



Ms. Hlahol stated I'd like to give a moment of silence to one of our retired officers who was with Morrisville Borough for 43 years, starting in 1981, and just retiring in March of 2024. We want to give his family our deepest condolences and it's Officer Ross DaLessio.

1. Pledge of Allegiance Recited

2. Roll Call

Elected Officials:

- Helen Hlahol, President
- Scott Robinson, Vice President
- Melissa Johnson (via phone, left meeting 7:38pm)
- Marie Kelso
- Dennis Kinney
- Andrew Lubin
- Luke McKee
- Kathryn Price Engelhard
- Gary Wallace, Mayor

Borough Admin/Officials:

- Jim Dillon, Interim Borough Manager
- Scott Holbert, Solicitor
- Rich Ciampa, Chief of Police
- Virginia Cyphers, Assistant Borough Secretary

Mr. Dillon stated earlier today it was brought to my attention that the agenda was not posted on the Borough's website as required by Pennsylvania Sunshine Law. Upon notification the agenda was uploaded immediately. Unfortunately, a member of the Borough staff was out on medical leave and the check to see if the agenda was properly uploaded fell through the cracks, there was no intention of the Borough or this council to hide items on the agenda, this was a clerical administrative error. After discussion with the council, we decided to still hold the meeting as there may be people in attendance who are here for specific items on the agenda. We will hold an additional vote at our next Borough Council meeting to reaffirm all the votes made here this evening to ensure we are in full compliance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law. We apologize for this oversight but in the interest of respect to all we felt this was the best way to accommodate people's schedules rather than cancel tonight's meeting.

3. Community Announcements/Presentations

- a. The Borough's 2025 Road Paving Project.
Jacob Rigg, Gilmore & Associates update on the Road Paving Project. All roads have been milled, then there is a base repair that happens in between milling and final paving which identifies if there are any soft or weak spots in the subbase of the pavement section which takes some time to address. At the beginning we had a lot of rain which paused the paving. As of today, all roads have been milled. All roads below Bridge Street have been paved, we are working up through Ward 2. Those roads should take another two or three days.
- b. Fish Lane. Looking for donations of old rods and reels for kids 70 E Bridge Street
- c. Summerseat partnership update
- d. 200 N. Pennsylvania Ave – YMCA land development - Carrie Nase, Fox Rothschild
Motion to approve Resolution Granting Preliminary/Final Land Development approval to River Crossing YMCA for the Land Development Application for 200 N. Pennsylvania Avenue.
Motion made by Mr. Robinson and seconded by Ms. Price Engelhard. *No discussion took place.*
Jane Burger – W. Maple Avenue supports the renovations and enhancements that are being proposed. It improves the care for the little ones that go there and the curb appeal.
Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.



e. Summerseat presentation by George Washington AKA Sam Davis

4. Community Outreach

a. Board Openings: email letters of interest to Office@MorrisvilleBoro.org
Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) / Library Board

5. Council Discussion Items

a. Misinformation to residents

6. Engineer Report/Gilmore & Associates, Jacob Rigg – gave an update on the Manor Park playground, mulch was installed last week, they are starting on the additional work on the storm pipe, weather has held them up from digging and excavating. By the first week of July, they will have a final walkthrough and then possibly have a ribbon cutting grand opening for the kids. Announced three funding sources from the county that will pay for the Senior Center parking lot, as a CDBG grant engineering is not covered. On the geotechnical investigation of the parking lot, looking to collaborate with the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority as they own the Cloverleaf site, and they had to do environmental remediation. They are putting out bids this week for the Sallyport that will be installed at the police department.

Chief Ciampa spoke about the Sallyport, the purpose is to drive into the Sallyport when bringing a prisoner in closing the door behind you. This way when you open the door to remove the prisoner there's no chance of escape or injury to the officer or anyone else. Conversely when leaving we would bring the prisoner out of the building into the Sallyport, secure them in the car and drive out. It is required for us to become a central booking center, and enhances safety for the community and officers.

Jacob Rigg gave an update on the Levy. FEMA had a minor comment it is on the agenda to update the emergency action plan. They requested we include coordination and communication with DCNR related to the canal and the wastegate overflow. The re-adoption resubmission is the last outstanding comment to get the accreditation of the levy. He gave a presentation on the S. Pennsylvania Ave. Traffic Calming Study.

