maybe you'll even thank me later.

2. Hal Wilcox – *52 Harrison Avenue*

He stated, I'm here about saving Williamson Park. I've been in Morrisville for 63 years and I coached Morrisville Little League for many of it. My son played from the time he was 5 until he was 23 and I

always hear complaints that there's not a lot of Morrisville residents that play down the park anymore well I'll tell you some of my son's best friends were from Little League and they live outside the Borough limit. So you know me and my wife travel around every Saturday that's how we get away and we go through a lot of small towns and every small town has a main street well that's what we got to worry about fixing is our main street we got two buildings down there that have been empty for years and you want to say something's blighted, how about the Stockham Building, why don't we worry about that? Let's worry about building something that we already have before we build something new. I got a little comment here, Williamson Park is threatened to lies and it's blighted, there's money spreading in many directions and proposed redevelopment of a quote of a friend, "The jewel of Morrisville". I urge all of you to prevent this. Save Williamson Park.

3. Walt Tribbey – *536 Doloro Drive*

He stated, first of all I'm glad all these baseball people are here because I spent 20 years with the league. Even beside that here's what I remember, I remember when I was 12 I said let's go to the island we'd ride from Grandview down to the island because that's the place to go and if it disappears there will be no place. I even run there, just a week ago and I'm not that young anymore I used to ride across the canal and I walk my bike across the canal but I just want to say once you take the toothpaste out of the tube you can't put it back so this decision whatever you guys do it's going to be forever it's going to be for something to happen long before we were here and it'll be here long afterwards so it's got to be a good one. I think the park's good the way it is, it just needs something but don't go crazy right, thank you.

4. John DeWilde – *94 W. Maple Avenue*

He stated, I appreciate the position that everyone is in, there's a lot of very passionate people here about multiple issues. My comment is on the EIT, I know that or feel that Morrisville's income comes from the tax base and there is a real need for it. I'm not in favor of the EIT at this point. I could be and I don't think that I'm alone in that but there just seems to be a long history of mismanaged funds. Money's been spent for personal agendas, missing personnel that are paid for not doing their job

and everyone who's elected they are the keepers of our money and I would say that there's a challenge out there now. Show us for a year that you can manage our money wisely and not give in to personal agendas and giving us -- spending hundreds and thousands of dollars and not giving a net gain back to the residents who have given you their money. That's a lot of money that you're asking people depending on their level of income to fork over again, that's just a deeper pocket for mismanagement to reach into and spend so I would just ask that prove to us that you can do the job that you're there to do and then come back and ask us again I think you'll find a lot of people willing to say okay you need the money and we'll get something in return. Thank you.

5. Patricia Schell – *62 Grandview Avenue*

She stated, I'm here to speak about Williamson Park. Over three years ago the developer came to me and asked me if I would help him get people on board with this, over three years ago. Now I told him at that time that I would never ever encourage using our park. I'm all for development of Morrisville but do not touch our park. He himself told me at that time that he was meeting with our former Borough Manager and former members of council and members of council that still sit there now. They might have met one-on-one that's just a fancy way to skirt the Sunshine Law but this has been going on for years and people have known about it on Council and the former Manager for years but it's only been brought up to the people just a little while ago. One thing I want to say, my husband was a member of the 1955 World Little League Championship from Morrisville, Pennsylvania. Not a lot of people can say that and to many people sitting here that is our field of dreams it is not a blighted piece of property and for any of you to sit there and say that it is you should be ashamed of yourself.

6. Kathryn Panzitta – *401 Hillcrest Avenue*

She stated, I'm going to have to say this really quick, on 9C 38 Hillcrest Avenue to Habitat for Humanity I want to know how much money is in the missing blank and how do we go about selling that piece of municipal property? For 9J on the Certified Redevelopment Area I want all the Williamson tax parcel numbers removed as stated in the planning

meeting that's exactly what I came to planning and told them. I also questioned the legality at that planning meeting when there was a first and a second motion then there was a motion to table and then there was a whole re-vote, I truly understand that maybe you can do the Certified Redevelopment Area without what the planning recommendation was but that was a joke and I wonder why that was not tabled at that point and the proper protocol wasn't taken place and I apologize because I should have said point of order from the audience. As for 9V the FEMA HMGP Grant pre-application, I'd like to know what is the estimated cost and what fund does that come from? Lastly, on 9W the 1% was advertised and if you look in the advertisement it says 1% and both Borough and the School Board could be in there, if I read that correctly that's how it was advertised. Some quick numbers going back from the April 2018 report to the November 2020 report from Keystone the total earned income report it was a drop of 8.8 million dollars on that report so let's see where that money's coming from. Last but not least, Mr. DeWilde said something and he said you know mismanagement and stuff, I think I'm going to take this opportunity with all these kids here, you know why, kids learn, if you see an injustice it might not be popular you always go and do the right thing because liars and lies come out in the end. I wanted to respond to Councilwoman Hlahol, at the finance meeting she said, "What did I ever do for Morrisville?" I'll expand your question to further whatever did I do for Morrisville prior to becoming on Council, I looked for ways to bring revenue to the budgets especially the general fund. You can look at any revenue from Comcast to Verizon equipment and all the money in those contracts and I'm personally responsible for that. Myself, Donna Slotterbeck and Maria Buckman, we did start the cable that's now telecommunications so yes, that's what I did to your budget. Every budget cycle I pushed for Council to go to the PA Boroughs Association and change the Borough Code to allow revenue streams from taxation on hotel rooms. I pushed for our Borough departments to upgrade, replace equipment. Police Department I didn't want used cars. Office staff I wanted a generator and I wanted updated computers. Last and most importantly I worked on Comprehensive Plans, Zoning changes to keep the little undeveloped land our little Borough has just as what that was, park land not a developed site thank you.

7. Ken Brothers – *745 N. Pennsylvania Avenue*

He stated, this is one of my first Borough Meetings I've been here a couple of times with the scouts or some other organizations and mostly today I wanted to come and talk about the earned income tax. The earned income tax was the primary reason for coming and just the little bit I've heard and received about it it's a bad idea. Whoever thinks this will later be repealed and reversed I'm not sure where that comes from, if you look at taxes on gas they've only ever gone up. Noting that though just in general as the points were made before that the management allocation of funds and better visibility would be more prudent considering this. Now that I'm here and hearing these other things I would say as well that for keeping Williamson Park the way it is, once you develop something reclaiming it is extremely tough. Finally, to comment on the chickens as the Borough is looking at that I'm not sure if you considered the age limit or how you're going to do those because buying poultry when they're young even the stores and the experts cannot tell the male from the female for quite a while so with that I will stop. Thank you.

