



REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

May 8, 2024

The Borough agenda meeting for May was called to order at 7:00 p.m. was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Vice President Bernice Dickerson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called; the following was roll call response:

Council Vice President Bernice Dickerson – present

Councilor Doug Eagar – present

Councilor Bethann Johnson-Absent

Councilor Michelle Miller-present

Council President Shaunta Miller-Absent

Councilor Michele Roberts-present

Councilor Walter Stubbs –present

Mayor Amanda Hammock-Absent

ANNOUNCEMENT

Council met in an Executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Douglas Diehl – Unit 6 – 21 Silver Lake Terrace – Commented on the signal not working at the crossing near the train tracks. He pointed out that possibly the line could be moved back so the drivers can see the traffic light. H also complained about the left turn out of the parking lot; requested more enforcement on pedestrian safety.

Michael Bublak – Unit 6 – 21 Silver Lake Terrace – echoed Mr. Diehl's concerns with the left turn arrow and also the parking situation with Wawa.

Mr. Catania addressed council and explained that PennDot, Septa, and Catania Engineering must coordinate with a traffic consultant to assist and upgrade the entire intersection. Silver lake area is included in the upgrade.

Council President Miller announced that the council met in executive session to discuss personnel issues.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBIC FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

In Councilor Johnson's absence, Mr. Catania gave a report on the construction plans at the DCIU property.

He also notified council of the issue with the paving, and liquid fuels funds – there was an advertising error due to his office's miscalculation of the timing of the add, so the bids have to be re-sent.

The ARPA-PA Small Water & Sewer – High Priority I/I Reduction contract documents have been advertised. This grant was awarded.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Tax Collector Acquarola read the April Tax collector report and informed council that tax payment of \$403,118.86 was received.

Manager Stewart gave the disbursement report for April 2024 – currently there is \$765,670.93 in the general fund, \$258,557.58 in Sewer Fund, \$168,566.18 in Highway aid, \$39,981.50 in Payroll, \$62,632.33 in Capital Reserve, and \$523,088.24 in Tax Collector Account. He also reported that our account at Citadel still has \$95,000.

Mr. Stewart reported that Republic Bank was purchased by Fulton Bank and there will be a change over; and he read the announcement from the bank.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief Lawless gave his police report for April – reported that there has been a reduction in retail thefts by 20%. Kohl's feedback is good, they appreciate the police presence.

Public Announcement – on May 30, at 6:30 – Cardinal O'Hara is holding an event which will benefit children of police officers, fireman, and EMT's who were killed in the line of duty.

Morton Rutledge Fire Dept.

Chief Holstein of the fire department gave his fire department report for the month of April; this report is kept on file.

Fire Marshal

Manager Stewart gave Fire Marshal's report for April – there was one incident at Popeye's regarding a smoke detector and CO detector. This was corrected. He reported that he also renewed his certificate which is good until August of 2029.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITATION, AND RECYCLING

Councilor Roberts reported on the recycling numbers; there has been a decline. She encouraged recycling on Thursdays.

Composting – Ms. Roberts gave an update on the composting class that was held – 30+ people were in attendance. Large containers were given to those in attendance. Ms. Roberts thanked Carol Butler and the PRC for their leadership. They are concerned about our environment.

Rainbarrel workshop

There is a rain barrel workshop scheduled Monday June 10 at 6:30 - Please go to the Prc.org website to register for this event. This event is sponsored along with the Eastern Stormwater Collaborative.

LAW AND ORDINANCE

Councilor Miller reported that the dog leash ordinance is up for action – no need to discuss.

Abandoned vehicle ordinance – Solicitor Ewald is reviewing and he will be providing comments at the next meeting.

Street parking ordinance- council discussed an amendment for Silverlake Terrace parking and also Country Lane parking.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Eagar reported that we are still awaiting a final report from Bergman on the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning ordinance update. This should be received this summer, 2024.

Mr. Eagar updated that the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) grant was submitted on 3-28-24, for \$100,000 with 0% match.

Mr. Eagar informed everyone that there is a new Facebook account for the Borough and encouraged all to check it out and ‘like’. He also stated that the website is beginning to be developed and requested all council give their bios to Manager Stewart. Saturday, June 15th is our Juneteenth Celebration at 12:00 at Jacob’s Park. There will be music, face painting for kids, and other activities.

Movie night is scheduled for Friday June 28, 2024 at 9:00 p.m. at Jacob’s park. Popcorn will be provided. Movie will be announced later.

Red Cross Blood drive is scheduled for Tuesday September 17, 2024 from 2-7 p.m. at Borough Hall.

Morton 5K Run/Walk is scheduled for Saturday October 5, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at Borough Hall.

PARK AND RECREATION

Mr. Stewart updated council on all the grants, and reported that the Amazing Grazing Goats have arrived at the borough to begin working on Sycamore Woods. He also reported that the DCNR Park Development and Revitalization Grant (\$556,150 with 50% match) was submitted on April 3, 2024.

Mr. Stewart reported that he is preparing the DCED Greenways Trails and Recreation Grant (\$250,000 with 15% match) and it is due for submittal by May 31, 2024. This is Jacob’s Park Revitalization Master Plan Phase 3.

MAYOR REPORT

In Mayor’s absence, the manager announced the DELCO Greenways Community Forest Management Plan – Goats have arrived. The Welcoming ceremony is scheduled for May 11 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion to approve the disbursement journal for April 2024 was made by Councilor Roberts. Seconded by Councilor Stubbs. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Ordinance for Dog Leash was made by Councilor Michelle Miller, seconded by Councilor Eagar. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to authorize Catania Engineering to engage the services of Traffic Planning and Design to develop a scoping plan for the signal at Woodland Avenue & North Morton Avenue at a cost not to exceed \$7500. Motion was made by Councilor Michelle Miller, and seconded by Councilor Roberts. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to authorize Catania Engineering to re-advertise the 2024 Road program was made by Councilor Eagar. Seconded by Councilor Michelle Miller. All voiced approval – Motion carried.

Motion to approve Resolution 2024-07 – Authorizing the submission of the DCED –Greenways Trails, and Recreation grant was made by Councilor Roberts. Motion seconded by Councilor Stubbs. All council voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to designate a member of Borough Council as voting delegate for the PSAB Conference, made by Councilor Roberts- - Bernice Dickerson. Motion seconded by councilor Stubbs. All voiced approval. Motion carried.

Motion to approve/ reject the minutes from April 2024, made by Councilor Roberts. Seconded by Councilor Stubbs. All voiced approval Motion carried.

The upcoming meetings and events schedule was announced.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Douglas Diehl – 21 Silver Lake – urged council to get on Wawa about trucks sticking out into the street.

Ceil Todd – 110 Althea Lane – the Morton Rutledge Fire Department annual fund letter is out, and she urged contributions to the Fire department. Ms. Todd reported that there would be a Food vendor event sponsored by the MRFD on June 29th all day, at Scoscia Field. There are other activities planned for the future with the MRFD as well.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Roberts made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Preston, Secretary

