



AGENDA MEETING

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

Call to order

Borough Council President Shaunta Miller called the meeting or order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called; the following was roll call response:

Councilor Vice President Bernice Clark-Dickerson-present

Councilor Douglas Eagar-present

Councilor Bethann Johnson-present

Councilor Michelle Miller-present

Council President Shaunta Miller-present

Councilor Michele Roberts-present,

Councilor Walter Stubbs-absent

Mayor Amanda Hammock- - absent

Announcements – Ms. Miller reported that the revised 2024 schedule is attached to tonight’s agenda. We do not have any presentations this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Covid-19 ARPA Small water & sewer grant – Ms. Johnson announced that this is a high priority infiltration/inflow reduction project (\$262,057 with a 0% match). – contracts with DCED have been signed.

Ms. Johnson also reported that the check for the \$265, 000 street renovations of N. Morton, Providence Road, and Highland Avenue is in the mail.

Gas Furnace replacement – this is in the foyer area of the borough building, however this project has been put on hold until the public works assistant person is hired.

Ms. Johnson reported that the 2024 Morton-Rutledge Road program contract documentation is being prepared by Catania Engineering, the contract includes signing and striping upgrades where permitted.

Traffic signal – Morton/Yale/420 – problem is under the tracks-wire short. Signal Service will respond as necessary until this is addressed. A meeting between SEPTA, Signal service, Catania Engineering and the Borough of Morton.

Ms. Johnson stated that there would be clean out of the bridge underneath Amosland Avenue. Mr. Johnson, the maintenance supervisor there this afternoon cleaning out the debris.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Dickerson reported that the 2024 local real estate discount period ends on 3-31-2024. Our refuse fee discount period ends 3-4-24; and the first quarter sewer fee face value ends on 3-18-24.

RFP

We have sent out an RFP for banking services which are due back by 3-18-24.

The deadline to apply for the fulltime public works assistant is 3-22-24. This position will be posted on the website, per the borough manager.

Answers to questions from Mr. Boylan’s recent emails.

She did read the response to Mr. Boylan’s questions previously asked via emails. When this council took office, they jumped right in. There are things in the budget that had to be changed. She did mention that the prior council could answer their own questions. She did answer Mr. Boylan’s questions regarding finances, staffing, insurances, and grants. The council did meet with the manager and had discussions and determined what would be the best for this borough. Ms. Dickerson did mention the grants which have been applied for as well, as hiring of the accountants.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ms. Miller had no report this month.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITATION, AND RECYCLING

Ms. Roberts reported that a Compost program would be scheduled shortly.

LAW AND ORDINANCE

Ms. Miller stated the committee has not met, and the fees for services will be update,
And she is also working on the parking on Country lane in front of mailboxes.

Parking on Silver lake- there is no parking on the street from 9-3 Monday – Friday. Some of the employees park on that street and residents; now people again that take the train are parking there. It has been proposed to start ticketing people, but she suggests we do not do that but put together an ordinance instead; in the meantime, perhaps we could do parking permits.

Walnut Street @ A&S Laminates – trucks are parking on Walnut Street on the sidewalk; she will reach out to the police chief.

Dog Leash law – Ms. Miller will reach out to the solicitor and will bring it up at the next meeting.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Eagar is awaiting an update on the Comprehensive Plan meetings. We are awaiting this to be scheduled.

Manager Stewart stated an email was received, and would like to perhaps schedule it for the 13th of March at 6:00. This should be the last of the Steering Committee; Ms. Miller asked if perhaps the members could be contacted before this is scheduled; as this is a wrap- up meeting, we should have had done in December, so time is of the essence. Mr. Stewart was advised to have the meeting on the website.

DVRPC – update – This is an opportunity to do some development related around the train station in cooperation with Springfield Township.

Mr. Eagar announced council would be obtaining new email addresses, they would be first initial and last name and Mortonboropa.org.

Website and Social Media upgrade

Mr. Eagar stated there are a few websites we are looking at; and hopefully by the end of March we will have another update. Mr. Stewart stated he has nothing of detail, has had the opportunity to obtain presentations.

Mr. Eagar stated he is looking to put an event together for March 10, regarding Black History Month, and Women’s History month. He has some ideas, but this is short notice, and wants this to be at 1:00 p.m. Sunday March 10.

March 23, Lisa Lockley will be sponsoring for the dedication of Walnut Street in the honor of William E. Rice. Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Saturday 3-23-24- there will be a Meet n Greet for all council following the dedication of Walnut Street.

PARKS AND RECREATION

President Miller did speak about the DELCO Greenway round 4. The contract has been executed; the contract with Amazing Grazing Goats is being reviewed.

Manager Stewart updated them on Davey Tree Resources plan for taking care of the poison oak, sumac, and ivy in Jacob's Park.

Upcoming – President Miller did report the upcoming meeting dates.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mario Cimino – 46 S Morton – stated that democratic norms are an endangered species these days; and compared this to Mitch McConnells stepping down from the Senate. He was concerned about the Big X across the white board, stating it was a change in democratic norms in Morton.;we have been more open in Morton Borough than that, and this upends policy of previous council. Solicitor Ewald stated that the public comment on agenda items is for action items, and there were none, that's why the X, and Manager Stewart further explained that we have been taking action items on both meetings, and we are trying to shift away from taking action items at agenda meetings.

Beth McMullin – President of Silver Lake Condo Association board – concerned about parking issues on Silver Lake Terrace, and asked for some solutions for the taxpaying residents of Morton such as permits.

Dierdre McCleary – Silver Lake Condo owner. - there are three different commercial vehicles that park in that area on Silver Lake – requested a permit as well for these commercial vehicles, requested of parking permits would be allowed as well.

Cecilia Todd – 110 Althea Lane – spoke about Mr. Selletti,, who needs a kidney; she also stated she appreciated the transparency from council and hopes they continue to work in this manner.

Jackie Guy – 635 Country Lane – 2 budget meetings will be held at the School Board – March 13, at 6:00. Also April 17, 2024. She questioned if there was a conclusion to the road opening for Wawa. Solicitor Ewald explained there is no action for borough council to take, but is an administrative duty for the office. The next step is a town hall type meeting with the residents that are effected by the traffic calming designs.

Joe Boylan – 23 Althea Lane – Corrected the record, the misstatements made. He crafted the 2023 budget with full support of council; and for the record was sick for the final meeting of the budget December 27th. He had proposed that Brinker Simpson was too expensive; and that no one knew as well as he did, and he would be willing to take over, and most of council was supportive; and he stated the end of March as a goal. The money at Citadel was Covid money and we could not use this to reduce taxes. The emails he sent, he forwarded to her as issues that had already been raised and discussed in executive sessions, as information only.

He did recommend strongly that we move away from MuniBilling. He stated he had been advocating for months for this information. Ms. Miller stated the emails spoken about are emails that were sent to them in the beginning of their time on council.

Chris Nelson -1010 Kedron Avenue

He reported that he would have his 3rd annual Summer Jam on July 28, 2024 from 12-8 p.m. He is looking for volunteers. He is still working on the event.

Bill Heffner – 571 S Old Middletown Road- owns 1 N, 200 N Morton and 217 Yale Avenue. Had questions regarding the 10% cost to the borough police officers for health. Solicitor Ewald stated he is waiting on the insurance carrier for these figures this 10% will not kick in until an alternate plan becomes available this is the 2012 contract, but no employee qualified for this until recently. Mr. Heffner asked if the 990 forms were received from the Fire Department or a response. President Miller stated, no response has been received.

4ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Preston, Secretary