8. Jackie Carroll – *36 Union Street*

She stated, this is about Williamson Park. The definition of blight is an agent or action that harms or ruins value to something. A little bit of graffiti and trash doesn't blight a park. I see those things everywhere. I've seen graffiti at Tyler Park and I've seen trash there as well. Do you think Tyler Park should be blighted? This whole argument you have that Williamson Park is blighted it's unsustainable seeing as the park is not blighted and it is not underutilized. It is in fact a safe place for many in this community and surrounding communities to come to for social activities and other activities that they may not be able to do without this park. I want to address the fact that when I mentioned at a previous Borough meeting that some of you all were trying to insinuate that Williamson Park be blighted it was met with extreme aggression and disrespect and defensiveness and Ted Parker even called me and others conspiracy theorists. Well then you're all voting that the park is not blighted right, otherwise you to me you are lying and using your power

as a civil servant to manipulate the appearance of what is truly happening and if you vote yes to Williamson Park being blighted you should be ashamed of yourself. Government Officials and Borough Council members should all be working to serve the people of this community. All I've been seeing in this conflict to develop Williamson Park is that many of you are not taking into account the needs and wants of this community at large and in fact are actually catering to the profits of a rich private developer. It brings into question the integrity of most of you in these positions. You are not doing your job fulfilling the needs of the community. I no doubt believe Morrisville can use some help to revitalizing the town and bettering its businesses but not at the expense of this great and beloved park there are other options. The many vacant buildings and crumbling streets and sidewalks that can be redeveloped but are being ignored are all examples of this and due to this ignorance we have very little faith in seeing this proposed development of the park being fulfilled. Speaking of redevelopment, the RDA seems to be trying to get their hands on this project but why since it isn't a redevelopment project. They need to stick to their script and actually fix the potential business front buildings that need redevelopment even though that might mean harder work it's their mission and it is what is best for the community right now and in the future. Furthermore, the bottom line is that the intended development of Williamson Park is completely illegal under Pennsylvania's Donated or Dedicated Property Act. Why would the state have this law put into place if it wasn't important? You should all think long and hard about what is ethical and moral and what is wrong. If you are a Council member who plans to blatantly break the law in the faces of those who know what you're doing and strongly disagree to it and I highly suggest voting for Catherine Price Engelhard, First Ward, Andrew Lubin, Third Ward and Brud Anderson for Mayor on November 2nd, they're all in favor of saving the park.

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

She stated, I'm urging Council to table agenda item 9J. The expansion of the RDA Redevelopment Area is a very significant action. The public deserves an explanation of exactly what this means and why you are approving it. At the only public meeting on this Resolution both the Planning Commission and the RDA told the public that this expansion has nothing to do with the Select Morrisville proposal in Williamson Park but we all know that is not true. At that October 11th Planning Commission meeting the public was given a false impression of what this means and was prevented from mentioning the Select Morrisville proposal or commenting on the impact that this action would have on the park. They could not provide a coherent or logical reason as to why the Williamson Park parcel had to be included in the Redevelopment Area. The public was lied to and denied a voice on the topic. Additionally, we need the solicitor to weigh in on whether the recommendation you have from the Planning Commission is even legitimate as referred to earlier. At the meeting a motion to approve the resolution recommending the expansion of the RDA Redevelopment Area was made and seconded, almost immediately a motion was made to table it. The motion was seconded and it passed 3-2. Then the Borough Manager stepped in and had them rescind the vote to table. Our solicitor recently advised us that once a motion to table is made and seconded and it supersedes the original motion and is voted on before moving forward so I don't understand how your recommendation here is legitimate. Anyone with integrity cannot vote to approve this resolution, you haven't explained what it is. The author of the report is misleading the public as is your Planning Commission. You haven't had public discussion regarding the reports false claims of blight, you did not as a body even see the RDA Presentation. There is a major budget issue right now and that's what needs attention from both Council and item 9J does not fix the pressing money problems so it does not need to be done tonight. The first step for the Select Morrisville project in Williamson Park has been secretive, poorly handled and eyebrow raising. With regards to the budget I have a

question, I read that Morrisville was expected to receive over \$840,000 from the American Rescue Plan, would you explain how that's being used or what that is, I don't understand that. As to the EIT, I really don't see how we can get out of our current budget mess without it. Any Council members who would be voting against the EIT must tell us what specific items you will be cutting so that people can understand the impact. The years of accounting tricks and robbing Peter to pay Paul are over and I suggest we should all remember this when we vote in November. Thank you.

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

She stated, I'm a resident next to the park and I must say I've come here to the meeting about a year ago for the first time when I heard about the park and I was a new home owner also next to the park. I chose it because of its beauty because we have way too little green and open space these days when you look around and the park was really inviting because I saw activities happening and then we all know what happened, COVID hit and we really lost touch with one another because we couldn't see one another unless we were outside in a safe space and gather. The park provided all of that and being next to the park I saw all the activities, I saw all the kids sledding down the hills in the wintertime when we had snow. Where would those kids go, we don't have any other sledding or slopes in the area. I saw the Little League and thank you for being here, playing at night and it was just wonderful when other people would say well it's so noisy do you hear kids screaming. I found that is life that's what it's all about and we need to preserve that we cannot have our kids back in front of the screens. I have been teaching and I see how depleted so many kids were because they were not running out there and as a teacher you demand them to sit still they can't take it anymore because they need to act, they need to run, they need to move, they need to breathe fresh air and we all do as a matter of fact and I'm a big advocate for a healthy lifestyle. So I really urge you to think about your decision, what big impact that decision that you are making has on our future it cannot be easily reversed. Last week I was at the Planning Commission meeting I read the report, I read the amendment to it and I asked the RDA presenter and said which of the seven criteria

that you're presenting in this report actually deems valid for the park to become a part of the redevelopment area and they couldn't answer it. There is really no -- it doesn't seem to be true and their way around it was to say well no criteria has to actually fit and it can still become a part of the redevelopment area. I have seen sketches of this area in 2005 and 2006, the park was not part at that time part of the map and all of a sudden they say it has to be because of the way the map -- I'm at a loss of words here but it needs to be contiguous I think is the word I apologize for that. So it does not make sense, everybody who has some sort of -- would understand that this is just made up and I really urge you tonight, see how many people are there and I know you're sitting here and I believe that some of you have good intentions but I really wish that you would invite us for an open conversation also tell us what you think and not just always have us stand here and talk to you. I think that's what we can expect from you and what we can demand. Thank you.

11. Todd Weber – *25 E. Franklin Street*

He stated, I'm going to set aside my feelings about Williamson Park since there's a lot of other people here about that topic. I'm here to voice my opposition to the earned income tax. I understand that the finances of the Borough are in some straits right now but I think that part of that at least has to be a management problem because we already pay a lot of taxes in this Borough compared to other areas around here and yet we still have mediocre services in most of the Borough. There's constant speeding on our streets that's not enforced, we have a high school tax that funds a school that has a horrible reputation in the state and I think to impose even more money and give more money to the Borough especially on top of an economy that's just now recovering from the COVID epidemic and people that are still in personal financial straits is not something that you should do. Thank you.