7. Borough Manager Report/Mr. James Dillon –asked Jacob for a proposal at next month's agenda to implement the Senior Center parking lot improvements. If you look at the engineers report on page two item four, when they printed this the only money that we had in our pocket was the \$415,000 from CDBG funds but late yesterday the Chief Executive Officer of the County and thus the County Commissioners came up with the extra funding . As of yesterday we were able to get the whole \$700,000 estimate for that project, now we just need to proceed with the engineering so if we can get that proposal to council so they can consider it next month. With the help of Virginia and Dawn we've gotten the funding in place for the road program, we've got the signoffs from the state and the banks and everybody else and again through the funding mechanism that's being helped by the County Commissioners also, Bob Harvey right now our interest rate variable is at 3.5% it's not at 15% or anything near that so I think we are in a good position.

8. Solicitor Report/Scott Holbert – prior to tonight's meeting council met in executive session where matters of police personnel and a litigation matter were discussed.

9. Police Chief's Report/Chief Ciampa – announced National Night Out is August 5th this year from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at Borough Hall. It is a night where the community and local businesses have a chance to interact with the police and have a good time. Regarding the road program they have had some complaints regarding the signage and had to tow a couple of cars because they were on the streets that had signs for no



parking. Asked residents to look out for the signs, there is a map, and a key of what streets are coming next. He suggested speaking with Jacob to modify the approach to removing the cars if it is a problem that persists. They do not want to remove a car with a tow truck because it is an expense to the vehicle owner and occupies the officer's time. He acknowledged the leadership of Corporal Halas and Sergeant Aspromonti, they have stepped up especially with the staffing issue being that it is vacation season and they are filling shifts. He wants to remember and honor the career of Officer Ross DaLessio. He's been described as gentle, polite, and professional. He was well liked, 43 years, that's not a career, that's two careers, he has the Chief's ultimate respect. Officer DaLessio did patrol, he was an investigator, he did truck enforcement and left a positive mark in the MPD, the Chief would like to thank him for his work and his time and offer condolences to his family and to anybody in the community that knew him.

10. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of bill list from 5/1 to 5/31/25 in the amount of \$520,258.27.
- b. Approval of closing Dieter Avenue from noon until 8:00pm on Saturday, August 23, 2025, for a Birthday party.
- c. Approval for the Borough to co-sponsor two "Pool Party" events held at the Morrisville Dog Park from 12pm to 3pm on; Sunday, July 20, 2025 (rain date July 27) and Sunday, September 21, 2025 (rain date September 28). No cost to Borough.
- d. Call for Resolution for amendment of Morrisville Borough's Act 537 Plan for additional sewer facilities at 351 W. Philadelphia Avenue.
Motion made by Mr. McKee and seconded by Ms. Kelso.
Discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

Gene Haas, Clean Rivers LLC, stated that they are going to donate \$3,000 to Summerseat for the Washington Rochambeau trail to Yorktown plaque and the new facility will donate about \$250,000 a year to the Borough of Morrisville. For the MMA, they will receive probably a million dollars a year.

11. Action Items

- a. Motion for the Borough Engineers for a proposal for a Feasibility Study regarding construction of a municipal parking garage within the Borough as well as analysis of potential locations, estimated costs, and grants available for such a project.
Motion made by Mr. Robinson and seconded by Ms. Price Engelhard.
No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.
- b. Motion to authorize Gilmore & Associates, Inc. to prepare and submit a grant application through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) for the traffic calming improvements identified in the Gilmore and Associates "S. Pennsylvania Ave Traffic Calming Study".
Motion made by Mr. McKee and seconded by Mr. Lubin.
No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.
- c. Motion to authorize Gilmore & Associates, Inc. to prepare and submit a grant application through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) for the replacement of the traffic signal at N. Pennsylvania Ave & Trenton Ave.
Motion made by Mr. Kinney and seconded by Ms. Kelso.
Jane Burger – W. Maple Ave., asked for clarification on how this will make it a better traffic signal.
Jacob Rigg – explained that in 2019 and 2021 it was only partial funding around \$344,000 and the cost estimate to completely upgrade that signal to today's standards and meet all the PennDOT codes is



around \$600,000 so we're going for the gap funding to close that gap and officially replace the signal so that's what this next grant application will be for.

No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

- d. See item 3D.
- e. Motion to approve payment for the purchase of the playground equipment for the Manor Park Playground project in the amount of \$147,719.50 to General Recreation, Inc. through COSTARs. Motion made by Mr. Lubin and seconded by Mr. Robinson.
No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.
- f. Motion to approve the Application for Payment #2 for the Manor Park Playground Improvement project, in the amount of \$99,514.80, to Premier Builders, Inc. as recommended by Borough Engineer. Motion made by Ms. Price Engelhard and seconded by Mr. Kinney.
No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.
- g. Motion to reimburse Co-Responder fuel expenses equally with LMT and Yardley Borough, (one third) not to exceed \$300 per calendar year (\$150 for the remainder of 2025). Motion made by Mr. McKee and seconded by Mr. Kinney.
No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.
- h. Motion to repeal the older version of an adopt the amended Emergency Action Plan for the Morrisville Flood Protection Levee. Motion made by Ms. Kelso and seconded by Mr. McKee.
No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 7-0.

12. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

1. Peggy Walsh – Stockham Ave., spoke about Imagine Morrisville's presentation from last month's meeting, she was surprised they did not mention any of the arts that are already a part of Morrisville such as the Actor's Net theater and murals such as Capital View School Building, the former snack shack at The Island, the underpass by the dog park, done by local artists and the community. She feels there is little support from this council for events at the park and hopes the \$50,000 grant to study bringing art to Morrisville will work on what we have in town already and that the council will recognize our park is a perfect showcase for all these arts.
2. Gary Taylor – Hamilton Blvd., spoke about a U&O he submitted two Fridays ago that took 10 days to be finalized, longer than it used to take. He feels the new rental program is delaying the process and the inspection list is now three pages when it used to be one.
3. Jane Burger – W. Maple Ave., sent in the inspection form and \$100 and went over the inspection checklist with her tenant. The inspection took half an hour and only one smoke detector needed to be replaced. The inspector was very professional and thorough. She has not raised her rent in 7 years, and she does not plan to. She had a positive experience with the inspection process.

Ms. Hlahol stated Imagine Morrisville is their own private organization and they received funding without the Borough's help. Whatever their plans are as a private organization is up to them. When you are speaking about the budget there is a budget, but it is up to council's discretion how that money is used.

Mayor Wallace stated Tom and Ellen Wisnosky are on the board of the Actors Net and support it 100%. This was about bringing another part of the arts into the borough.

Ms. Hlahol announced Thursday, June 19th is Juneteenth and The Borough and MMA will be closed. The tax collector is coming back to the borough and her tax hours start July 7th are: Mondays 11-1, Tuesdays 5-7, and Fridays 9-12. She also has a new phone number which should be on the new bill.



13. Mayor Comments – congratulated the MHS class of 2025 and wished graduates the very best as they embark on their next journey in life. Special shoutout to Anna from Grandview Elementary who completed first-grade with perfect attendance, he presented her with a certificate of achievement. The weekly Mayor Run was paused for Father’s Day; he wished all the dads in the community a happy belated Father’s Day. The next run will be Sunday, June 29th at 10:00 a.m. Thanked everyone for their participation in the Morrisville Moves it has been a joy watching it grow. Announced he has the flag that honored local hero Chief Petty Officer Richard D. Costello, a Morrisville native who gave his life and service to our country. The flag will be displayed around Patriots Park as a tribute to his sacrifice and remember his bravery and dedication. We are going to keep this going each year in partnership with the Elks. He wanted to take a moment to recognize Juneteenth to reflect on the importance of freedom, resilience and equality, I encourage everybody to take time to honor this day and celebrate the progress we’ve made and the work we continue to do towards a more just and unified society.

14. Council Member Comments

Ms. Price Engelhard: announced this Friday will be our first movie in the park, I want to thank Compass and Solid Rock Youth Center for the screen and providing the movie. It is free, bring your blanket, lawn chair and bug spray. The next event is on June 28th, our first Rock and Roll Festival at Williamson Park, we will have yard games, bring a picnic basket, and enjoy a day of music and fun with your family.

Mr. Kinney: thanked Peggy Walsh for having the courage to come out and speak at the council meeting. The Facebook post and I hate to go back to this, the full post while your portion was kind that post was disturbing at best to say that we grandstand each other and pat each other on the back.

Peggy Walsh created a disturbance by repeatedly interrupting and yelling from the audience, prompting Chief Ciampa to intervene and restore order.

Mr. Kinney: I am sorry Peggy, but you have read verbatim from the post, again thank you for having the courage to come to the council meeting and say it directly to us but we do not need to divide each other. All I am trying to say is Facebook is dividing Morrisville. I am not calling you out, I thank you for having the courage to read the post. I do not like what I see, it is a great town, we are trying to do great things, that is all I have to say.

Ms. Hlahol: stated Facebook has been posting one-sided comments that do not reflect all the work that this council is putting in and trying to improve the town, so I commend you Dennis for speaking up.

15. Adjournment at 8:56 p.m.

<https://www.morrisvilleboro.org/index.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4rYybsLkVo>