



AGENDA MEETING

April 10, 2024

The Borough agenda meeting for April was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Shaunta Miller. 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-present

Councilor Michelle Miller-present

Council President Shaunta Miller-present

Councilor Michele Roberts-present

Councilor Walter Stubbs –present

Mayor Amanda Hammock-present

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Michael Lee – 123 W Sylan – Commented on the fact that everyone needs to show respect to each other; and gave his opinion to council on how this can be accomplished.

Charles Lillicrapp-114 Locust Road – Asked if a traffic count could be done on Walnut Street and spoke about the dog leash ordinance, and cleaning up after.

Bill Heffner – 571 S. Old Middletown Road – questioned the Amazing Goats, and what happens after they eat the leaves. The manager explained that the ivy will be down to the roots – herbicides can then be sprayed.

ANNOUNCEMENT

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBIC FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Councilor Johnson had Mr. Catania give his Building Code official report. He reported that there were 7 building permits issued, 2 contractor licenses issued, and 5 use and occupancies issued.

Ms. Johnson reported that the 2024 Road program (Morton Rutledge) contract was awarded to Innovative Construction.

Ms. Johnson reported that the project contract documents for the ARPA-PA Small Water and Sewer Grant are being prepared.

Signal Issues – Ms. Johnson reported that a meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. for the Signal at Woodland and North Morton Avenue. The following grant funding is available. PennDot – Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) Program – pre-scoping due 4-30-24. Also DCED – Multimodal Transportation – closes on July 30, 2024; and a PennDot – Green Light-Go (GLG) Program – opens Fall of 2024.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Clark-Dickerson stated the Tax Collector reported collecting \$819,446.70 in real estate taxes.

The Borough is currently looking for a Treasurer.

Ms. Clark-Dickerson reported that the Trash Billing account in Republic bank will be closed when we decide on the new banking institution. We had sent out an RFP and had two banks respond – Republic Bank at 4.26% and WSFS at 3.75%. Council will be reviewing the proposals.

Second quarter sewer bills will be mailed on or about May 1, 2024.

Council will be hiring a Public works assistant, and they have a person that they would like to hire; however, he has to have a background check prior.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief Lawless reported on his monthly calls for April. He also stated he has been in touch with PennDot about enforcement lines.

Fire Report – Shaunta Miller, council President read the March Fire Department report, which is on file in the borough office. She also stated that council did receive the financial report from the Fire Department. There was no report from the Borough Fire Marshall.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITATION, RECYCLING

Ms. Roberts reported that at this time, we do not have the recycling report – we will announce that at the next meeting.

Ms. Roberts reported that there would be a composting program offered on April 30th from 6:00-7:30 at the Borough Hall. You must pre-register, the first 30 people get a compost bin. This program is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Resources Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITATION, RECYCLING-continued

Ms. Roberts also reported that there will be a Shredding Event on April 27th from 9-12 at the rear lot of the Springfield Mall, this is in conjunction with Rep. O'Mara's office and Senator Kearney. 4 boxes per person is allowed. You must contact the State Representative office to pre-register.

Ms. Roberts also reported that there would be an Earth day clean up announced soon; as we need to lead by example. She proposed that maybe residents could challenge each other, take pride. This event would possibly be scheduled on a Saturday at 10:00. The next Public Health, Sanitation, and Recycling committee meeting is scheduled for May 14th.

LAW AND ORDINANCE

Parking-Silver Lake

Ms. Miller stated that the committee would need to meet in May and then review what may be able to be done.

Parking-Country Lane

Ms. Miller stated that she would possibly speak with the postmaster again about the mail situation, as she was informed that the postman will not get out of the truck and walk around.

Dog Leash Law-Ordinance

We will be adding language regarding clean up after the animal; possibly requiring penalty. Solicitor Ewald will add language and prepare the ordinance.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Eagar reported that we are still waiting on the final report from Bergman for the Comprehensive and Zoning Ordinance update.

Mr. Eagar reported that the borough manager would be having a conference call next week for the website. He also reported that he is still working on some events for the Borough; one being Juneteenth celebration.

PARK & RECREATION

Mr. Stubbs had the borough manager explain the grants again, Delco Greenways, -to date \$7400 has been spent on Strobert, clearing and taking care of trees. Amazing Grazing goats will be arriving May 6.

Manager Stewart explained the DCNR grant was submitted April 3, -phase 2 -\$556.150 (50% match) - incorporating a new climber, new parking lot, and picnic tables among the items in the grant. Also, the DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program grant – A \$250K – 15% match is available and due for submission by 5-31-24.

Mr. Stubbs mentioned that Broomall Fire Department does a carnival – and perhaps the field may be the same size, he will reach out to them and find out how we can do something like this, and bring funds back to the community. He also brought out an idea to request \$3.65 from each business and also residents to help with the funds for the parks.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Hammock reported that the Morton Rutledge Fire Department would be having a Pasta with a Purpose dinner on Sunday April 14 for \$12.00. This will be a buffet.

MANAGER REPORT – no report

Ms. Michelle Miller announced the SYC cheerleaders came in first place in Atlantic City.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Michael Lee -123 W Sylvan – he was concerned with the allegations that things were left ‘in a mess’ and wanted a report on all documentation for proof.

Ceil Todd – 110 Althea Lane – asked about a transfer of borough funds from Citadel to Republic. This will be done. Ms. Todd also wanted to say that she believes that there was a mess left.

Bruce Wagner -124 W. Sylvan – thanked the chief and the police officers for their increased enforcement on the streets, specifically Yale and W Sylvan.

Jackie Guy – 635 Country Lane – Stated she has lived here 22 years, and she enjoys the country lane basin and the woods. She sees an abundance of wildlife and the work they did on the basin has worked.

Bill Heffner – 571 S. Old Middletown Road-owner of several properties – asked if the interest rate at Republic is guaranteed for a year. The answer given was, yes. He also asked if the Firehouse’s financial report would be available.

Esther Gilyard – 18 Walnut – Ms.Gilyard reported that she was at a recent event at DCIU, where she was honored as Miss Pennsylvania Disability and Inclusion. There was a huge turnout; and she suggested that the Borough needs such an event to bring resources to Morton.

Chris Nelson – 1011 Kedron Avenue – asked when council can meet as they need sponsorship and funds for the Summer Jam and Summer Camp. The Summer Jam event will be July 28, 2024. Council President Miller responded that before council will meet, Mr. Nelson needs to get sponsors and then come together.

ACTION ITEMS

Ms. Dickerson made a Motion to approve the disbursement journal for March 2024. Ms. Roberts seconded the motion. All council approved the Motion, and the Motion carried.

Ms. Dickerson made a Motion to approve the award of banking services to Republic Bank. Ms. Roberts Seconded. Roll call: Ms. Dickerson-yes, Mr. Eagar-yes, Ms. Johnson-yes, Ms. Michelle Miller-no, Ms. Shaunta Miller-yes, Ms. Roberts-yes, Mr. Stubbs-yes. Motion carried.

The upcoming meeting schedule was announced that then the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Preston, Secretary