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

She stated, I'm here tonight to urge you to vote no on motion 9J and reject the resolution of the Planning Commission to Amend the Boundary of the Morrisville Borough Certified Redevelopment Area. This amendment to the Certified Redevelopment Area has been rushed through with hardly any public insight and notice. The plan itself is nowhere to be found on the Borough's website and yet it profoundly

affects the residents of the Borough and the surrounding area because it seeks to add 44 acres to the current redevelopment area. Nowhere in the 37-page proposed amendment does it explain that the area seeks to add the redevelopment area and the redevelopment area encompasses all of the public park, instead it cherry-picks small isolated places around the 44 acres, the vast majority of which the park are not marked as blighted in the report. Instead it refers to the park without naming it as a park as 12 tax-exempt lots representing approximately 94% of the total land area. The tax-exempt lots combined with underutilized and vacant properties in the subject areas places an undue burden on the municipality and taxpayers. When the Planning Commission was to take up a vote last week on whether or not to recommend the RDA's proposal there was no notice to the public, nothing on the Borough website, no mention of this very important vote. The same goes for today's vote only a week after the Planning Commission's vote the proposal is once again nowhere to be found on the Borough's site for viewing or by the public and it is squeezed among so many other important things today that there is little chance for residents to know that something critical is happening tonight. If the Council votes to accept the amended boundaries which would add Williamson Park to the redevelopment area based on ludicrous finding of blight then the RDA can now that it has defined this area as blighted contract with a redeveloper or acquire the property through eminent domain. I'm also confused as how this vote can even happen today in accordance with 35 Pennsylvania Statute 1710 which authorizes the RDA to prepare the redevelopment proposal. 1710g states that the governing body upon receipt of the redevelopment proposal and recommendation if any of the Planning Commission shall hold public hearing upon said proposal. Notice of the time, place and purpose of such a hearing shall be published at least once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the field of operation of authority. The time of the hearing to be at least 10 days from the last publication of notice, this subsection details what the notice must include and that the proposal with such maps, plans, contracts or other documents together with the recommendation if any of the Planning Commission and supporting data shall be available for public inspection for at least 10 days prior to the hearing. How does this proposal by the RDA not qualify for a public hearing with notice published in advance? Why is

this vote being taken up to one week after the Planning Commission voted to approve the RDA's approval? Why has none of this been presented to the public before any votes were taken? How can this -- and misleading proposal mark the park as blighted? Please vote no on 9J.

13. Melissa Johnson – *117 Park Avenue*

She stated, I want to thank the Council for listening to all of us. I cannot imagine the seats you're sitting in and the decisions that you have to make and I'm trusting you to make the decision based on what you know our community needs not just wants and when I think about item 9W, I know that you're struggling to figure out where money is coming from while we citizens were hit with COVID the city was hit one way or another and coming up with that money can't be easy. Figuring out how to have our community continue to run can't be easy and I'm sure looking at that tax was one of the only ways you could figure out where else you could hit us or hit the community with something so that we can get the kind of revenue in here that we need, but I don't think hitting our income anymore then our taxes are already -- the school taxes are high, the property taxes are high, those of us who live on the island we also have flood insurance and the like, I don't know where else that could come from except Williamson Park, it's a huge amount of land that is waiting for development now whether that development means remove baseball fields, add baseball fields, add soccer fields. I don't know but I believe in the meetings that I've attended that the question was about development, now where the idea came that we're losing the park all together I don't know but I'm trusting you to make a decision that puts money into the Community not just from hitting our taxes but also maybe taxing land that's not being used to the best of its potential and I don't think, no offense to the teams that are here I think all of us use the park in one way or another. I don't think you're looking to get rid of the park, I think we're looking to figure out how best to serve our community and where to find the revenue that we need and I saw the chickens and I'd love to talk about that too but I hear my time is going. I think we need to figure out, I think we all need to trust you to figure out where the money is going to come from and look at the land that's around here that we can sell off or tax another way or what have you without taxing the citizens any more than we already are. Thank you.

14. Jim O'Brien – *1000 University Drive*

He stated, President Parker, Council members, thank you for letting me speak tonight. First I want to acknowledge the players that have come out tonight on behalf of Morrisville Little League and their families. Ladies and gentlemen, this is our community right here, this is the future of our community and I'm coming here to speak tonight on motion 9J and I'm asking you to vote no. Before I get into this I do want to thank members of the subcommittee who worked with me and are continuing to work with me on revising and renegotiating the MOU. The negotiations and conversations have been very fair and forthright we've discussed from our positions and I believe we're going to end up landing in a very mutually acceptable position and I really appreciate Vice President Paul for your effort in this Mr. Yager as well as Mr. Nicol in that work as it relates to the amendment. This document 30-something pages, 15 photo exhibits, 14 of the exhibits really are not of Williamson Park and yet Williamson Park is the majority of the 44 acres that are in discussion for redevelopment. I feel like that is a lie of omission it's not representative of what the park, what the question at hand is, it's unfair. All of the pictures were taken by somebody who didn't even bother to get out of their vehicle, they're all from the road, you're not looking at a very fair picture of what the question at hand is and so I do encourage you to vote no on 9J. I also want to thank you for giving our kids this opportunity to have a lesson in citizenship tonight from the chickens to the taxes it's been really appreciated right. Kids I don't know if you were expecting to get this full lesson tonight but it was really cool. I do want to invite lastly Mr. Sam Long, one of our players in the league take a couple of seconds of my time to talk about what Morrisville Little League means to him.

15. Sam Long – *100 N. Delmorr Avenue*

He stated, I love playing for Morrisville. Please save the park.

Mr. O'Brien stated, so again thank you for the time tonight. I greatly appreciate you guys and the open communication you've had on this with us as a league. I really do hope that you'll consider what I'm asking

and vote 9J down tonight so we can move on and continue to have great seasons ahead of us so thank you all.

16. Richard Bingham – *608 Prospect Avenue*

He stated, I'm here to voice my opposition to the proposed EIT. I'm 100% against the potential EIT tax. The taxpayers of Morrisville are already paying too high of taxes. Please stop saying other boroughs and townships have an EIT and realize why a lot of the homeowners come to Morrisville to live and work, it's definitely not because we have a clean town to walk around in. Almost every year the Council has gone to court to screw the homeowners and raise our millage. We already pay the highest legal mill rate for the Borough. You need to figure out this budget with what you already take from us. If the proposal is a 1% EIT our household making \$150,000 per year will be equivalent to 123% increase over our 2021 Borough real estate tax. Let me say that again, it's equivalent to 123% tax increase. When some of the Borough Council discussed the EIT tax they act like it is just one percent increase, seems like nothing but in reality it's huge, 1% can make the difference especially with inflation, many households are already having difficulty paying higher prices for groceries, gas, heating oil and medication. The Borough Manager will need to be more creative with the budget and in reality when you don't have the money you don't spend it. It's unacceptable to continue to hire additional full-time police officers and or staff that the town can't afford to pay this is an unfair tax to the working residents of Morrisville. I know some of you sitting up there on Council may not think \$1,500.00 is a lot of money but for many it is too much including me. Everyone needs to become more financially responsible please stop taxing us to death and vote no to the EIT. Finally, to the residents watching and hearing this meeting tonight remember on November 2nd elections have consequences. Thank you.

