



6:00 Executive Session – Personnel, Litigation

The Morrisville Borough Council met on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 7:07 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Morrisville Municipal Building, 35 Union Street, Morrisville, PA for a Regular Council Meeting.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

All those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

The following Council members and Borough officials were in attendance:

Borough Council: Bob Paul, President
Helen Hlahol, Vice President
Andrew Lubin
Jason Manness
Carletha Murray (via phone)
Kathryn Price Engelhard
Scott Robinson
Nancy Sherlock

Borough Officials: Judith Danko, Borough Manager
Brud Anderson, Mayor
Scott Holbert, Solicitor
Virginia Cyphers, Assist. Borough Secretary

Mr. Paul stated, before we proceed to announcements and presentations I would like to make a motion to amend tonight's agenda to include a new action item 8E which is a call for a motion to approve layouts submitted to Council for four murals to be painted on the snack bar at Williamson Park.

Motion made by Mrs. Sherlock and seconded by Ms. Price Engelhard.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

Motion carried by roll call vote 6-2. (nay votes being Ms. Hlahol and Mr. Lubin)

3. Announcements and Presentations

- Mr. Paul announced that Borough Council had an executive session before tonight's meeting to discuss Personnel and ongoing Litigation.

Mr. Holbert stated, please be advised the litigation matter that was discussed in on the agenda for this evening, it involves a potential Zoning Hearing Board involving 70 E. Bridge Street.



4. Public Comments

1. John Ceneviva – *467 Stockham Avenue*

He stated that he was asked in September of 2021 to become part of the MEDC, he submitted his request and became their Secretary. He spoke about the MEDC and stated that they are moving in the right direction due to the efforts of Robin Reithmeyer. One of their goals is to get organizations promoting Morrisville, to communicate and cooperate so that we can make Morrisville a destination for those seeking history, food and beverage, affordable homes, entertainment, business and the natural beauty of the river and the canal. He urged Council to reappoint Robin Reithmeyer to the MEDC.

2. Susan Perry – *233 Stockham Avenue*

She invited everyone to the Morrisville Senior Center for the Community Breakfast tomorrow from 9-10:30 and on January 21st for their Soup and Chili, the cost is \$7.00 from 12-3 p.m.

3. Don Rice – *Morrisville Resident*

He stated, the he had a point of order regarding the two openings on the MMA along with the people who have submitted letters of interest. He feels that the last MMA seat was announced less than two weeks ago and it is not advertised on the Borough website.

Mr. Holbert stated that there's no required notice period for these. It's entirely been your policy, your discretion on how you advertised and done them, there is no legal requirement for these positions.

Discussion ensued regarding advertising for the MMA openings.

Mr. Rice read from his appeal for the Right to Know about the levee certification. He requested the preliminary Levy certification report. He urged all of Council to ask for a copy of the report and read it and decide for themselves what the health of the Levy is. He urged residents of the Island and homes North of Williamson Park on the Levee side of Delmorr Avenue to request a copy of the report they have the right to know the health of the Levy if their life and property is at risk.

4. Kathy Panzitta – *401 Hillcrest Avenue*

She wanted to know if Council was going to elaborate on 8C of the agenda, she asked if it was additional work. She thanked John Later and whoever was involved with getting the sound/music back on Comcast. She stated that when Council is talking and the camera is on all of them they appear very small on the screen and it's hard to understand their voices and distinction, she asked them to be more cognitive and more specific when speaking about someone or to someone. She wished everyone a Happy New Year because she ran out of time last meeting.

There being no further public comment, the President proceeded to the business portion of the agenda.



5. Approval of Minutes

5A-C. Motion to approve the Borough Council Budget Meeting/Special Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2022, November 22, 2022 and November 30, 2022.

Motion made by Mrs. Sherlock and seconded by Mr. Robinson.

No discussion took place regarding the motion.

Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.

6. Finance

6A. Treasurers Report

The Treasurer's Report was provided in the Council packets.

