

**Yardley Borough Council Meeting  
February 7, 2023**

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

Kim Segal-Morris  
Matthew Curtin

Caroline Thompson  
Don Carlson

David Appelbaum  
Uri Feiner

Council member(s) not in attendance: John McCann

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

I. CALL TO ORDER – Caroline Thompson, President

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Council Committees will be chaired as follows: Community and Economic Development, Mr. McCann with Mr. Appelbaum on committee; Public Works, Mr. Feiner with Mr. Carlson as sidewalk project manager and Mr. McCann as MYB project manager; Community Outreach, Mr. Appelbaum with Ms. Segal-Morris on the committee; Public Safety, Ms. Segal-Morris with Mr. Curtin on committee; General Government, Mr. Curtin with Mr. Carlson on committee.
- Liaison positions will be as follows: Human Resources, Ms. Segal-Morris; Yardley Business Association, Mr. Appelbaum; Experience Yardley, Ms. Segal-Morris; Yardley-Makefield Fire Company, Mr. Curtin; HARB, Mr. McCann; Shade Tree, Mr. McCann; EAC, Ms. Segal-Morris; Parks and Rec, Mr. Appelbaum; ZHB, Mr. Carlson; Planning Commission, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Feiner; Sewer, Mr. Carlson
- Yardley Events
  - February 4th and 5th, 11th and 12th, 18th and 19th: Gather Place Museum Exhibit About Yardley Borough 1682 to Now 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM  
And: Historic Yardley Borough's Hidden Figures & Facts in Plain Sight 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM 188 South Canal Street [www.gatherplace.org](http://www.gatherplace.org)
  - February 11th: Second Saturday in Yardley 8:00 AM – Midnight - Various Businesses in Downtown Yardley [www.experienceyardley.com](http://www.experienceyardley.com)
  - February 11th: The Yardley Historical Association's Quarterly Book Swap 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Old Library by Lake Afton [www.yardleyhistory.org](http://www.yardleyhistory.org)
  - February 25th: Harriet Tubman Live at Gather Place Museum! Shirley Lee Corsey as Harriett Tubman - a REENACTMENT-THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD & THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM

- Susan Taylor – Yardley Historical Association
  - It is membership renewal time for the Yardley Historical Association. Asks Council members and staff to please renew membership or become members
  - Read A Book, Take A Look book discussion being held 2/28
  - Walking tours of downtown Yardley beginning in April
  - Exterior of Library being painted this year
- Fred Rabena –
  - Winter Restaurant Week ended Sunday and was very successful
  - Yardley Distillery – Announcing limited release Bleed Green Vodka celebrating the Eagles. Press will be in Borough 2/8 to profile the distillery

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA DATED February 7, 2023

A. Approval of Minutes Dated January 17, 2023

Mr. Appelbaum motions to approve the Consent Agenda dated February 7, 2023, which is seconded by Ms. Segal-Morris.

A vote was held, and the motion passes with a vote of 5-0-1, with Uri Feiner abstaining.

B. Event Permit Yardley Farmers Market – Buttonwood Park – 2023 Full Year Event  
Yardley Backyard Movie Night- Friends Meeting 5/13, 6/10, 7/8, 8/12

C. Certificates of Appropriateness

23-3-65 East Afton Avenue – Sunroom

23-4-142 S. Main Street – Roof

23-5-24 S. Main Street – Sign

23-6-24 S. Main Street – Sign

D. Appointments to Borough Boards and Commissions

- Emily Davis Parks and Recreation – Term Ending 12/31/25
- Zachary Bark EAC – Term Ending 12/31/25
- Michelle Sharer EAC – Term Ending 12/31/23
- Zachary Bark - Planning Commission – Term Ending 12/31/26
- Gail Posey HARB – Term Ending 12/31/24
- Emily Davis Human Relations Commission – Term Ending 12/31/25

VII. POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Thank you to Borough Staff, Police, Community, and Mayor for support and attendance at the sentencing hearing for the Chief’s shooter.

Police service statistics for January 2023. The department handled 582 calls for service, issued 47 traffic citations, investigated 4 motor vehicle accidents, and made 2 arrests, 0 for DUI.

VIII. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Consideration to Accept the February 7, 2023 Finance Report  
Consensus was granted.

B. Resolution 23-02 Disposition of Records

20 boxes will be shredded according to Borough's record retention policy.

Mr. Curtin motions to approve Resolution 23-02, which is seconded by Mr. Carlson.

Dr. Perlmutter - Questions the destruction of records while lawsuits are pending.

Borough Solicitor agreed that the Borough is complying with its records retention policy and that no documents set for destruction have been requested to be preserved for litigation.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 6-0.

C. Resolution 23-03 Tax Certification Fees

Mr. Curtin motions to approve Resolution 23-03, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum.