17. Debbie Smith – *221 W. Maple Avenue*

She stated, first I want to thank the resident who spoke I forgot what his name was, very articulate about what you all have to deal with. I was up there I know what it is to do that budget it's very hard. With that said, it's no secret that I was for this development, still am, not to say it's a perfect development, it's not. This is only beginning stages and there's

many changes that could happen, may not happen at all, but put the brakes on it before it ever gets any further is not going to help things. You obviously need money, you need money and how do we know that because you're trying to put in an EIT, it was attempted before. The taxpayers are getting killed with the taxes we have here we just don't have enough and unless you do a serious kick-start development this town you're not going to get that revenue and when you put an EIT and if you think that that's going to be enough to handle things it is not because next where you going to go after that there's nowhere to go except to increase that so now you're not only at the highest millage that you can get us for on our on our taxes for our homes you're now going to have it in our pocket how much more? It's going to depreciate the value of your property because what couples or people want to come to your town and pay for a home and have to pay those exorbitant taxes and also pay an EIT because I hear people say well other towns have the EITs well they also, a lot of those towns don't have the highest tax millage that we do that was also brought up. So I really think that you need to evaluate how you're going to handle some of these things maybe you could do with the budget because unless you seriously think about doing a development here I don't know where you're going to get that kind of money and an EIT is not going to be enough it might last a little bit but you're going to come back for more how much more? We don't have it. So for me my personal opinion, I'd really like you to seriously vote yes on 9J. On the EIT I'm dead set against it as well as a lot of other people in this town that can't afford it so give that serious thought before you put that in. I thank you for your time.

18. Jeff Loo – *327 Hillside Avenue*

He stated, I just implore you to vote yes on 9J for a variety of reasons it solves a lot of the fiscal shortfalls that you are obviously facing for all the reasons that we just eliminated I mean you're talking about an EIT when we have almost New Jersey style tax rates so this will solve those issues there's a 60 mile trail through town there still will be ball fields even after this is over there may not be seven but it won't be the end of the world or Little League either. We need to attract badly needed investment and none of the detractors I've heard -- I have not heard one alternative to this because without this sort of development and the investment that will attract there won't be a town left and there won't be

a park either, not to mention that this developer is actually willing to work with the town's people's wants and needs. Every time we've come gone to him he comes back to the next meeting with points met and match and no one else is going to do that so I implore you to vote yes on 9J. I'm really ambivalent about EIT, obviously something needs to be done though so those are my thoughts, have a good evening.

19. Angel Alvarez – *619 Jefferson Avenue*

He stated, this is my first meeting I'm a fairly still new resident in the Borough less than three years and in this time I've come to recognize this as my new home my truly new home. Prior active military, moved all over the place in the country so now I consider myself part of this community so I've decided to come join to see what I can help with. Our neighbors are trying to convey to you what I think is not the right move when it comes to the earned income tax. Like I said this is my first meeting I think this is a good show of people but I think there is way more out there that for whatever reason we're not able to come into this meeting and I'm sure are also opposed to it. The reason why I'm opposed to it is because I think a lot of times unfortunately due to most of our human nature is knee-jerk reaction to say oh wait a minute we're short of money here or we're suffering here we're bleeding there or whatever lets tax, it's an easy fix it's an easy answer but unfortunately many times it's not the right answer. So as you've all seen with we're still dealing with COVID many people unfortunately lost their jobs some people retain their jobs but got a bump down on their income for whatever reasons so not only have they been suffering on that financial aspect of their lives if you put on an earned income tax on all of our pockets then we're going to be suffering even more. One deep question that I would like to ask the Council is has there been a financial analysis done? If there is mismanagement of funds I think a mismanagement if there is an analysis a financial analysis done it can help pinpoint if there's either mismanagement of funds or what areas where we're spending money or we prior to now spent money that doesn't need to go to there now maybe we can borrow from that and put it there where it can be better spent and try that avenue before we start taxing people's earned income. So I strongly urge you to please think about this and the impact it has on all of our community and their income to take care of our lives thank you.

20. Gary Taylor – *405 Hamilton Boulevard*

He stated, I'd like to talk tonight about a couple of things but I start off with some of the things that were said here about the park. I've been in town for 32 years and five of my kids went through Little League here it was nice down here being able to go when you had five kids all playing at the same time from one field to the next to the next and kind of spend a couple innings in each kid's field. That won't happen if we have to spread the park fields all the way through. Our Church First Baptist now Compass Fellowship holds the Mega Sports Camp down there every year it takes the whole park, it's a free camp for kids in the community a great place, I don't think that would take place if we lost that. I went through New Jersey couple of weeks ago for a funeral and see all these big signs this part of this partial ground save open space. They're buying up land like open space all over trying to keep open space why would we want to take away the little open space we have? The other thing and I'm not really necessarily taking a position of the park except that the presentation I heard didn't make sense tax wise. I'm not sure this will bring more development to town, I don't think it's going to help our taxes. When you look at all the different tax revenues coming and I think they will probably ask for a tax vacation for a while until they can get them up and running and once they ask for that you can wind up with more police, more roads, more snow removal, more traffic, all kinds of things that are going to take more tax dollars and we're not going to get that much from typical house you might rent for say maybe \$1,200 you gotta pay taxes on \$2,700 on that house or better down in the Manor. You put a big apartment building in some place they charge \$1,700 you're not gonna get \$2,700 per rental unit, if they did you might get some taxes but you're not gonna tax the whole building for a price and it's gonna be way lower than what you get taxes anyways. I think the development tax wise will cost the Borough money not give us money but my main reason for coming in I'll be talking fast here through these points is the EIT, once it's enacted there's no ability to curb the amount New Jersey sales tax started 1%, 2%, 3% 7%, there's no guarantee property taxes will stay down because you do this, they're probably going to stay the same or go up. It'll lose the standard for people to work in Morrisville like they have here. It's already hard to hire people in Morrisville by taking a chunk out of every penny they earn here it's

going to make it harder to earn money. It's going to penalize the employers who are trying to earn as well as the employees. House prices as was mentioned already by Debbie will probably go down because people aren't going to pay the earned income tax that's an advantage they have to living here in Morrisville. Some of the other options I mean maybe you should look at some other things like I don't know a pack of cigarettes you know I know that's not something that's easily done but we are one of the only towns on the Delaware River except for Easton with a couple of free bridges and a humongous population on the other side. Ask the state to grant us the idea to put five, ten cents a pack or something on it. Thank you.

21. Paul Karsevar – *122 W. Palmer Street*

He stated, two things EIT, I was only going to come for the EIT tonight but the development came up also but in Bucks County there are four, only four municipalities that do not charge EIT, in Montgomery County there's only two that don't charge EIT. In Lehigh County there's only zero, they all charge the EIT. The EIT is capped at 1% by the State it can't go over 1% now the school board can also choose to charge that means school would get a half a percent and this town would get a half a percent that's how this works. Now does it affect everybody no, does it affect a lot of people yeah. I pay the EIT in Cheltenham Township, I pay 1%. I'd much rather have that 1% stay in my hometown. Now I would challenge everybody here to look at your 1099s and your W2s to see whether you're being charged that. I guarantee a lot of people here are already being charged 1% that could stay in this town. I have a question to Council I don't know if you're for it or against it but look at yourself and say are you being charged EIT now, if you are you would have no problem voting yes for this if you're not there's a direct conflict of interest in my opinion. So I am for it, I know it's a mixed bag out there and I appreciate that. Now for the RDA the redevelopment zone, I'm on the Planning Commission as some of you know I was a dissenting vote last Week. The RDA has planned to expand and include Williamson Park, why the park? Are they planning to take this over and hand it off to Select Morrisville and Joe McGrath, it's a rhetorical question? What has the RDA done for Morrisville? Think about this, okay the 7-eleven strip center that's a real gem, the firework shop glad that's there, the Cloverleaf property that's a really good one and the

Stockham Building we're going to take care of that. Why should we trust the RDA with anything with anything except this big project that they're talking about. They failed over and over and over again and I might add quite miserably. I don't trust the RDA, the Council doesn't trust the RDA they have failed us. Vote against this map, vote against the RDA they don't have our best interests at heart.