6B. Approval of the Bill List

Motion to approve the bill list and pay the bills.

Motion made by Mr. Robinson and seconded by Mr. Lubin.

No discussion took place regarding the motion.

Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.

7. Reports

7A. Mayor's Report

Mayor Anderson thanked everyone for being here. He wished everyone a Happy New Year. He congratulated Bonnie, the new Manager of the Senior Center. He encouraged people to support the Senior Center and attend their upcoming events. He stated that there is an election coming up and encouraged anyone that is interested to pursue it. He reminded everyone that he is always available if they need him.

7B. Police Chief's Report

Chief McClay reported that Lew Halas' paperwork is in and on the Managers desk. He sent in paperwork for Lew to start taking classes for three weeks that start in June, from there Lew will have to do 70 inspections to be fully certified, plus the additional class they are giving. There is a lot of training involved in this. He stated he will be able to do this if the manpower is sufficient enough to handle the radio calls for the coverage on the street or it would be a lot more overtime. He talked about the homicide on Lenora Avenue, there is a lot of work still being done and it's still under investigation. He stated that the Hookah Lounge is starting to get busy again. He reported that two tickets were issued for the accident involving 1 truck under the railroad.

Mayor Anderson stated that tomorrow night there is an EDC meeting at the Library at 7:30 and generally they are not open to the public but this one is so if you are interested please try to make it.



7C. Manager's Report

Manager Danko wished everyone a Happy New Year. She reported that the grant with the RDA and the County was approved for 2 more police vehicles. She thanked everyone who was involved with all that hard work. She reported that they are still continuing to work on the Bridge Street Project and they are waiting for the information for the new grant that they are trying to acquire for the engineering. She announced the new businesses in town at 101 Washington Street, About Time Auto Detailing Salon, Twilight Kombucha Tea Company, Skin by Taylor Personal Service and 650 West Bridge Street is office space, it's called Cars for Less Outlet. She stated that they are very proud to announce that they are continuing to bring businesses to town to flourish our Bridge Street area.

7D. Committee Reports

- **Parks and Recreation Committee**

Ms. Price Engelhard stated the next Park and Recreation meeting which are always open to the public is scheduled for next Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. The topic of discussion will be allowing alcohol for special events in the park. She reported that she's reached out to several different businesses in town and they've been really supportive.

Mrs. Danko reminded everyone on Council and anyone from the public that wishes to have an event to provide all information and applications to Borough staff at Borough office 30 days in advance of any event. She encourages everyone to please follow through with the process it makes things much easier for the staff. She also stated anything that you would like to be involved with the agenda is due the second Monday prior to the meeting, our agenda gets created, we have a draft agenda the Tuesday prior to the meeting so we have to have every request and all of this information the second Monday prior to the meeting, we are always working ahead. She greatly appreciates everyone understanding the timeline that the Borough has and the times that they need to follow through with.

Ms. Price Engelhard stated that we are one of the few Boroughs that do not have that application online and suggested we put forms and applications on the Borough website.

8. Action Items

8A. Motion to appeal a Zoning Hearing decision regarding 70 East Bridge Street, Morrisville. Motion made by Mrs. Sherlock and seconded by Ms. Price Engelhard.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

Motion failed by roll call vote 3-5. (nay votes being Ms. Price Engelhard, Mr. Manness, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Paul and Mrs. Sherlock)

8B. Motion to approve entering into a one-year agreement with Hough Associates to collect and submit the 2022 Recycling Performance Grant data for \$4,000.

Motion made by Ms. Hlahol and seconded by Mrs. Sherlock.

No discussion took place regarding the motion.



Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.

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- 8C.** Motion to approve the Borough Manager's execution of 2023 service agreement with Tom Josiah, Consulting, LLC to assist with Borough accounting.
Motion made by Ms. Hlahol and seconded by Mr. Lubin.
Discussion took place regarding the motion.
Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.

