



1. Pledge of Allegiance Recited

2. Roll Call Elected Officials

Helen Hlahol, President  
Scott Robinson, Vice President  
Deborah Colgan  
Marie Kelso  
Diane Lanahan  
Anna Langer  
Shawn Ratti  
Peggy Walsh  
Gary Wallace, Mayor

**Borough Admin/Officials:**  
Jim Dillon, Interim Borough Manager  
Scott Holbert, Solicitor  
Rich Ciampa, Chief of Police  
Virginia Cyphers, Assist. Borough Secretary (absent)

**Ms. Hlahol** stated council had an executive session. There are agenda changes, Motion 8A should say Economic Development Corp. We are adding an agenda item. **Mr. Holbert** stated we have an item to add regarding the police contract negotiations completed last night and labor council sent this morning. Need a motion to add the Memorandum of Understanding between Morrisville Borough and the Borough of Morrisville Police Association for a three-year extension of the collective bargaining agreement.

Motion to amend the agenda made by Ms. Kelso and seconded by Mr. Robinson.  
*No discussion took place.* **Motion** carried by voice vote 8-0.

3. Community Announcements/Presentations

- a. The Borough received a grant in the amount of \$182,686 through the DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) for the N Pennsylvania Ave & Trenton Ave Traffic Signal Modernization project.
- b. The Borough received a grant in the amount of \$813,472 through the DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) for the S Pennsylvania Ave Traffic Calming Improvement project.
- c. Semi-Quincentennial Proclamation (read by councilmembers)

**Agenda Public Comment**

Jane Burger – W. Maple Ave. supports item 10C regarding 70 East Cleveland Ave. She reviewed the five factors that qualify someone to be eligible for a variance and feels not met.

4. Engineer Report/Gilmore & Associates, Jacob Rigg –

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Applications:** Three applications on February 6th. Two applications were recycled from last year that were not awarded. Library renovations (interior/exterior painting and floor replacement) - \$148,265. Curb Ramps (64 ramps along Hamilton Blvd, Glenside Ave, Osbourne Ave, & Prospect Ave) - \$500,000. W Palmer St (stormwater improvements between Grandview Ave & middle/high school) - \$403,390. Should hear back late May/early June.

**Morrisville Lot Pavement & Drainage Improvements (AKA Manor Park/Senior Center Parking Lot):** Reviewed bids with the Borough and the County and decided on Base Bid: pavement remediation & drainage improvements and sidewalk replacement adjacent to senior center building. Project received 14 bids with award to G&B Construction for \$450,500 funded by grants. Should begin in April, with one to two months to complete.



**2026 Road Program:** 6.39 Miles across 32 Roads awarded to James D. Morrissey for a total project cost of \$1,181,412.32. This is the same contractor as last year - \$1,695,323.49 EOPC vs \$1,181,412.32 award (\$513,911.17). 90% of planned roadways complete. 80 roads total. 73 roads were planned, 66 completed at end of phase 2. Last year took about 1 full month from Construction start to our punch list, 5/30 to 7/1.

**Borough Trail Feasibility:** reviewed the feasibility of constructing a trail through grants. Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Regional Trails Program up to \$400,00 with no match and Trail must be part of the Circuit Trails network (ie the Canal, East Coast Greenway, etc); Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Greenways Trails and Recreation Program up to \$250K with a 15% match. A trail/ sidewalk study in 2018/2019 identified walking loops/paths.

**Borough Police Sallyport Project:** All site work is complete. HPT Systems working on cameras and 215Secure on security install.

**N Pennsylvania Ave/Trenton Ave Traffic Signal Modernization:** additional funding for this project has been secured. Per PennDOT, the Borough must solicit proposals for an engineering firm to complete the design of the project.

**N Pennsylvania Ave & Union St Bridge Replacement:** PennDOT will put out to bid later this spring but won't start construction until Fall/Winter 2026.

**Levee Accreditation & Construction Projects:** recommend that residents' insurance companies are likely to request a Flood Elevation Certificate, from a professional surveyor, to confirm the dwelling is outside of the base flood elevation.