22. Joseph Loeffler – *520 Hamilton Boulevard*

He stated, I'm speaking on behalf of Williamson Park and Morrisville Little League. I've been a part of Morrisville Little League for the last eight years since I started playing in the minors. After the minors I progressed through the majors the juniors and the senior team and these experiences have been the best of my life. During both the spring and the fall for the last eight years I spent a good chunk of my time at the field whether practicing or in the cages or just going down for some solo work. Through all this I've learned a lot from my coaches, I have made amazing friends. I can say my only bad experience is learning last spring that I was going to be too old to continue playing. Even still, I'm regularly at the field to cheer on the other Morrisville teams. I value Morrisville baseball as much as some of the professional teams especially our senior team has been very competitive for the last few years. We have a top tier program and knowing that Morrisville is among the best really brings me happiness. I have two other brothers that are in our baseball program right now sitting in the back as well as a sister that's in our softball program. I want my brothers and sisters to be able to have the same experience that I did at Williamson Park and go through all the fun and all the learning that I did as well thank you.

23. Reza Rahman – *155 Hillcrest Avenue*

He stated, I just want to talk about a little bit about Morrisville park and also about the earned income tax a bit also. We've been in town for a little while now and you know we are really nervously we watch the direction the town is going because the town has been at a crossroads for a little while, there's only two directions that things will likely go in my lifetime and it'll be in my kid's lifetime. Also in all reality it's either going to stay the same or look maybe a tiny bit more like Yardley or you know our neighbors to the North or frankly it's going to look a lot more like Trenton and really look like an extension of Trenton. When you

have to choose those spots you really have to make those decisions very carefully. Selling off the park it's a very dangerous one, there's a couple of different reasons why that is. Number one is there's very little open space to begin with so that is a mistake. Reclaiming that is going to be very difficult and it's going to be difficult to have a town that is anything -- if you want to make things look less like Trenton you need more green space not less. Another one is the developers in general, at the end of the day I work for a very large company I know how large companies work and how for-profit organizations work they're in it for the money. If there's a risk they need to take and they're gonna make out for it even if they have to declare bankruptcy or change their mind and say hey this is not going to be luxury apartments anymore it's going to be lower-end apartments because we need to make the money that's what they're going to do they do not have our best interests at heart, especially when these decisions are generational decisions right so what each of these decisions will affect my children and children after that it's going to change the fundamental dynamic of the town. Now these people can say hey we're going to do this nice development but at the end of the day when that doesn't work out they get to walk away we cannot. As much as I have sympathy for folks across the river and it's great you know it will be nice for them to welcome them into our communities but the problem is putting up yet another apartment it's very risky it looks much more like more of the demographic and more the social dynamics that we don't want and ultimately probably it's not going to get the town out of the hole and put it deeper into the hole. Nobody likes taxes I don't like taxes but if you have to choose an evil to get the town out of the hole that probably it's in right now it's going to continue to deepen a tax is okay. It's going to be painful no doubt there'll be an adjustment no doubt but it's less risky than essentially taking the town generationally in the wrong direction. So thank you very much, I appreciate it I hope you guys are probably all thinking about all of those issues hopefully all of our inputs changes your mind in one direction or the other at least. Thank you very much.

24. Nicole Rahman – *155 Hillcrest Avenue*

She stated, I'm here to comment in regards to item 9J on the agenda. I'm extending the redevelopment area to include the blighted area which from my understanding is meant to refer to Williamson Park. My

understanding of the definition of the word blighted means deteriorated, dilapidated, decayed often used to describe urban blight. While Williamson Park may not be the fanciest park around with the most amenities available I don't think it's by any means blighted, deteriorated, dilapidated or decayed. Many people use Williamson Park on any given day some of the many things that I've personally seen people using the park for include walking, taking their dogs for a walk, running, kids playing, bicycling, frisbee, kite flying, picnics, reading, bird watching, events and of course baseball. This by definition does not describe an area that is blighted. Saying that Williamson Park or any portion of it is blighted so that the Redevelopment Authority can allow a developer to build an apartment complex development on it doesn't make sense. Redevelopment at least I thought meant to rip down vacant dilapidated buildings and put in new ones or at least somehow redevelop them renovate them, it doesn't mean to put buildings on a well-loved and well-used open space. Unfortunately many studies have shown that apartments typically do not generate long-term income for a town instead they increase the cost of services such as police, ambulance and schools often quite substantially. Please vote to keep our park what it is intended to be an open space available for all to enjoy. One last quick note about the local earned income tax, I feel that the discussion of the EIT should be tabled if possible until the economy has stabilized further, the economic impacts of COVID have hit many people hard and a recession could still occur so please table the idea of an EIT until folks have had the chance to recover from COVID's economic impact. Thank you for your time and consideration.

25. Ralph Persico – *336 N. Pennsylvania Avenue*

He stated, I came only to talk about the earned income tax but hearing about the park and with my background I feel I should give you some ideas of my own. So I'll tell you a little bit about myself, this month I'm going to be 60 years old and I'd like two presents from you guys all right, one that you table the tax thing and two that you do something else about the park because you can't be really doing that with the park because I have a degree in architecture and I'm licensed in four states so if anybody could tell you something's blighted it's me. That place is not blighted. I also sit on your Zoning Board, I'm the Chairman, I was asked two questions that I can remember by Jane Burger before they put me on

the board, one can you vote no and I said what do you mean by that? Well if you don't believe in the project can you vote no the answer was yes I can vote no. Okay then the other thing I was told you can't be a detective and I said well what do you mean by that, well you get these projects you can't go out and look at everything and bother people so I said fine I could do that. So I mind my business since I've been on the board I don't go out I don't look I'm open-minded so one of the things that I have a question about, with this development of the park you're going to have apartments there. Am I to understand that the answer is yes can anybody answer that, 660 apartments, okay great. What is the cost of one student, so let's take 300 students you're gonna need new schools all right. All you have to do is go across the river I'm also a construction official and I work for the state of New Jersey so most of the larger buildings that are owned by the state have my signature on them like the State House. Now you go to Robinsville they did a wonderful development but they never told anybody that you're gonna have all these new students and everybody thought it was great right up until they got their taxes and then it wasn't so great. So I don't understand I'm gonna be 60 and in my lifetime I've never seen a tax once it's placed on me removed so I don't know about the rest of you but I say we shouldn't have a tax we should table it, I don't think we can get it on for next month but I'd like us all to vote for the tax. We love you, we vote for you we want you there but it's our money and I want to vote either yes or no with the rest of the people and as far as the park I'd like the same thing so those are my two presents if I can have it.