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- 8D.** Motion to approve payment #1-Final, dated 1/3/2023, regarding 2022 CDBG Curb Ramp Program in the amount of \$202,400.00 to T. Schiefer Contractors, Inc.
Motion made by Ms. Hlahol and seconded by Mr. Lubin.
Discussion took place regarding the motion.
Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.

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- 8E.** Motion to approve layout submitted to Council for murals to be painted on the Snack Bar at Williamson Park at no cost to the Borough.
Motion made by Ms. Price Engelhard and seconded by Mrs. Sherlock.
Discussion took place regarding the motion.
Motion carried by roll call vote 7-1. (nay vote being Mr. Lubin)

Council Committees/Board & Commission Appointments:

Morrisville Economic Development Corporation: Two 3-year term appointments expiring 1/21/2026. (Letters of interest from Joan F. Diretto-Weik, John DeWilde and Robin Reithmeyer)

Mrs. Danko stated that she was asked by the EDC to provide an email that came through late informing Council members and the Mayor that Hussam Jallad's resignation for MEDC was taking place immediately and they asked if Council would fill this position quickly so this was in everyone's packet and it was also emailed to everyone immediately as soon as it came in so I'm not sure if Council would like to deal with that this evening.

Discussion ensued regarding appointing 3 MEDC positions instead of 2.

Motion to amend the MEDC motion to add a third appointment, so it would be three 3-year term appointments expiring 1/21/26.

Motion made by Ms. Hlahol and seconded by Mr. Lubin.

Discussion took place regarding the motion.

Motion carried by roll call vote 6-2. (nay votes being Mr. Paul and Mrs. Sherlock)

Nomination of Robin Reithmeyer for the term expiring 1/21/26 made by Mrs. Sherlock.

Vote to appoint Robin Reithmeyer to the MEDC carried by roll call vote 6-2. (nay votes being Mr. Lubin and Mr. Paul)

Nomination of Joan Diretto for the term expiring 1/21/26 made by Mr. Robinson.

Vote to appoint Joan Diretto-Weik to the MEDC carried by roll call vote 7-1. (nay vote being Mr. Paul)



Nomination of John DeWilde for the term expiring 1/22/25 made by Ms. Hlahol.

Vote to appoint John DeWilde to the MEDC carried by roll call vote 7-1. (nay vote being Mr. Paul)

Environmental Advisory Council: Two 3-year appointments. One term expiring December 19, 2025, and one term expiring January 21, 2026. (Letters of interest from Mary Hrenda and Bruce Stevens)

Nomination of Mary Hrenda for the term expiring 12/19/25 made by Mrs. Sherlock.

Vote to appoint Mary Hrenda to the EAC carried by roll call vote 6-2. (nay votes being Ms. Hlahol and Mr. Lubin)

Nomination of Bruce Stevens for the term expiring 1/21/26 made by Mr. Robinson.

Vote to appoint Bruce Stevens to the EAC carried by roll call vote 5-3. (nay votes being Ms. Hlahol, Mr. Lubin and Mrs. Murray)

Zoning Hearing Board: One 3-year appointment expiring January 2, 2026. (Letters of interest from Peter Berkin, Hussam Jallad and Suzanne Zukowski)

Nomination of Suzanne Zukowski for the term expiring 1/2/26 made by Mrs. Sherlock.

Discussion took place regarding the nomination.

Vote to appoint Suzanne Zukowski to the Zoning Hearing Board carried by roll call vote 6-2. (nay votes being Ms. Hlahol and Mr. Lubin)

Morrisville Municipal Authority: Two 5-year appointments. One expiring January 2, 2028, and one term expiring January 22, 2024. (Letters of interest from Helen Hlahol, Jane Burger and Joan Doretto-Weik)

Nomination of Helen Hlahol for the term expiring 1/2/28 made by Helen Hlahol.

Vote to appoint Helen Hlahol to the MMA failed by roll call vote 3-5. (nay votes being Ms. Price Engelhard, Mr. Manness, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Paul and Mrs. Sherlock)

Nomination of Jane Burger for the term expiring 1/2/28 made by Mr. Paul.

