



DECEMBER 11, 2024

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of December was called to order by Council President Shaunta Miller at 7:00; the Pledge of allegiance was recited and roll was called. The following was roll call response:

Council Vice President Bernice Clark Dickerson-present

Councilor Douglass Eager-present

Councilor Bethann Johnson-present

Councilor Michelle Miller-present

Council President Shaunta Miller-present

Councilor Michele Roberts- Present

Councilor Walter Stubbs-present.

Mayor Hammock-present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Miller announced that an executive session was held prior to this meeting on a personnel matter.

CDBG HEARING – 7:05

Mr. Catania opened the hearing by saying that there are several things we can apply for based on demographics. The eligible area is Central Morton; specifically public facilities improvement, primarily residential. Manager Lipsett had an idea – Primary –street scape on central Morton, and traffic signage throughout the town.

Ceil Todd- 110 Althea Lane – she was concerned that Althea Lane doesn't see any services there or any other local streets. Councilor Dickerson explained that Althea Lane area does not qualify for the CDBG area.

Michel Lee -123 W Sylvan – asked if the Firehouse was available to receive funding. No because the Borough property as a whole cannot.

With the meeting coming to a close it was decided that a primary would be Street Scape – Central Morton, and Secondary – Traffic signage throughout the town.

The meeting then adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

PUBLI COMMENTS ON AGENDA

Michael Lee – 123 W Sylvan Ave. – When will meeting minutes be posted? January.

Tony Brown – 302 Newell Street – the gully near her property was cleaned out twice; but not her leaves. She stated that the free library book case needs repaired.

Celesta Pannell – 208 Baker – questioned the parade and asked for suggestions on who to contact to organize. Council President Miller did answer.

Ceil Todd – 110 Althea – are we making a motion to approve the 2025 budget? Yes. \$17,500 still on the budget –yes, there are no budget cuts.

Bill Heffner – 571 S Old Middletown Road, Media – Asked about total delinquent sewer and trash accounts, asked if the park and recreation fund was \$1000, and asked about the disbursement journal, and cash on hand reports – where are they?

Charles Lillicrapp-114 Locust Road – questioned the mercantile tax.

Mrs. Aglidian – Sylvan Avenue (address not given) – how do we know when a line item is changed, how do residents know. Solicitor Ewald explained the 10 day rule – final budget can be done after this evening – 2025 things can be flexible.

Committee reports

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

The approval of the budget would be an action item this evening – the 2025 budget

The borough tax collector gave the tax report for the month of November, she was pleased that the school district tax payments went to her.

The borough manager read the Treasurer's report this month.

Council will be voting this evening on the disbursement journal for November.

Tax Rate, Sewer Fee and Refuse collection fee would be discussed this evening.

PUBLIC FACILILITES

Councilor Johnson gave the code official report – there were 11 building permits applied for 10 issued 1 withdrawn. 1 use and occupancy and 3 contractor licenses. Mr. Catania turned in his engineer report to council.

Disposal of inoperable equipment – a resolution will be voted on to get rid of unwanted or old equipment.

Ms. Johnson also reported that the lights are installed throughout the borough building.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief lawless gave his November police report. He also reported that the NO left turn signs on Waverly to Baltimore pike were here.

Councilor Roberts asked the chief about the recent ticketing of parking on the streets. He stated he is having his officers educate the public, instead of writing tickets; he would like people to take corrective action so no tickets will be issued.

Fire Marshall Stokes gave both the fire and fire marshal reports.

Civil service rule changes – Solicitor Ewald explained that the commission met and there was on change to ratify allowing them authorize the police department to handle interviews.

Council President Shaunta Miller urged everyone to support the MRFD>

PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITATION AND RECYCLING

Councilor Roberts gave the November recycling report;

Councilor Roberts also had 3 bids for the new trash contract and the award would be granted this evening. Contract for 2025 will be a 3 year contract – 1 trash day (Mondays) from October 1- May 31, and two day pick up from June 1 to September 30, 2025. The contract amount is \$200,507.00.

LAW AND ORDINANCE

Councilor Miller had the work zone ordinance to advertise for this evening; it will be on action items.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Councilor Eagar had no report; just reported that council is diligently working on the budget for the fire company.

Councilor Roberts also reported that the Hero Banner program needs to be updated

PARK AND RECREATION

Councilor Stubbs questioned if we had access to Park and Recreation resources in Delaware County. He then spoke about having each resident donate \$3.65 per year to help with the Park and Recreation committee.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hammock reiterated that the budget takes a lot of work. She reported that the recent Breakfast with Santa went very well.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Lipsett reported that the new council meeting dates for 2025 will still be the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:00; with the exception that now the Agenda meeting will be held first and the Regular Public meeting will be held secondly.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion was made by Vice President Dickerson to approve the 2025 Budget. Seconded by Councilor Johnson. Six voiced approval – 1 opposed. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilor Roberts to approve the 2025 Trash Contract. Seconded by Vice President Clark-Dickerson. The Trash Hauler will be Creative Waste Services ,LLC as the lowest responsible bidder. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion was made to approve the bills for December 2024, by Councilor Roberts; seconded by Vice President Clark-Dickerson. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion was made to ratify and affirm the payment of the bills for November and December by Vice President Clark-Dickerson. Council Roberts seconded the Motion. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Vice President Clark-Dickerson and seconded by Councilor Roberts to advertise to not the Tax Rate not to exceed 7.4 milage rate; \$330.00 as Trash fee and, Sewer rate of \$19.88 as the sewer fee. This is just advertisement, so decisions on the rates can be made next meeting. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to advertise the Work Zone Ordinance made by Councilor Roberts seconded by Councilor Miller. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the CDBG application made by Councilor Roberts seconded by Couincilor Johnson to approve 1) –Primary selection –Street scape, installation of sidewalks, curbs and sewer in the eligible district. 2) Secondary project- improvement of traffic signage. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Disposal of Inoperable Borough Equipment made by Councilor Roberts, seconded by Vice President Clark-Dickerson. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Civil Service Rule Changes made by Vice President Dickerson, Seonded by Councilor Eagar. All voiced approval, Motion carried.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Agenda Meeting 12/30/24

OPEN DISCUSSION

Michael Lee – 123 W Sylvan – Happy holidays, asked when the meeting minutes would be posted. This will be in January.

Tony Brown – 302 Newell – complained about white powder on the street across from AMVETS. This was owned by Mr. Heffner and he answered it was ground plastic.

Cecilia Todd – 110 Althea Lane – a lot of positive changes; the budget was most difficult to get through; Fire Department appreciates support; the money the department asks for is not outrageous; as well as the money for the police department. Please continue to support and fund the fire and police departments.

Bill Heffner – 571 S Old Middletown Rd Media PA- questioned if a resolution was required to move money in line items. Solicitor Ewald confirmed a resolution is required at a public meeting. He questioned the budget that was approved – is this the same numbers as two weeks ago and it was confirmed.

Charles Lillicrapp- 114 Locust Road – did the yellow line get painted on N Morton Avenue? No, they have never had a line. Mr. Lillicrapp questioned the sewer rate of 2024 - \$14.71. This is a 33% increase.

The manager mentioned this hasn't been increased in quite some time; and now the snowball is getting bigger and bigger; this was reiterated by the mayor as well as other council.

Celesa Pannell – 208 Baker Street – questioned if there was follow up when there has been constructions when ambulance or emergency vehicles try to get through. Mr. Ewald stated this is the reason for the ordinance that is being advertised. Discussed with council more events should be held at the borough.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Roberts made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Martha Preston, Secretary