26. Stephen Hoppe – *121 Park Avenue*

He stated, I'll also disclose I'm on the Zoning Board since it seems every other Zoning and Planning Commissioner did. I'm here I was mostly going to talk about the opposition to the EIT it does seem however that you have two intertwined issues here. I see all the support for saving the park I live right next to the park I see it a lot of hours of the day this park is used for 99% one thing baseball right. We had a bunch of kids in here they're all gone now we had their parents they all left, this park is about baseball. You know what the problem with park is the baseball diamonds are not in good shape, we don't have basketball courts in good shape, we don't have tennis courts in good shape, we don't have a stage that's in good shape. I didn't see a dancer, I didn't see a tennis player, I

didn't see a basketball player here tonight. It's because baseball is what this park's about. When people say save the park, it means save the Little League, I'm all for that. One way we can do that is allow the redevelopment and allow those fields to be rebuilt with money that comes in from that redevelopment from that developer. Anyway if we don't do that we don't have the money come in I understand why you want to have an earned income tax however, I don't think this is the right time to do it, I don't think asking the citizens of this town to spend more of their hard-earned money and that is earn money that's what you're taxing to support a mismanaged budget is a great idea. The general fund is approximately five million dollar budget 80% of that goes to three things, police, sanitation and water, we pay a water bill we get charged annually for our sanitation fees that leaves mostly the police in that 80% administrative costs, two million dollars is for the police, you're asking for 1% income tax to basically support that in administration? What can those police do? I've seen the meeting notes the chief has stood here and said he can't police the two quality of life issues, fireworks going off at all hours of night, people gathering up on Trenton Avenue after clubs. He's openly admitting he won't and cannot police those two issues and you're asking us for more money for that, I just can't stand by that. Let's talk about the numbers since I have some time left, if you make a \$100,000.00, you're asking for another \$1,000.00 a year. If you bought a house in this town with a 30-year mortgage you're asking people to spend another 30 dollars on that house at a \$100,000.00 level. If you make \$30,000.00 a year you want \$300.00 a year from the people of this town, that's a car payment to a lot of people and there's a lot of people here making \$30,000.00. Add to that the difficulties of COVID, the economy getting back on its feet I don't think this is the right time for tax I urge you all to vote no on that. Thank you.

27. Don Rice – *343 Crown Street*

He stated, you folks have seen me up here making comments before and typically I read my comment like I'm going to tonight but this is a comment that I didn't write for council I wrote it for the Planning Commission last week and I was threatened with arrest if I continued making my presentation so I'm going to read you my comment that I made to the Planning Commission and I wanted to read it to them but I'm going to read it to you folks instead so when I say the Planning

Commission you can often substitute Borough Council in this. The issue before the planning commission is Select Morrisville's development of Williamson Park. The report provided to the Planning Commission by the Bucks County RDA is part of the plan of the RDA and Select Morrisville to develop Williamson Park. What the RDA and Select Morrisville want is for Select Morrisville to develop Williamson Park but Select Morrisville cannot submit a development application to the Borough because they don't own the park. What to do, the RDA says we'll help you because we're supposed to help Select Morrisville with its application submission. Your motion 9J last December we can write a report that says the park is blighted of course this is a lie but we will have some nice bogus photographs to let us pretend the park is blighted then we can go to the Morrisville Planning Commission and matter of factly say our report proves Williamson Park is blighted. What the Planning Commission is being asked to approve is a recommendation to Council that one, Williamson Park is blighted, two therefore the Morrisville redevelopment area must be expanded so the RDA can take ownership of the park and then submit Select Morrisville's development application to Council. The problem with their plan is one, the report is a lie, to approve the recommendation to expand the redevelopment area when this report is a self-serving lie is unethical, unprofessional and it's illegal. It is illegal because the Donated or Dedicated Property Act requires that alienation of municipal park ownership can only be permitted by the Orphans Court. It is illegal for the RDA to take ownership of the park. I make this comment after being informed about the Donated or Dedicated Property Act by our lawyer as the Planning Commission and Borough Council making an informed and legal decision after discussion with your Solicitor. The Morrisville Borough webpage states that the Planning Commission is responsible for and charged with exercising a municipality's legal right to develop a comprehensive plan that meets its specific community planning objectives. The recommendation you're being asked to approve is not within Morrisville's legal right because it supports an illegal act. The report itself is a lie and we want our park. Please do not approve of this resolution which tonight is motion 9J thank you.

28. Mary Hrenda – *343 Crown Street*

She stated, I want to address a few of the comments that we've had here today first. I have heard that the park is all baseball that is not true. I have used the park. I use it for walking, I love to go up on the levee and walk and look at the river. If this development goes through that will no longer be a pleasant walk I'll be looking at the river on one side but a shopping center on the other side with a parking lot and trash flowing all over the place and just like that kind of thing and then they'll be your apartments right up to the levee and people's pool decks are going to be up there and you know there's just going to be all kinds of trash coming off of them too and people are going to be up there and I'm not seeing trees, I'm seeing buildings, I'm seeing parking lots. So the guy was talking about the basketball courts being in bad shape well yes they are and I do wish that the Borough would put more thought and more money into that park. There are grants and you could apply for them. People play on those courts, kids have got nowhere else to play this is a social justice issue, kids got nowhere else to play so they play in the park. People walk their dogs in the park, people just come out and enjoy the fresh air in the park. There were people dancing in the park during COVID. We have seen people with dance classes there was actually a Christmas Pageant where dancers were dancing in the park so this is all wrong. The park is not blighted. That report that the RDA did was a lie. The Little League fields are well kept they spend a lot of time on that so I just want to say something about all the money that you think you're going to get. What about all the municipal services those people are going to need? Also what's going to happen when the park floods, all those cars and all that fluid from the cars all the transmission fluid, all the gasoline is gonna get into the river we're gonna have to have rescuing people because they're in the middle of the flood what are you guys thinking about? I just cannot believe that you're trying to take away our one and only park there's nowhere else for the baseball fields to go, the basketball courts to go. Nowhere else in this town is there anywhere for the type of recreation that we have available in Williamson Park. Also I want to comment on the Planning Commission meeting where the vote was interrupted by the Borough Manager she should not have done that the information she gave them was wrong. I don't think that you guys can actually legally vote on item 9J because the Planning Commission was misinformed and they did it wrong. Thank you.

29. Joshua Kuntz – *40 Union Street*

He stated, thank you guys as always this is a real rock and a hard place moment I think we should all congratulate ourselves for participating in the wonders of philosophy and politics. I think all of us as a community this is really great you know one of the big things that is kind of tearing the world apart is for us to not be participating so I think everybody on both sides should really be proud of ourselves because we're doing what we need to do to kind of have this society survive as we steamroll into cataclysm. I do appreciate you guys in particular that was a gauntlet for sure even I don't even know if I should continue talking just because of how stressful it all was so I was thinking of talking about 9F today, no I'm just joking it's about 9J obviously it's about 9J and 9I no 9W the other one. So with the income tax thing obviously I think that's a really weird thing the idealist in me is like hey why don't we just like only do it for like the top 50% income people, the richest top 50% they can just get it and if they're in like a housing crisis and they're going to lose it why don't we have like an exemption thing for them or something and then everybody else who's in a concerned situation can be like I don't have to worry about more money to pay and only people who have the money to pay can pay the money but that's my idealist I don't think you guys have power in that I don't know but that's just kind of a solution that sounds really wonderful to me. As for the park however, I think that there is some weird oddities because I could hear the kind of like linguistic -- I was at the planning meeting before and the RDA was saying we're not stating that the park is blighted they are saying that part of several sections in the designated areas were blighted and it just so happens that because those are the entire park needs to be included in the mapping rezoning so that way we can be like the whole thing is continuous and so I'm like okay so I can see the logic there this is about of trying to extend to certain areas that do need the redevelopment and that the parks just in the way. However, there is an issue with that there seems to be a route that can go around the park and I also think that if we do include the park there needs to be pretty stringent language to make sure that it's not

included in it because this looks like a backdoor way of having the park designated as blighted and if we are not in agreement that the park is blighted and only these other parts are within the entire area then we should probably be excluding that with something else. So I definitely think that minimal the park stuff should be tabled until more specific language can be done so that way it's not giving a false impression about what's actually going on in the park or it should just be said no to and it is really tough that the budget thing seems to be having this kind of like which of these two things oh we need money issue so I do really not envy your position and I hope that you guys have space and grace and peace of mind in your future so that way you can digest all of this and I hope that you continue doing your best. I appreciate everything you're doing. All right that's my time.