Vote to appoint Jane Burger to the MMA carried by roll call vote 8-0.

Nomination of Helen Hlahol for the term expiring 1/22/24 made by Mr. Robinson.

Vote to appoint Helen Hlahol to the MMA carried by roll call vote 6-2. (nay votes being Ms. Price Engelhard and Mrs. Sherlock)

9. Other Business

Mr. Paul announced that there is one appointment open for an alternate for the remainder of the 6-year term on the Civil Service Commission expiring December 16, 2025 and we also have the alternate for the Zoning Hearing Board open.

Mrs. Murray left the meeting (via phone)



10. Borough Officials

- Mrs. Sherlock thanked the residents who decorated for the holidays this year no matter what holiday they decorated for a lot of people went all out and I think it just shows that there are a lot of people out there that do have pride and care and we're grateful for that. She asked Mrs. Danko about Pastor Taylor's inquiry last month regarding the fire inspection and whether that has been satisfied.
- Mrs. Danko replied that it was reported to code and they were going to follow through.
- Mrs. Sherlock asked if residents have a house with two or three apartments are they subject to this, do they need a knock box?
- Mrs. Danko stated she would have to review the ordinance.
- Mrs. Sherlock asked how the gas boy was going.
- Mrs. Danko replied that it's going well.
- Mrs. Sherlock asked if there was any movement on the roof.
- Mrs. Danko replied yes, they are working with the architect.
- Mrs. Sherlock asked if this body would consider looking into if there were grants available for electrical vehicle infrastructure and we've talked about this before having some charging stations and I'm just wondering there are grants available and I'd just like to see some progress and let us move a little bit forward.
- Mrs. Danko replied, this was an item that I did review and I haven't found anything that does not require a match and at this point we had decided that we weren't going to apply for anything that needed a match, we were going to stay focused on the Williamson Park Grant and the grants that we have currently and follow through with those grants and then eventually we would look for more so I have not found anything that would not require a match.
- Mrs. Sherlock stated, if I find one that doesn't require a match –
- Mrs. Danko replied, I would certainly be happy to help. I have written several grants that did not require a match, the pickup truck with the salt spreader and plow which we received, the police car, so yes anything that does not have a match as long as Council is amenable for me to entertain that I would be happy to help.
- Mrs. Sherlock asked, are we getting reports from Portnoff about our garbage, because we used to get them?



- Mrs. Danko replied, yes we do. All of the items that we do get when you see the financials you'll see that those items are incorporated in there so if you see delinquent sanitation you know that's coming from Portnoff so there's no need to provide reporting or items of that nature or accounts or anything of that nature because you're seeing that in the financials.
- Mrs. Sherlock asked, are all of those just from Portnoff or do people just come in and say look I still owe you \$500.00 and they pay it though?
- Mrs. Danko replied, anything that's delinquent goes through Portnoff.
- Mrs. Sherlock stated, I don't know if this is something that Barry Isett could do but we used to get a report that would tell us the expense versus the cost and we did get that from Keystone last year, now I'm not a proponent of Keystone, I'm fine with Barry, I'm just saying it was something that they would give us it was expense versus cost and they would give us an analysis not every month but say every six months to know how much that's going out how much is that costing us. We're getting money in but there's no sign of separation.
- Mrs. Danko replied, certainly I can ask if they can accomplish that. I don't want to speak negatively but I don't believe those prior reports are accurate from what we were going over.
- Mr. Paul asked, we're just talking about adding up every all the revenues we get from their fees and licenses against what we're paying them to do the service? It sounds pretty simple.
- Mrs. Sherlock stated, it sounds simple I know the UCC gets \$4.50 or something so you take that out.
- Mrs. Danko stated, we have Isett doing many more items than we had Keystone doing. We have them working on other items that we did not have Keystone working on.
- Ms. Hlahol asked, what would the purpose of this report be?
- Mrs. Sherlock asked, wouldn't we like to know?
- Mrs. Hlahol replied, well we have to have code and we're not a money maker so we're never going to have more revenue than what it's going to cost us.
- Mr. Paul replied, it's no reason not to –
- Mrs. Sherlock stated, it's no reason not to know.
- Ms. Hlahol stated, I'm just wondering why you wanted to see it that's all.
- Mrs. Sherlock stated, this is a fiduciary body that has to pay attention to what's for spending what we're sending out.