**S Pennsylvania Ave Traffic Calming:** Grant NTP June 2026, Survey & Design 12-14 months, bidding 2 months, Construction 6-8 months, Completion Spring 2028

*Discussion took place.*

5. **Borough Manager Report/Mr. James Dillon** – no report.
6. **Solicitor Report/Scott Holbert** –Pennsylvania Borough Code calls for a position called vacancy board chair - a situation where someone cannot be appointed, meaning elected official, council member, mayor, tax collector. If there is a tie vote that could never be broken, the vacancy board chair would cast the tiebreaking vote. A few years ago voting for the mayor and round after round tie votes. There was no vacancy board chair and then someone switched their vote which resolved the issue. We are going to be soliciting interest and nominations at your next meeting.
7. **Police Chief's Report/Chief Ciampa** Sallyport punch list issues resolved. Submitted the reimbursement request to the central booking commission, for the purchase of the live scan and the annual fees. For anybody fingerprinted there is a fee in their court costs, which comes back to the jurisdiction that fingerprints them. Update on the Border Gentleman's Club back in August of 2024, the accused party was convicted and sentenced to a minimum of 30 to 60 years in state prison. Spoke about an incident/lockdown of the high school ten days ago due to a threat received by the school. *Discussion took place.*
8. **Community Outreach**
  - a. Nominations: **Economic Development Corporation (EDC):** - Two 3-year appointments, expiring Jan 2029. Letters of interest: Skip Woolston and Don Diretto  
Nomination of Don Diretto made by Ms. Colgan.  
Nomination of Skip Woolston made by Mr. Robinson.  
**Motion** to appoint Don Diretto passes by voice vote 8-0.  
**Motion** to appoint Skip Woolston passes by voice vote 8-0.  
*Discussion took place.*



## 9. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes from 1/5/26 and 1/20/26.
- b. Approval of Bill List from 1/01 to 1/31/26 in the amount of \$417,460.00.
- c. Approval of Morrisville Borough Co-Sponsored CAC Easter Egg Hunt, Apr 4, 10:30 to noon at Patriots Park, rain, or shine – cancelled if torrential. No cost to Borough.
- d. Approval of Morrisville Little League annual Opening Day Parade and ceremonies on Saturday, April 11, rain date April 18, 2026, starting at 10:00am.
- e. Approval for the Borough to participate in the Bucks County Health Department Annual West Nile Virus Program.
- f. Approval to adopt resolution authorizing the submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for the Morrisville Public Library Renovations in the amount of \$148,265.00.
- g. Approval to adopt resolution authorizing the submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for construction of ADA/PennDOT compliant curb ramps at various Borough intersections in the amount of \$500,000.00.
- h. Approval to adopt resolution authorizing the submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for construction of stormwater management improvements on W Palmer Avenue between Grandview Ave and Morrisville Middle/High School in the amount of \$403,390.00.

Motion made by Mr. Robinson and seconded by Ms. Kelso.

*Discussion took place.* **Motion** carried by voice vote 8-0.

## 10. Action Items

- a. Approval of the Morrisville Business Association Car Show (MBA) with no cost to Borough residents; to be held on Saturday, May 9 from 4pm to 8pm (rain date May 16) and approval of portions of Washington Street on both sides of East Bridge Street closure from 4pm to 8pm. Contingent on MBA working with Chief of Police and Borough staff to coordinate street closure/activities and approval from PennDOT of E. Bridge Street closure.  
Motion made by Mr. Ratti and seconded by Ms. Langer.  
*No discussion took place.* **Motion** carried by voice vote 8-0.
- b. Approval of Mutual Agreement with Morrisville Municipal Authority.  
Motion made by Ms. Kelso and seconded by Mr. Robinson.  
*Discussion took place.* **Motion** carried by voice vote 8-0.
- c. Approval of Authorizing the Borough Solicitor to intervene on behalf of Morrisville Borough for the Zoning Hearing Board Appeal filed by Martin Blank for the property located at 70 East Cleveland Ave.  
Motion made by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Ms. Lanahan.  
*No discussion took place.* **Motion** carried by voice vote 8-0.
- d. Approval to award the Morrisville Lot Drainage & Pavement Improvement project (aka the Senior Center/Manor Park Parking Lot project) to G&B Construction Group for all items in the Base Bid plus Alternate Bid 1, for a total project cost of \$450,500.00. The Borough received grant funds through Bucks County to cover the construction costs associated with the project.  
Motion made by Ms. Lanahan and seconded by Ms. Kelso.  
*No discussion took place.* **Motion** carried by voice vote 8-0.
- e. Approval to award the 2026 Morrisville Borough Road Program to James D. Morrissey, Inc. for a total amount of \$1,181,412.32 for all roads included in the Base Bid. This project will result in approximately seven miles of roads to be resurfaced within Wards 3 and 4 of the Borough. A



comprehensive list and map of all roads being resurfaced will be available on the Borough website.  
Motion made by Mr. Ratti and seconded by Mr. Robinson.

*No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.*

- f. Approval to authorize Gilmore & Associates, Inc. to evaluate feasible trail locations within the Borough and explore grant opportunities through the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Regional Trails Program, Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program, or other funding sources for design and construction of a trail.

Motion made by Ms. Langer and seconded by Ms. Colgan.

*Discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.*

- g. Approval of the Application for Payment #3-Final for the Police Sallyport Construction project, in the amount of \$22,503.28, to R&S General Contractors, Inc. as recommended by Borough Engineer.

Motion made by Ms. Kelso and seconded by Ms. Colgan.

*No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.*

- h. Approval to adopt resolution for the PennDOT Policy and Procedure Consultant Selection per the requirements of the PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Funds for the N Pennsylvania Ave & Trenton Ave Traffic Signal Modernization.

Motion made by Mr. Ratti and seconded by Ms. Lanahan.

*No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.*

- i. Approval to adopt resolution authorizing the Borough Manager or Council President to execute the necessary agreements with PennDOT associated with the N Pennsylvania Avenue bridge replacement.

Motion made by Ms. Colgan and seconded by Ms. Lanahan.

*No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.*

- j. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough of Morrisville and the Borough of Morrisville Police Association to Adopt a 3 Year Contract Extension in the Form Presented.

Motion made by Ms. Kelso and seconded by Mr. Robinson.

*No discussion took place. Motion carried by voice vote 8-0.*

**Ms. Hlahol** stated we did not have time to put this on the agenda, new car for the police department - the old car is a 2014 and it has 88,000 miles.

#### 11. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

1. Linda Myer – Hamilton Blvd., thanked for Library millage increase. Gave a report on the library.
2. Robert Douly – resident, spoke about his issues on the handling of the school incident. Speaking with the Chief and the Mayor, put him at ease.
3. Gary Lee Taylor – Hamilton Blvd., thanked MMA for his emergency call. Asked to remember his friend Gary Matthews who passed away. Spoke about the rental program.
4. Holly Harman – Plaza Blvd., expressed concern about councilperson wearing AirPods during a meeting and its use in executive session (breach of the confidentiality).
5. Megan Little – resident, addressed members of council/mayor and stated they do not represent the Democratic party. She made political statements and escorted out by Chief Ciampa.

**Mr. Holbert** explained public comment is not a public forum. It is a limited forum to discuss issues as residents/taxpayers relating to council. Not a time to bring up political statements or slogans. You can criticize council for their work, but bringing politics in is not allowed - not what public comment is for. You can disagree with policies, state your unhappiness, but talking about purely political things is not what public comment is for and that is why she was not able to continue.

6. Michael Touch – S. Pennsylvania Ave. spoke about the traffic on S. Pennsylvania and the need to have an extra officer just for traffic.



## 12. Council Discussion Items

**Ms. Hlahol:** reviewed the event process; council does not initiate putting items for events on the agenda. Event organizers come in and fill out an event form and the office will add to the agenda. If it's a straightforward event, the office deals with it.

**Ms. Colgan:** would like to discuss whether the borough would be interested in co-sponsoring events that way the organizers could then plan on whether or not they have borough support.

**Mr. Holbert:** explained it is the same process since 2020 where we ask people take their event applications to the staff who look at the calendar and makes sure it works. We had a situation last year where council put something on the agenda prior to the event application and they chose a date already taken by another event. We need to have order to what we are doing, or we create those situations again. By going to the staff first, getting your event application paperwork in, choosing a date, knowing where the event is solves that problem and we do not have the problem we had last year - council took a vote on something where application paperwork was not put in and the date for the event that someone wanted to hold had already been taken by another group who submitted the paperwork.

*Discussion took place regarding event process, borough sponsorship for events, and porta potties.*

**Ms. Walsh:** wants to look into the cost of providing a permanent porta potty at Williamson Park.

**Ms. Kelso:** asked if it would benefit us to keep the restrooms open at certain times during the day.

**Mr. Later:** the borough did have porta potties through November 2 years ago, there was a borough event and they were left there. Does not feel the borough should be paying for porta potties at the park.

**Ms. Colgan:** feels the borough could get a porta potty cheaper and asked if we could look into the cost.

**Ms. Hlahol:** suggested Debby make phone calls and get back to council.

**Mr. Robinson:** stated if you can get porta potties for \$250 a month, he would be the first one to vote for that. Also, this is the local level we need to get that kind of nonsense out of our local politics. We are neighbors, there's Democrats, there's Republicans, there's independents and libertarians, but there's neighbors. That right there is an example of how you do not treat your neighbors.

**Ms. Hlahol:** spoke about the items on our agenda have nothing to do with Democrats and Republicans and you can support your party but on council you should be the party of Morrisville, that is exactly what I am.

**Mr. Ratti:** are there are requirements that require them to supply a porta potty?

**Ms. Hlahol:** large events. The application states the number of people before you need to get a porta potty.

**Ms. Colgan:** not asking for public comment to be moved to the beginning, it was non-agenda topics. She announced they were having a Parks and Rec Resident meeting Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

**Mr. Holbert:** spoke about council committees made up of councilpersons, always ad hoc at the pleasure of the council president who decides who serves on them. Committee are not required and eliminated a few years ago largely because no one was involved with the committees and they weren't meeting.

**Ms. Colgan:** spoke about her committee interests; asked if more council members were interested, would you consider restarting them?

**Ms. Walsh:** Spoke about her committee interests; feels it gives the public more chances to participate and come to the meetings.

**Mr. Robinson:** asked if the committee meetings are going to solidly have a room that looks like this or like two or three people like they always did? We started a Policy and Ordinance Committee, and nobody came, where are all these people in the public that want all this stuff?

**Ms. Walsh:** replied, we should provide it for people, you never know who/when they may come.

Community committees are a good idea and if you decide to have them I would like to be on three.

**Mr. Ratti:** dependent on the people who are running the committees to try and actively go out and help to encourage people to come out. If people are willing to host these and willing to meet the people.



**Mr. Robinson:** if people are willing to come out for Committee meetings to get involved and after the nonsense we saw tonight, I do not think people would be banging down the door saying I want to get involved to get treated like that.

**Ms. Kelso:** spoke about asking residents if they want committees. get a list going see what your reaction is going to be, it's up to the public, it's not up to us.

**Ms. Colgan:** I will get you a list, how many people do you want a list of?

**Mr. Holbert:** Explained about committees. We told you what the procedure was, there is nothing that a committee does that this group of eight cannot do themselves. Gave example from the Policy and Ordinance Committee that was a failure. Explained why it was a failure with the committee saying "well we don't really know, send it back to the solicitor" and I would spend a month trying to figure out what was wanted and not wanted eventually just to come back to the entire body. Tonight, we had someone talk about a zoning issue, someone gave a report on the library, someone talked about the incident involving the school and the parent notification and involvement with the police, someone thanked the MMA as well as expressing disagreements with our rental ordinance, someone talked about council conduct and someone talked about traffic and truck issues on S. Pennsylvania Avenue. This forum is here for everything you are describing. You have what you need in our view as a solicitor and as in your council president's view of how committees were established or should not be established. Everything you are asking for can be done in this meeting in this setting right here.

**Mr. Ratti:** Disagrees, it is three minutes not a discussion.

**13. Mayor Comments** – extends warm wishes to all who celebrate Chinese New Year. Thanked resident and police along with the leadership and staff of the Morrisville Borough School District for their continued commitment to keeping the children safe. Spoke about the school threat and swift/professional response of police and school personnel, investigated and determined to be nothing serious. Our Chief met with school leadership and together they will continue to work towards strengthening our process and communication to ensure the highest level of safety and security for students, staff, and families.

**Ms. Hlahol:** a Philadelphia realtor analyzed the surrounding areas around Philadelphia and put together a top ten list of up and coming towns, and Morrisville was number one. Video is on borough website, it talks about a lot of things that make a town succeed and what makes a town desirable. I hope we can continue doing what we are doing so people will want to live here.

**14. Adjournment** at 9:10 p.m.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WxYgceKxO0>