30. *Laura Goe – 78 Central Avenue*

She stated, one of the interesting things at our house is a map that was done around 1850 that shows the park but the thing that most people don't know about the park is that there used to be a river there and the river was filled in later and has never been developed. So my question is, if we have a river in the middle of the park that has been piled over with rubble and garbage and things like that over the many years what is going to become of that when we try to develop the park? I'm not making this up I have the picture I'll be glad to invite you to my house or I'll bring it over here and show you the river running through, that's why it was called the island and that's why we live on the island because it's actually not an island anymore it's now beautiful green space out there, but the problem is it's going to change if you start developing it in ways that it was not meant to support. So until somebody does some real serious looking into that situation and determining whether that river is still there and whether it can support building I would say we don't want any development. Now beyond that, I love the park the way it is. I don't want to see any development anyway but I'm bringing this to your attention because I don't want to go through the years and see something happen where a building falls down because gee there's a river under there that was not properly filled in and dealt with. So that's all I have to say. Thank you.

31. Richard Mutek – *37 S. Lafayette Avenue*

He stated, I have lived in this town for 72 years. I am in favor of saving the ballpark. We refer to that as the island back in my day and it's because it floods when the river floods not all the time, but there's enough times that it will flood. That's the reason the ballparks are down there. I am not in favor of putting a motel down there. I worked in the city of Trenton for 37 years I watched two motels be built there and two motels that are empty that are no longer there. Who is going to come to a motel in Morrisville when we already have a motel in Morrisville? The small shops, I don't see anybody going to those small shops when everybody orders online nowadays. Look at Bridge Street, 40 some years ago we had a chance of tearing down that block between Pennsylvania Avenue and Washington and our elected officials chose to just do a facelift. That block needs to be torn down. Build your motel on the corner there, build your small shops there and put your apartments above it. Where the bank is that's empty, you're not going to get another bank to go in there that building is not feasible, put your condos there if you want to, but save the park. That's just what I have to say. Thank you.

32. Tom Wisnosky – *815 Crown Street*

He stated, I agree that it's really nice that here in Morrisville, I was talking to a reporter outside that we can have civil conversation about things that we really disagree on and we're really emotional about this has been actually a really nice discussion, thanks for your time. Here in Morrisville we historically, going back decades and generations have said no. We're really good at saying no and I could bore you for hours with stories about opportunities lost because the initial reaction is no. I sat back there for a lot of those and I mean I can talk to you all the way back to the Steel Mill property in the 50's or 60's. Now as Ms. Schell pointed out this plan I guess has been around for about three years I don't know, I found out about it about a year and a half ago but I believe her that that's true. In that time where have the alternatives been? Who has come up with another idea? I've heard, we hear nothing, I only know of one guy who's interested in spending a hundred million dollars here in Morrisville. If there are other ideas now would be a really good time to bring them up but I don't see them and as someone else pointed out, well there is no coincidence that the EIT and this vote are on the

same agenda because it's all those no's from the past 50, 60 years that have put you in this in-enviable position. It's not a new problem there is no money and you all know that, there are two vacant full-time slots on our police force right now. Guess what we can't hire two officers there's no money to hire two officers, so the question becomes what happens? What happens ultimately if we all just keep saying no to everything is that there is no Morrisville, there is no park. We love our park. I actually really don't like a lot about the plan that's been proposed I think it takes way too much of our park and I would like to see conversation, serious conversation about what's really appropriate there. However, you've got to keep the door open to conversation and so I urge you to vote yes, I see it as a vote to keep the conversation going, we can't accomplish anything unless we talk and that's what we have to leave in your hands to keep the path open because otherwise an EIT, that's correct it's not going to be enough, there's no amount of taxing that you guys can do that could be enough and there's no amount of budget savings that can be enough so I urge you to vote yes, keep the door open. Thank you very much.

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

Mr. Parker stated, at the recommendations of the solicitor we are pulling 9J from the agenda because of the procedural concerns mentioned here tonight, so 9J is no longer on the agenda.

Ms. Sherlock stated, just have a quick three minute comment that I had prepared if we had to vote this evening. I will not designate the whole area of the park for this particular certification just because one area needs addressing. In the plan it states more than once that the parking area on North Delmorr Avenue between the access road to the canal and up to the water tower is not suited for development so why consider this as part of your boundary? Boundary maps were done last year by Gilmore at the request of the former Borough Manager months before this current Council was even presented with the Town Center Plan. A traffic study was done by Gilmore months before we were presented with the Plan. These actions were never voted on. The wheels were in motion long before this body was presented with that

plan. I apologize now for voting last year to let the conceptual plan move forward and do their due diligence which I thought would prove futile because of stormwater issues, traffic concerns and flooding concerns but I came a little bit late to that party because the process had already started. This is unacceptable that we approve this plan for the park it is nothing more in my mind as a land grab and a power grab and I don't have the power to stop this by myself. So that's where I stand on the park. I've been vocal about it but I thought we were voting on it this evening and that would have been my statement.

MINUTES

Motion 6A - Motion to approve the Borough Council Regular Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2021.

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Parker.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

ACTION ITEMS

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

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bowers.

No discussion took place regarding the motion.

Mr. Parker stated, roll call please.

Motion carried by roll call vote 7-0.

REPORTS

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

Manager's Report – Judith Danko – She stated, everyone has the report before you. Do you have any questions?

Discussion took place regarding the Manager's Report.

Police Chief's Report – Chief George McClay –He stated, the Clubhouse Lounge is closed and out of business. It was closed by the Sheriff two weeks ago. There will be a sale on the property inside of it within the next couple weeks but that is closed. The owner he doesn't know it yet but I guess I can tell you will be arrested by the LCB shortly for distributing liquor inside of that establishment. The Hookah Lounge is still open it's not doing anything like the business it was I can't tell you really why, whether it's the idea of the new ordinance that was put into effect but they are monitored every night. The most they've had is 20 cars out there so he's staying well within his limit of participants inside the building. There's a couple things that are affecting the Police Department on the agenda tonight maybe I'll just save it if you have any questions at that point I'll address those. The crime numbers still are down 28% for the year. But there are a couple things on the agenda that you may have questions for, if they come up I'll still be here.

Additional discussion took place regarding the Manager's Report.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion 9W – Motion to approve the Ordinance to Levy an 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 Mr. Parker.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

Mr. Parker stated, roll call.

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

Motion 9A – Motion to adopt the 2021 Halloween Policy.

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Parker.

No discussion took place regarding the motion.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Motion 9B - Motion to acknowledge receipt of \$41,461.07 from the PA Department of the Auditor General, and to approve distribution of 100% to the Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association.

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.

Motion 9C – Potential Motion after discussion regarding Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County offer of \$_____ for the purchase of property known as 38 Hillcrest Avenue, Morrisville, PA 19067.

Motion Removed.

Motion 9D - Motion to ratify execution of COPS Grant extension.

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Parker.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Motion 9E - Motion to ratify execution of the Capital Health System Inc. Ambulance extension agreement dated 9/23/2021.

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.

Motion 9F – Motion to award the contract for the 2020 Curb Ramp Program to JDC Construction Services, Inc., for a total contract amount of \$48,411.00 for the base bid and alternate bids #1 & #2, to be paid from 2020 CDBG funds.

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.

Motion 9G – Potential Motion after discussion regarding the execution of the Bucks County Planning Commission Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program Commitment form regarding share contribution costs 2022 - \$1,388.83, 2023 - \$1,457.41, 2024 - \$1,714.60 and 2025 - \$1,714.60.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bowers.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Motion 9H – Motion to approve advertising of an Ordinance of the Borough of Morrisville, Bucks County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Borough

of Morrisville Animals Ordinance, specifically prohibiting owning Roosters within the limits of the Borough of Morrisville.

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Paul.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

Mr. Parker stated, roll call.

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

Motion 9I – Potential Motion after discussion regarding a request for a temporary waiver of the 60-hour limit for PT Police Officers through 11/30/2021 (currently through October 31, 2021).

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

Motion made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Ms. Sherlock.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 6-1. (nay vote being Mr. Yager.)

Motion 9J - Motion to adopt Resolution #_____ a Resolution of the Planning Commission of Morrisville, Amending the Boundary of the Morrisville Borough Certified Redevelopment Area.

Motion Removed.

Motion 9K – Motion to approve settlement of the tax appeal regarding Rivertown Development, LLC – Tax Parcel No. 24-009-192, 2 East Bridge Street, Morrisville, PA.

Motion made by Mr. Bowers.

Motion seconded by Ms. Sherlock.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Motion 9L – Potential Motion after discussion regarding Zoning Hearing Notice for Morrisville School District building at 50 Penn Avenue, Morrisville, PA 19067 (BCTMP 24-012-077), on whether Council will or will not direct the Solicitor to attend on behalf of the Borough.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

Motion Removed.

Motion 9M & 9N – Motion to identify 29 N. Lafayette Avenue (Tax Parcel #24-006-153), as blighted as provided in the resolutions from the Vacant Blighted Property Review Committee and the Morrisville Borough Planning Commission.

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Yager.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Motion 9O & 9P – Motion to identify 208 E. Palmer Street, (Tax Parcel #24-008-559), as blighted as provided in the resolutions from the Vacant Blighted Property Review Committee and the Morrisville Borough Planning Commission.

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bowers.

No discussion took place regarding the motion.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Motion 9Q & 9R – Motion to identify 327 Prospect Avenue, (Tax Parcel #24-004-572.001), as blighted as provided in the resolutions from the Vacant Blighted Property Review Committee and the Morrisville Borough Planning Commission.

Motion made by Ms. Sherlock.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bowers.

No discussion took place regarding the motion.

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

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Motion 9S & 9T – Motion to identify 831 Crown Street, (Tax Parcel #24-007-0051), as blighted as provided in the resolutions from the Vacant Blighted Property Review Committee and the Morrisville Borough Planning Commission.

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.

Motion 9U – Motion to approve Library Roof Replacement Project Change Order #1; “Aluminum gutters and downspouts are to be used in lieu of galvanized steel with no associated change in costs.”

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 6-0. (Mr. Paul not present for vote)

Motion 9V – Motion to approve preparation for pre-application of FEMA HMGP Grant Opportunity regarding flood mitigation assistance along with utilizing flood study funding to cover the costs in pursuing the grant.

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 6-0. (Mr. Paul not present for vote)

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Parker read the special meeting notice.

BOROUGH OFFICIALS

Ms. Sherlock stated, I'm going to be brief all I want to talk about is the library. We're still selling chances on the picture you can visit the library or the hardware store and they have the raffle tickets, so the whole idea behind this is that we can raise enough money to work towards getting the library as a historical designation. The Salem Witch Trials which was scheduled has been cancelled but you can register online. The Annual Halloween Party was also cancelled but they'll be giving out goodie bags and in October youngsters can participate in the scavenger hunt, the bags are being provided by the library. There's the virtual decluttering your home presented on December 8th, so those are just the library updates. The Library Board is considering a pumpkin carving at the park on October 30th from 5 to 7 p.m. more details to follow.

Mr. Bowers stated, on October 23rd the Friends of Morrisville Dog Park will be hosting a Monster March Dog Halloween Parade from 1 to 3 p.m at the open space adjacent to the dog park.

Ms. Hlahol stated, I have one request, I was wondering if we could move maybe a picnic table or two from the island maybe underneath that concession area over to the property that is next door to the Dog Park. That has a really nice view, it's open space and it's not used because there's nowhere to sit and it's really lovely down there.

Ms. Sherlock asked, the ones under the little pavilion?

Ms. Hlahol replied, anywhere in the park I was thinking the pavilion but it could be anywhere there's an abundance of picnic tables at the island.

Ms. Sherlock stated, I think the ones under the little pavilion get used though.

Mr. Later stated, yeah they're all cemented in you're better off buying another one.

Ms. Hlahol asked, even the ones under the pavilion?

Mr. Later replied, they're cemented into the concrete.

Ms. Hlahol replied, I understand, I'll look because I thought there was one or two that weren't cemented in but I could be wrong. How expensive John are those tables because I think it would be nice down there don't you think, you know where I'm talking about where Delmorr and Philadelphia Avenue meet. I see a lot of people down there and they're kind of just like sitting on the curbs or sitting in their cars.

Mr. Bowers stated, John she's talking about the lower lot of the Dog Park, the open space.

Ms. Sherlock stated, we could do sell a bench, sell a table, people can dedicate it, donate it.

Mr. Robinson stated, yeah I have one thing to say, I know it's been a long night but I just want to publicly thank I'm sure everybody sees the work that Judi is doing, it is incredibly refreshing to have a Borough Manager now that is up there and is an actual real awesome Borough Manager and is taking charge and getting things done. I've been following Morrisville politics on and off for the last I'll say 30 years and this is definitely refreshing. There's a lot of little fires and little things that she probably doesn't get credit for putting out, she probably gets yelled at for putting them out and whatnot but I just want to thank Judi for her work and her dedication so far and I hope that she continues and is around here for a long time.

Ms. Hlahol stated, I agree with that.

Ms. Danko stated, well thank you all.

Ms. Hlahol asked, is there anything you need from us to make your life easier?

Ms. Sherlock stated, about \$500,000.00.

Ms. Danko stated, more money, more employees and some sleep.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn, made by Mr. Parker.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bowers.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsbjudWZXbA&t=248s>