

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting
December 7, 2021**

The meeting was held in Council Chambers with the following members present:

Caroline Thompson	Uri Feiner via phone	Kim Segal-Morris
David Bria via phone	Matthew Ross	John McCann
Matt Curtin		

Council member(s) not in attendance:

Also in attendance were Mayor Chris Harding, Chief Joseph Kelly, Borough Manager Paula Johnson, Engineer Pat Foley, and Solicitor Ernest Closser

I. CALL TO ORDER –Caroline Thompson, Vice President

The meeting was called to order at 7:31.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michele Sharer – Friends of Lake Afton will hold a sale of Yardley-related gifts on 12/11 from 2-5 at the Community Center. All proceeds support the activities of the Friends of Lake Afton.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Michele Sharer – 31 N. Main. Requests Council to investigate installing rumble strips on N. Main to slow traffic particularly around the bend in the road near the lake. Public Safety will take up this question.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED December 7, 2021

A. Approval of Minutes Dated November 16, 2021

B. Bills List Dated December 7, 2021

C. Certificate of Appropriateness 21-34 – 180 South Canal Street – Roof

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda dated December 7, 2021 is made by Mr. Ross, which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris.

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

VII. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Police service statistics for November 2021: The department handled 519 calls for service, issued 1 parking ticket, issued 61 moving traffic citations, investigated 11 motor vehicle accidents, and made 2 arrests (2 for DUI.)

- The recent coat drive collected 200 coats and other items to benefit folks in need.

- Bucks Blue Radio show – 12/21 at 1pm. Tune in to learn what is happening with Bucks Co law enforcement.

VIII. MANAGER’S REPORT

- Doors on Borough Hall being installed this week.
- Great turnout for parade. Thanks to all for making it a great event.
- No trash collection on Christmas Day or New Year’s Day.
- First meeting in 2022 will be on Monday January 3, 2022, which is a reorganization meeting.

A. Budget Discussion and Vote

Two budgets have been presented, one presupposing receipt of a grant for Mary Yardley Bridge and one without a grant. The difference represents \$100,000. A discussion followed regarding how the bridge will be paid for out of capital reserves if a grant is not received, timing implications of the two options, and potential start dates for the project. For purposes of the vote, Budget A represents the proposed budget with a grant and Budget B represents the proposed budget without a grant.

Mr. Curtin motions to adopt Budget B which contemplates moving forward with the project sooner and utilizes funds from capital reserves with the understanding that a grant opportunity will still be pursued, which is seconded by McCann.

Don Carlson – 14 Creekview. This is a conservative budget with no tax increase this year. Mr. Carlson asks for more clarity around the assumptions made when creating the budget and suggests check-ins in May and September to note where things stand with respect to inflation. Mr. Curtin – Notes that the few variable costs in the budget are reflected with a 3% cost increase. Mr. Carlson – Asks what are the key capital projects for 2022 and if pockets of money are available later in the year what projects can be moved quickly to start. Mr. Bria – Notes that capital reserve is different from capital projects. Mr. Feiner – Notes the need to be mindful about costs and inflation and not to expect that those increases are going to go away. Future council needs to consider smaller incremental tax increases.

A roll call vote was held:

McCann Y
 Segal-Morris Y
 Curtin Y
 Ross Y
 Feiner Y
 Bria N
 Thompson N

B. Resolution 21-12 – Tax Rates for 2022

Mr. Curtin motions to approve Resolution 21-12, which is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

IX: ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Mary Yardley Bridge Engineering Drawings – supplementing PHMC with latest information.

- North Main Street Sidewalk Phase II
Need approval from PennDot in order to send project out to advertise. Have been waiting 8+ weeks for approval.

- FEMA elevation projects – Will issue a schedule.

X. PROJECT UPDATES – Covered in Engineer's report

- A. Mary Yardley Bridge
- B. PECO Property
- C. North Main Street Sidewalks – Phase II and Phase III

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

XII. MAYOR'S REPORT

XIII. COUNCILMEMBER REPORT

A. Matthew Curtin – Environmental Advisory Commission, Reading Avenue Committee
Nothing to report.

B. Matthew Ross – Public Works Committee, Planning Commission
Nothing to report.

C. Kim Segal-Morris – Public Safety Committee, Human Relations Committee, TTN
Airport Updates
Nothing to report.

D. David Bria – Sewer Authority
Nothing to report.

E. Caroline Thompson – General Government Committee, Parks & Recreation Board

Nothing to report.

F. John McCann – Community & Economic Development Committee, Historic & Architectural Review Board, North Main Street Traffic Committee, Shade Tree Commission

Notes that the LMT Pool is considering raising rates for Yardley Borough residents.

LMT will be voting on this next week, 12/15.

Mr. Bria – LMT did not work collaboratively with the Borough on this change and the Borough should stay aware of changes to shared services like this from the LMT because some of these decisions could have big effects on Borough residents.

Mr. Feiner – Asks to consider adding a formal liaison between LMT and the Borough.

Mr. Bria notes that in the past LMT has not been open to this.

G. Uri Feiner – Community Outreach Committee, Experience Yardley

Nothing to report.

Mr. Feiner – Volunteers to keep the Visiting Yardley part of the website up to date once he cycles off Council. He asks to consider making that a formal volunteer position in the future.

XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

XV. OTHER BUSINESS

Chief of Police 2022-2025 Contract – Ms. Segal-Morris

Ms. Segal-Morris moves to approve a new contract for Chief Kelly, which includes among other items, increased holiday time, added educational allowance, 5% pay increase year over year, and other provisions that bring the contract in line with the other full-time officers. The motion is seconded by Mr. Ross. A vote was held, and the motion passes 7-0.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ross motions to adjournment to Executive Session at 8:15, which is seconded by Mr. Curtin.

Submitted by,
Mary Ann McLean