- Ms. Hlahol stated, we see their expenses on a monthly basis on the financials.
- Mrs. Sherlock replied, we do.
- Mr. Paul stated, more information is never bad.
- Ms. Hlahol stated, I'm just asking why she wanted that report.
- Mrs. Sherlock asked, we have a finance meeting next week is that right, Andrew?
- Mrs. Danko stated, Andrew and I had just spoke about that, we're most likely going to cancel the first Finance meeting of the year.
- Mrs. Sherlock stated, the owner of the fireworks store is charged for the pond and he's been struggling with it, he is convinced there's a leak coming from the canal. I spoke to the Delaware Canal about it and they said that they have no record of that, they've tested the water. He's all ready to just fill it in. I know we don't own it but I'm not sure I want if filled in. I'd like to make it a feature versus a parking lot.
- Mrs. Danko stated, I apologize I'm not with the understanding, is this a storm water pond?
- Mrs. Sherlock replied, it's the pond downtown behind the 7-Eleven and I was wondering about the owners down there, do they have any visions?
- Mrs. Danko stated, you just can't fill in a pond there's DEP and there's all types of items that you would have to go through. I'm not sure what's being discussed, I have not heard from the owner of the fireworks store at all so I don't know anything about it.
- Mrs. Sherlock stated, I don't think he's talked to anybody in charge, let's put it that way.
- Mrs. Danko stated, I'm sorry what was your question?
- Mrs. Sherlock replied, I was just wondering if the new owners of the shopping center have any visions about revamping it, changing it, painting it, I don't know, I know it has new owners.
- Mrs. Danko replied, we haven't heard anything of yet.
- Mrs. Sherlock replied, probably status quo. Thank you.
- Ms. Hlahol stated, I'd like to say down on Philadelphia Avenue and South Pennsylvania Avenue there is a restaurant that opened it's been open for quite a while it's going on almost a year, it's called the Bird's Nest and I'm just going to give them some kudos the food is very good and their



prices are reasonable. Go try them out. I think they're open for breakfast. I was talking to the owner she said that her daughter is in marketing and she's going to start doing some things but they're not quite there yet but it's very nice and quaint inside. In the back they're working on a takeout so that will be nice as well for the neighborhood.

- Mayor Anderson stated, I have a quick correction I was just informed by somebody on the EDC Board that tomorrow's meeting is not open to the public and I see somebody here on the Board nodding their head to that. With that being said, I will be attending the meeting so if anybody has something they'd like me to ask or get back to them on feel free to give me a call anytime tomorrow but I just wanted to make that correction because I just got it in real quick.
- Ms. Price Engelhard stated, it was invited guests as I understood it and it's to talk about a community calendar of events and that's why I was invited.
- Mayor Anderson stated, the person I asked earlier said it was open and then I just got that text so we got the tie breaker right here.
- Ms. Hlahol stated, I have one more thing I just wanted to say that PennDOT has been in touch with us and they are moving forward to put the 25 mile and hour speed zone down on South Pennsylvania Avenue and then they're going to be working on painting that right on the street so that the trucks can see it from up in their cab. I know that they've been working with the Borough Manager so I'm not sure, they said early spring so I said is that February and they laughed, said yes. Hopefully it's sooner than April so I'll be looking forward to that. People in the First Ward get used to driving 25 miles an hour we don't want our officers ticketing you.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Sherlock and seconded by Mr. Manness.

Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

<https://www.morrisvillepagov.com/meeting-videos/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzExJTWAwwk>