



APRIL 24, 2024

Agenda Meeting

The Borough council Agenda meeting for April was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Council President Shaunta Miller. Roll was called, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The following council answered roll call:

Council 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-present

Mayor Amanda Hammock—present

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council President Miller announced that council met prior to the meeting in Executive session to discuss personnel issues.

PRESENTATIONS

A Citation was issued for Herman Alexander Whilby in celebration of his 106th Birthday which was on April 22, 2024.

Latisha Gray – (Owner of 29 S Morton-Hangout) discussed the possibility of a Pop-up Skating Rink she informed council of her intent, which would be Fri-Sunday, weekends only, interlocking tiles on the parking lot of 32 S Morton. She has been speaking with the owner, and he is okay with this. She will have insurance to cover.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

John Miller – 221 Walnut Street – spoke in favor of the calming issues on Walnut Street. Studies were done, and money is being provided. He hopes it goes through.

Bill Heffner – 571 S. Old Middletown Road, Media – discussion and questioned why the chief requested a police car. He also wanted to discuss the parking kiosk system. The council president explained that his wasn't discussed with council yet.

Michael Lee – 123 W Sylvan – was concerned that there was no police presence at the meetings; also thanked the Fire Department for the recent dinner on 4-14-24. Mr. Lee also announced a misspelling on the agenda.

Charles Lillicrapp-114 Locust Road- asked if the political signs can be taken down.

Mario Cimino – 46 S Morton Ave. discussed the chief having a car; the current cars should be put to use for the police chief. He also discussed the parking issue, and wondered if the batteries were in and were the meters operational. Mr. Cimino also announced that he was concerned about the traffic signal and wondered about any settlement with SEPTA. He felt the situation was an emergency.

Donna Claiborne- 212 Walnut Street – she was against the speed bumps, speeding isn't the issue, people do not stop at stop signs. She was very concerned about speed bumps for the fire trucks and ambulances.

COMMITTEE REPORT

PUBLIC FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE

Ms. Johnson reported the ARPA Small Water and Sewer Grant – contracts will be advertised May 1 and bids will be received May 21st.

Ms. Johnson reported on the Morton-Rutledge Road program, work is scheduled to begin early May.

Ms. Johnson reported that a cost estimate is being prepared to replace the signal. An initial scoping meeting was held on April 19 with PennDot and SEPTA> Morton is exploring grant opportunities, Penndot Red Light Enforcement, DCED – Multimodal Transportation fund is due on July 30, 2024,with no match. A PennDot Green Light-go (GLG) Program opens in the fall 2024 (20% match).

Traffic calming Measures-Althea Lane & Walnut Street

It was determined that on Althea Lane, there should be Speed humps near the addresses of both 27 Althea as well as 113 Althea Lane, both directions, and on Walnut Street, speed humps at 27, 109, 205 and 237 both directions.

Mr. Federico, the consultant also added that there should be a stop bar –on Maple Avenue.

The Mayor reported that the Fire Department had expressed concern with speed humps for the emergency vehicles.

Removal of Decorative Lighting-Country Lane Basin

A report came in regarding decorative lights being placed by residents of the Country Lane basin, it was also reported that they have since been removed because of complaints received.

DCIU -200 Yale –Land Development escrow of \$154,089.50 will be forthcoming.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Clark-Dickerson reported that the banking services were awarded to Republic Bank. Action will be taken before the end of the month to move Citadel money over, and open a new purchasing card. We are seeking permission also, to re-advertise for the position of full-time public works assistant, and the possibility of hiring a full-time; or part-time administrative assistant.

Mrs. Clark-Dickerson also reported that they would be soon opening up the Junior Councilperson program again.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ms. Miller reported that we are looking for dates to hold a Civil Service meeting.

Parking Kiosks

Discussion was held regarding replacing the old meters with kiosk system.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITATION & RECYCLING

Ms. Roberts reported there would be a backyard composting program on April 30, 2024. Registration is required; an 82 gallon bin will be given out.

Shredding

Ms. Roberts reported that a shredding event and e waste event would be held April 27, 2024, from 9-12 a.m.

Ms. Roberts reported that we would be holding an Earth Day event soon on a Saturday, to clean up our neighborhoods.

LAW & ORDINANCE

Ms. Miller reported on the revisions to Ordinance 731 to address parking issues. Particularly the issue ongoing at Silver Lake Terrace and Country Lane.

The Dog leash law, is ready for adoption on May 8, 2024 regular public meeting.

Ms. Miller reported on an ordinance that is being looked into for cars abandoned on public streets.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Eagar announced that he has created a new Facebook page.

Juneteenth event

There will be a Juneteenth event; to be held June 15, Saturday from 12-4. We request volunteers to help.

Movie Night will be schedule June 28 – the movie is to be announced at a later date.

Blood Drive – Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled to be held Tuesday, 9-17-24 from 2-7 p.m.

Morton 5K Run – This event is scheduled for October 5, at 9:00 – hosted by Run the Day.

Teens for Positive Empowerment will be holding a Senior Citizen dance on June 15, 2024 from 7-10 p.m. There will be dinner, dancing. Reply by June 8th for tickets.

PARK AND RECREATION

Mr. Stubbs had Manager Stewart remind all that the Goats will be arriving in Morton for a month beginning May 11, 2024 – to eat the poison ivy. We will also be re-foresting the natural species in Sycamore Wood and also Jacob's Park. Mr. Stubbs would like to see a senior walking area or a senior chessboard area at Jacobs's park. Mr. Stubbs floated the idea of collecting \$3.65 from each resident and business, beginning January 2025.

MAYOR REPORT

Mayor Hammock reported that the Amazing Grazing Goats will arrive on May 11, 2024 around 12:00 noon. On May 5th, the fire department in conjunction with the Hang out snack shack will donate a portion of their proceeds to the Morton Rutledge Fire Department

OPEN DISCUSSION

Jackie Guy – 635 Country Lane- commented on basin project; the recent complaint about lights. She was angry as well as other residents that these lights had to be removed.

Michael Lee – 123 W Sylvan – Wishes the street lights could be improved; they are either poor or non-existent and are getting worse. Mr. Lee commended Mr. Stubbs – stated that more youth are coming from dysfunctional homes and that kids should be taught thing such as how to deliver a baby.

Bill Heffner – 571 S Old Middletown Rd – FEA owner – regarding the Juneteenth event, anyone is welcome to put up signs advertising the event, on his property.

Ray Guy – 635 Country Lane – Concerned with the mail issue, and suggested maybe a central mailbox for the residents of the area.

Charles Lillicrapp-114 Locust Road – questioned if there would be a stop sign at Althea for the calming issue. He also questioned the dog dropping issue on the new leash law.

Mario Cimino -46 S Morton – questioned the change in employment – hope we are not paying benefits for part-time work.

Chris Nelson – 1011 Kedron Avenue – Summer Jam is July 28 – we need sponsors.

ACTION ITEM

Mrs. Dickerson made a Motion to approve the implementation of traffic calming measures at Walnut Street and Althea Lane. Ms. Johnson seconded the Motion. Roll call: Councilor Eagar-yes, Councilor Johnson-yes, Councilor Michelle Miller-No, Councilor Michele Roberts-No, Councilor Walter Stubbs-yes, Vice President Dickerson-yes, President Shaunta Miller-yes. Motion carried 5-2.

After announcing the upcoming meeting dates, and action items for next meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Preston, Secretary