New charges for tax certificates are \$25 per parcel/\$5 for tax duplicate

A vote was held, and the motion passes 6-0

IX. ENGINEER'S REPORT

A. Consideration to Advertise for Bids 77 Morgan Avenue Elevation

Ms. Segal-Morris motions to advertise for bids for 77 Morgan Avenue, which is seconded by Mr. Carlson.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0-1, with Mr. Feiner abstaining.

B. Consideration to Advertise for Bids 112-114 Morgan Avenue Elevation

Ms. Segal-Morris motions to advertise for bids for 112-114 Morgan Avenue Elevation, which is seconded by Mr. Carlson.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0-1, with Mr. Feiner abstaining.

C. Consideration to Advertise for Bids 106-110 Morgan Avenue Elevation

Mr. Curtin motions to advertise for bids for 106-110 Morgan Avenue Elevation, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0-1, with Mr. Feiner abstaining.

D. Consideration of Payment Certificate No. 3-33 Brown Street

Ms. Segal-Morris motions to approve Payment Certificate No. 3 for 33 Brown Street in the amount of \$46,100.18, with \$3,646.26 held for retainage, which is seconded by Mr. Carlson.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0-1, with Mr. Feiner abstaining.

E. Consideration of Payment Certificate No. 2-33 Brown Alternates

Mr. Curtin motions to approve Payment Certificate No. 2 for 33 Brown Street Alternates in the amount of \$7,069.17, with \$404.32 held for retainage, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum.

A vote was held, and the motion passes 5-0-1, with Mr. Feiner abstaining.

X. PROJECT UPDATES

A. North Main Street Sidewalk – Phase II

Paving will take place in April when temperatures are consistently above 40 degrees.

- B. Mary Yardley Bridge  
Bridge is on schedule in manufacturing and installation target for April is on schedule.

XI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

State bidding requirements have been updated for 2023. New requirements: Contracts greater than \$22,500 must go through formal bidding process. Contracts greater than \$12,300 require a minimum of 3 bids.

XII. MAYOR'S REPORT

None

XIII. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

- A. Kim Segal-Morris – Public Safety Committee, Human Relations Committee, Public Safety – Plate readers at Main/Afton being installed.  
Two part time vacancies on committee.  
Police motorcycle will be delivered next month.  
Continuing talks with ambulance service providers.

Experience Yardley – Two ducks being installed soon and there will be a 5/15 dedication ceremony.

Bands are lined up for Music on Main for the summer/

A LMT resident joined the meeting to discuss Pride month.

- B. Uri Feiner - Public Works Committee, Sewer Authority, APO  
N/A

- C. Matt Curtin – General Government Committee, YMFC  
General Government – Next meeting will be 2/24

- D. John McCann – Community & Economic Development Committee, Historic & Architectural Review Board, Shade Tree  
n/a

- E. David Appelbaum – Community Outreach Committee, YBA, Parks and Rec  
TAG – Towns Against Graffiti – Committee of 2 (Mr. Appelbaum and Dr. Perlmutter)  
Operating expenses for the work come from grants and there is a \$1500 membership fee. Will seek sponsorship to pay for the membership fee.  
The program involves cleaning up graffiti, power washing, and a collaborative police component.  
The program will need a change of ordinance if project moves forward.

- F. Don Carlson – ZHB, Sewer  
No report

- G. Caroline Thompson – Planning Commission  
No report.

#### XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. DCNR Delaware Canal Towpath Bridge Rehabilitation and Emergency Management  
Pre-2011 DCNR applied for a grant to widen aqueduct. The project has languished. Larson Design Group for DCNR is inquiring if Borough wants to resurrect the project.

A discussion was held about granting consensus to DCNR to proceed with attempting to get approval to widen the aqueduct to 10ft from 6.5 feet to allow EMS access in high water events.

Regardless of whether or not consent is given, work will be done on the aqueduct to repair it.

Council needs to decide if they feel project is worthy or not.

Susan Taylor – Spoke against the widening of the aqueduct which would disrupt the character of the canal. A rescue requiring a large ambulance has never been needed in past floods.

Council asks to see considerations for making the opening smaller than 10ft and see plans and additional information. Council requests additional information in order to make a recommendation at the next meeting.

- B. Market Study of Police Budget and Alternate Considerations

Ms. Segal-Morris, on behalf of the Public Safety Committee, made a formal statement on the issue of budgeting for police and alternative policing ideas.

A lengthy discussion was held between Council, Chief Kelly, and several community members on matters of budging, financial analysis, contract obligations, the benefits or local policing, and other matters.

Ms. Thompson asked for a motion regarding further action. No motion was entertained.

- C. Minutes for Committees of Council

Ms. Thompson related that committees of council are not required by law to keep minutes of meetings. She requests that chairs of committees please keep concise notes on matters of a substantive nature discussed in committees.

#### XV. OTHER BUSINESS

#### XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Segal-Morris motions to adjourn at 9:17, which is seconded by Mr. Appelbaum. A vote was held, and the motion passes 6-0.

Submitted by,  
Mary Ann McLean