

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
March 5, 2024**

The meeting was held in Borough Hall with the following members present:

David Appelbaum
Michele Share
Uri Feiner

Jared Stump
Caroline Thompson

Kim Segal-Morris
Don Carlson

Council member(s) not in attendance:

Also in attendance were Chief Kelly, Borough Manager Paula Johnson, Engineer Patrick Foley, and Solicitor Andrew Griffin.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Caroline Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Gather Place – Women's History Show and Tell Weekends. Various activities on Saturdays and Sundays in May. Please sign up on the Gather Place Website

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Kim Rock, 10 N. Edgewater. Asking Council to consider a short-term rental ordinance so that rentals can be done legally and responsibly. Ms. Thompson addressed the resident indicating that changes to that ordinance are currently being considered and worked on.
- Jonathan Woodring regarding Yardley Golf Course. Will be discussed later in the meeting.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED March 5, 2024

- A. Approval of Minutes Dated February 20, 2024
- B. Event Permit – Easter Egg Hunt 3/30 Buttonwood Park
- C. Event Permit – Easter Egg Drop Hunt 3/1/-3/31 Various Locations in Town
- D. Event Permit – AJ Ride for Autism – 9/7 Various Locations in Town
- E. Lennar – Yardley Walk Financial Security Release No. 1

Ms. Thompson moved Item E from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Feiner to approve the Consent Agenda, Items A-D, dated March 5, 2024, which is seconded by Mr. Carlson.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

A motion was made by Ms. Segal-Morris to approve the Lennar Yardley Walk Financial Security Release No. 1, which was not seconded. The motion dies on the floor.

This issue will be moved to Discussion Items later in the meeting.

VII. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Police service statistics for February 2024:

In February 2024, the Police Department responded to 549 calls for service, issued 7 parking tickets, issued 74 moving traffic citations, and investigated 5 traffic accidents.

VIII. FINANCE REPORT

Consideration to Accept the March 5, 2024 Finance Report

Consensus was granted.

IX. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Johnson presented her monthly report.

- Audit is about complete
- RFP for Professional Services to work on Comprehensive Plan sent to interested firms.
- North Main Street was closed for several hours for a fallen tree. Thanks to emergency responders.
- Hit and run collision with a period streetlight. Insurance claim has been submitted. Approximately 10k repair
- RTKs have increased recently
- Zoning – 8 received, 3/25 ZHB meeting
- Two notices of violation for Borough AirBnbs
- New building for Yardley Service Center, submitted to Engineering
- \$68,799 Liquid Fuels received
- Tax bills have gone out

Mr. Appelbaum spoke about the time involved in responding to RTK requests.

A. Resolution 24-02 Disposition of Records

A motion was made by Ms. Segal-Morris to approve Resolution 24-02 Disposition of Records, which is seconded by Ms. Sharer.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

B. Approval of Voting Delegate for PSAB

A motion was made by Ms. Segal-Morris to approve Paula Johnson as Voting Delegate to the PSAB, which is seconded by Mr. Feiner.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

X. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- A new elevation project is opening on Friday.

Mary Yardley Bridge Update

Working on getting clean fill to elevate the path. Source was found and hoping to start construction in the middle of March. Hopefully, it will only be one week of work to have the canal path closed to complete the work.

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Conversation this week with PECO's solicitor. Survey is complete and the easement exhibit has been drawn. Agreement should be received by the end of this week with intention to close by the end of this month.

XII. MAYOR'S REPORT

May 1st – Carry the Load

XIII. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. Kim Segal-Morris– Public Safety Chair, General Government Member, Experience Yardley, Yardley Makefield Fire Company

Experience Yardley – working on using the grants they have received

Music on Main is scheduled – using grant money to build this event

Spreading word as far as DC about visiting Yardley

B. Uri Feiner– Public Works Committee Chair, Planning Commission

- The ramp has arrived for Mary Yardley Bridge and the installation is being coordinated.
- Main/Afton - Lights being programmed to increase safety for pedestrians. Public outreach regarding the change in how the new timing will work. Details about the timing will be provided by the Engineer.
- Sidewalk Phase 3 – Partial grant for Phase 3 – asked for an extension pending news about other grant funding.
- Crosswalks – Clarification of information on the crosswalk near the Old Library on Afton.

C. Don Carlson– General Government Chair, Community & Economic Development

Member, Sewer, Zoning Hearing Board

Nothing to report

D. David Appelbaum– Community & Economic Development Chair, Public Works

Member, Historical Architectural Review Board, Environmental Advisory Commission

- Working on sponsorship for repainting/redesign of the railroad bridge. A sponsor may have been found. Stay tuned.
- Working on cooperation between various boroughs for business and economic development.
- Bob Harvie – supportive of working with Yardley
- Women's History Month – Increase in percentage of women-owned businesses in Yardley. A news release will be published celebrating this increase.
- Representative from Spearhead/Project Earth – Jared Culligan. Addressed Council regarding grant project adjacent to the Veteran's Memorial on Delaware Avenue "Hidden Gem of Yardley." All work is covered by a grant and in-kind donations.
 - April 1st -7th – Clearing brush and prepping for a native plants garden which will help with storm runoff.

- April 21st – Community ribbon cutting
- Spearheadprojectearth.org/volunteer - find out about the dates and sign up to help.
- A question was raised about existing trees and maintenance/trimming and can Borough help with these costs?

E. Michelle Sharer-Public Safety Member, Community Outreach Member, Shade Tree, Human Relations

Nothing to report

F. Jared Stump– Community Outreach Chair, Public Works Member, Yardley Business Association, Parks & Recreation

- Parks and Rec – A lot of fun events are planned. Golden egg drop every Friday. Send the kids out to search for eggs which contain gift certificates to local businesses.
- Yardley Farmers Marker will return to the Borough in May.

XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Abrams Hebrew Academy – Project is currently under appeal from a YB resident but that does not prevent the project design and construction from continuing. Consideration of an agreement with the Yardley Country Club to grant a drainage easement for use of an existing drainage channel for stormwater management. Ms. Thompson would like Council to provide a letter of support.

Council granted consensus to send the letter.

Jonathan Woodring, 14 Van Horn, asked if the letter will be available for public viewing. It will be available once the letter is approved.

- Lennar Yardley Financial Security Release No. 1

Engineer Foley reviewed the history of the project. This is a partial release. All maintenance going forward will be the responsibility of the homeowners' association.

Mr. Carlson, resident of Yardley Walk and long-standing board member, offered his perspective of the history of the project. The Association has not had time to review the release document. Council would like 30 days to review the release document. Mr. Griffin offered to reach out to Lennar to request additional time for Council to review.

Jack Brewer, 69 Creekview and Yardley Walk Board. Addressed Council in support of additional time for HOA to review the release document.

Ms. Thompson sets a 30-day review period with consideration at 4/2/24 business meeting.

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Feiner motions to adjourn at 8:58, which is seconded by Ms. Sharer.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean