



BOROUGH OF YEADDON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOROUGH COUNCIL CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

Rohan K. Hepkins, Mayor	Present
LaToya Monroe, President	Present
Liana Roadcloud, Vice President	Present
Nicole Beaty	Present
Michael Trent	Present
Jessie Peets	Present
Antoinette Truehart	Present
Learin Johnson	Present
Kilkenny Law, Solicitor	Present
Yolanda Hughes, Tax Collector	Absent
Joseph Viscuso, Engineer	Present
Nafis Nichols, Finance Director	Absent
Rafi Cave, Borough Manager	Present

III. CITIZEN'S FORUM

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hepkins reported on the following highlights from his report:

The Mayor's Forum held on September 11th had decent attendance. The key highlight was introducing the new Borough Manager, Rafi Cave, to the residents, as well as the new Code Director, Kyle Womack, who is present in the audience this evening. The flag was flown at half-staff in remembrance of 9/11, as observed across the country.

The accreditation process is about 80% complete, and we anticipate achieving full accreditation by the end of this year or early next year. Those are the main points I wanted to emphasize.

The next Mayor's Forum is scheduled for December 7th, and it will be the last one for the year. That concludes my report.

V. MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Cave reported the following:

We have a few new job postings: a full-time public works employee and a full-time front desk/receptionist role. These positions are now posted on the website.

Next week, we will consider the approval of two retirements and one termination, as well as the hiring of one part-time employee and a new full-time code officer.

We have a couple of fun events coming up. Councilwoman Beaty and our police department will provide more details on some of them. One highlight is our Fire Prevention Night on October 4th. This event is always well attended and very enjoyable. There will be demonstrations from our excellent fire department, and the American Red Cross will be present. Residents can sign up for free smoke detectors, with installation provided by the Red Cross. It promises to be a fun and informative evening.

VI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Ms. Briana Bryant reported the following:

First, I want to note that the Council met in Executive Session earlier today to discuss personnel and litigation matters.

In my report, our office has been addressing several issues for the borough, including reviewing multiple contracts and providing feedback to the borough manager. We have drafted stormwater and financial security agreements for the land development at 1100 Chester Avenue. Additionally, we are progressing with the litigation process involving Frankie Francis and are in discussions with his attorney regarding a potential settlement while continuing through the litigation if necessary.

We are also collaborating with Code Enforcement Officer Kyle Womack to advance the smoke shop ordinance. We have been in touch with both the Delaware County Planning Commission and the Yeadon Borough Planning Commission, who will provide feedback on the ordinance.

The proposed timeline is to move for a motion to advertise the smoke shop ordinance at the next meeting on September 19th, along with scheduling a public hearing for the October meeting. Finally, we have drafted a commercial truck parking ordinance for the Council to discuss and review.

VII. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Megan from Pennoni Engineering provided the following updates:

I'd like to begin with a report on Community Park. Earlier this week, we accepted bids for the project, and I sent out the bid tabulation today. The lowest bid was submitted by Ernell, a company familiar to the Borough and known for its good work with our Public Works department. The base bid came in at approximately \$220,000, with an alternate bid for repaving the Community Park parking lot at around \$32,000. An additional alternate for extra parking is priced at \$70,500, bringing the total potential cost to \$322,900. We aim to have a motion for approval next week. Funding for this project is provided by DCNR, the Stormwater Collaborative, and Delco Greenways.

There is also a new grant opportunity with a deadline of November 30th for improvements to properties owned by municipalities. This grant can support various enhancements, including those for parks.

Next, I'd like to provide an update on the McDade and Church construction. You may have noticed that work has begun, focusing on the ramps and setting up new equipment bases. Delivery of the new poles is expected soon, with the new mast arms arriving in January 2025. The one-way direction change is planned for December, and I will ensure ample notice is given to the public prior to this change.

Additionally, we are working on the MS4 annual report, which is due September 30th. The Stormwater Collaborative is assisting with public outreach and compliance. A copy of the report will be available for your records.

The road program contracts have been executed, and the packet has been submitted to PennDOT for review. We are coordinating with the contractor to schedule the work as soon as possible.

Two upcoming grant opportunities include an LSA application due November 30th, which is a broad grant allowing for various projects, including acquisitions and demolitions. If you wish to pursue another application for Community Park improvements, we can prepare a resolution for that in October. The second opportunity is a PennDOT multimodal grant due November 5th, which could fund projects similar to our previous submissions for Church and Myra. We could submit for the same project scope with multiple funding sources.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Ordinances and Zoning

Mr. Kyle Womack provided the following updates:

For the month of August, we issued 48 violation notices and 17 citations. We responded to 26 requests for action or complaints. Additionally, we issued six vehicle violation notices. In total, we grossed \$42,888 from borough permits, issuing 54 permits, all properly submitted and processed.

Regarding the 1100 Chester site, I visit daily. I spoke with the foundation contractors, who informed me that their portion should be completed within 15 days, allowing the project to move forward. I also addressed community complaints with the developer, particularly regarding tire markings on resident property. I communicated the importance of being mindful of resident property boundaries to those driving commercial trucks in the area.

While we saw a drop in the number of violations, the number of citations remained consistent. We've emphasized follow-up on violations, particularly with repeat offenders and nuisance properties, ensuring they are properly cited and abated.

B. Public Works

Mr. Mike Pozzuolo provided the following updates:

Yard Waste collection will be on September 13th, and E-Waste collection will be on September 27th from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM. Leaf season will begin on October 15th. Please ensure leaves are out on designated sweeper days.

Our Aqua projects have moved from Yeadon Avenue to Alfred, and they are also working on Patricia between Chester and Allen, as well as Herford Place. Please be patient as we coordinate closely with Aqua to avoid issues. Restoration on Yeadon Avenue is nearly complete, and repaving will commence shortly.

The gas project on the 900 block of MacDade Boulevard, West Cobbs, and Chester Avenue is complete and will need to settle before repaving. Additionally, the intersection work at Church Lane and McDade Boulevard, as mentioned by Megan, is in full swing and will continue for the next several months.

C. Public Safety

1. Police Department's Report

- For the month of August 2024 Yeadon Borough Police Department had responded to or prepared reports for 1,256 calls for service.
- There were 12 Criminal Arrests in the month.
- There were 5 Non-Traffic Citations Issued for the month.
- There were 50 Traffic Citations issued for the month.
- There were 876 Parking Tickets issued for the month.

Chief Giammarco provided the following updates:

This week, we had a memorable 9/11 bike ride that passed through town and continued to Rose Tree Park. I had the honor of attending the 9/11 ceremony there. Additionally, we are excited about the upcoming second annual Trunk or Treat event, which will take place at Rapp Curry Athletic Complex Field on Saturday, October 26th, from 5 PM to 7 PM. We had great success last year and hope to double our participation with 40 available spots this year.

Regarding grants, from January 2023 to now, the police department has secured a total of \$191,769 in grants. Recently, we received a \$5,000 Delaware Interactive Gaming Grant, with \$4,000 allocated for our body cam system and \$1,000 for "swag bags" to distribute at community events like National Night Out and Trunk or Treat.

Yesterday, I received confirmation from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) that we were awarded a \$35,000 grant to upgrade our reporting system for the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), covering equipment and officer training. Additionally, we secured an \$86,965.33 grant for safety equipment to enhance borough safety.

In total, since early 2023, we have received \$313,734 in grants, thanks to the hard work of the police department and the support of the Council, Mayor, and other officials, including Senator Williams and House Speaker Joanna McClinton, who provided letters of support.

D. Recreation

Councilor Beaty shared the following updates:

First, we will be hosting a Veterans Day brunch on November 9th. We invite the community, especially those who have served, to join us for this event. Veterans are dear to my heart, with several in my family. Please spread the word; the flyer is posted on our website. This is a registration event, so please let us know if you plan to attend. It is free for veterans and their invited guests. I encourage my colleagues to join us if available, and Mayor, we'd love for you to say a few words as well.

We will have some vendors, including a representative from the VA who will set up a table with giveaways. We expect some honorary guests, including Tuskegee Airmen from our community, whom we want to honor.

Additionally, in December, we may hold a non-religious holiday event. We hope to schedule it around the tree lighting, but if not possible, we might organize a winter festival. This will depend on our budget after the Veterans Day event.

Finally, our next committee meeting is on October 1st via Zoom.

Mr. Hunter gave the following updates:

- The 21st Annual Fall Fest, sponsored by Penn State Master Gardeners of Delaware County, will take place on Saturday, September 28th, at Smedley Park, 20 Paper Mill Road, Springfield. The event will be held rain or shine and will feature lectures, workshops, and activities for children throughout the day.
- The Yeadon Vegetable Program has reached its halfway point, providing a variety of fruits and vegetables to over 70 seniors and families. The program will continue through November.
- Save the date for the Veterans Day Brunch on Saturday, November 9th, at Yeadon Borough Hall, 2nd floor. Please note that you must RSVP. The flyer with details is posted on the website.
- The Eastern Delaware County Stormwater Collaborative is hosting its annual MCM 6 training on Thursday, October 10th, from 8:30 to 10:30 AM via Zoom. This training is designed for public works employees, borough administrators, council members, and the public. It will focus on preventing stormwater pollution and runoff through good housekeeping practices. More details will be provided soon.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Truehart

Respectfully submitted by Borough Secretary.