



BOROUGH OF YEADDON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOROUGH COUNCIL CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2025

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	Absent
Antoinette Truehart	Present
Learin Johnson	Absent
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

1. Ms. Anna stressed the need for greater transparency in decision-making and more detailed meeting agendas. She urged the Borough to publish monthly financial updates comparing actual vs. projected spending. She also requested a review of engineering and solicitor expenses. Lastly, she asked for clarification on what resident communications with Council or staff are subject to public disclosure.
2. Ms. Clara requested permission for her group to resume their project of reinstalling headstones at Graceland Cemetery, noting that the headstones are stored at the Public Works garage. She also inquired about posting penalty signs to deter pet waste in the cemetery and asked if the group could continue their work on-site.

IV. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hepkins stated that his full report will be submitted next week. He announced an Earth Day cleanup event on Saturday, April 19th, in the West Cobbs Creek area, coordinated with Public Works. Volunteers are needed, and equipment such as rakes and gloves will be provided. He thanked Vice President Roadcloud for spearheading the initiative, noting that he and other Council members will be assisting. Those interested in volunteering are encouraged to email the borough.

V. MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Cave reported that a few personnel-related items will be presented for discussion in next week's executive session. He noted the Zoning Board will be requesting to fill its last vacancy. He also gave a brief reminder that Earth Day is coming up and mentioned it will be addressed in a later presentation.

VI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Briana Bryant of Kilkenny Law reported that the solicitor's office is working with the Borough Manager to update E-Code 360 to reflect current ordinances and resolutions. An amended ordinance addressing penalties for parking on the grass is being drafted for next week's legislative meeting. The office is also preparing discovery responses for ongoing litigation and thanked Public Works, Pennoni Engineers, and the Borough Manager for their timely assistance. Additionally, they are coordinating with the RDA solicitor on land bank referrals and exploring options for addressing blighted properties under the Blighted Properties and Conservation Act. A case management conference was also held this week for the equity complaint involving 1024 Church Lane, with trial approaching.

VII. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Megan Todaro from Pennoni Engineering presented three updates. First, she discussed the upcoming DCED Small Water and Sewer Grant due April 30th, which requires a 15% match and supports improvements to existing water, sewer, or storm systems. Two potential applications were identified in coordination with Public Works:

1. Sanitary Sewer Improvements on Bullock Avenue – This would supplement a prior CDBG application, as the total project cost may exceed typical CDBG funding.
2. Storm Sewer Replacement on Darnell Avenue (between Church and Bullock) – Inlets and pipes in this area have collapsed, causing ponding during rain events.

Ms. Todaro noted that submitting both applications is feasible since one is storm-related and the other sanitary. She requested that resolutions be prepared for next week's meeting to support the submissions.

Ms. Todaro also discussed the 2025 Road Program, noting coordination with Finance, the Borough Manager, and Public Works. A proposed list, including two blocks of Yeadon Avenue from last year's plan, is being finalized. Megan stated that approval to proceed with bidding will likely be requested at next week's meeting.

For the 1219 Longacre Street demolition, Megan confirmed that all property notification issues have been resolved. Contracts have been sent to the contractor and will be submitted to the Borough shortly. Work will proceed once those are finalized.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Ordinances and Zoning

Mr. Cave reported that March was an active month for both residential and commercial permits, along with a rise in code violations. The Code Department has been addressing numerous issues, particularly related to overgrown grass and paving.

Four zoning use applications were received: one for a home daycare, two for new fencing, and one for an ice cream shop. All are currently under review.

Mr. Cave also shared reminders on recurring ordinance violations:

- Animal defecation complaints have significantly increased and will be addressed in the upcoming newsletter and on the Borough website.
- Parking on unsuitable surfaces (non-paved areas) remains prohibited and continues to be a common violation.
- Undesirable accumulations on private property are on the rise, and code enforcement is actively monitoring and issuing citations as needed.

B. Public Works

Mike Pozzuolo reported that the Public Works Department responded to several emergency call-outs this month in coordination with the Police Department, including a downed tree on Allen Drive.

Waste Collection Updates:

- **Yard Waste Collection:** Scheduled for April 11, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.
- **E-Waste Collection:** Scheduled for April 25, from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Earth Day (April 19): Preparations are underway for the community cleanup event in partnership with Public Works. Volunteers are encouraged to participate.

Community Park: A site walk was conducted with the Borough Engineer. Final inspection and punch list review will occur next week.

Flag Day: All necessary county approvals have been received, and planning is on track.

Traffic and Infrastructure Updates:

- A new digital speed sign has been installed on eastbound MacDade Boulevard by Polarverse to address speeding.
- **PECO Gas Line Installation** is underway in Yeadon. Major work includes:
 - Road Closures: Wycombe Avenue will be closed Monday and Tuesday. Bailey Road will be closed from Lansdowne Avenue to Union Avenue due to high traffic concerns.
 - Detours: Expect detours in this area for at least one week, with continued work expected into October. Restoration of road surfaces will match the existing materials, including replacing concrete where required.
 - PECO is also working in other areas, including the 900 block of MacDade Boulevard, West Cobbs Creek Parkway to Chester Avenue, and up to Cypress Street. Updates on this portion will follow.

Church Lane and MacDade Boulevard Intersection Project is scheduled to resume on April 21.

C. Public Safety

1. Police Department's Report

- For the month of March 2025 Yeadon Borough Police Department had responded to or prepared reports for 972 calls for service.
- There were 4 Criminal Arrests in the month.
- There were 2 Non-Traffic Citations Issued for the month.
- There were 66 Traffic Citations issued for the month.
- There were 769 Parking Tickets issued for the month.

Chief Giammarco provided an update on the March 16th shooting incident at 110 Norma Road. He announced that an arrest warrant has been issued, and the suspect is expected to turn himself in with legal counsel. Charges include attempted murder, aggravated assault, weapons violations, robbery, and other related offenses.

The Chief publicly commended Officer Billy McCollum for being first on the scene and securing the area, and Officer Leah for her outstanding work on the ongoing investigation. He also expressed appreciation for the collaboration with CID and the District Attorney's Office, who have been involved since the night of the incident and have provided critical support throughout.

Chief Giammarco noted that while some aspects of the investigation remain confidential, he hopes to share further updates with Council in the near future. He concluded by recognizing the teamwork and dedication that contributed to this successful development.

2. Emergency Management

Chief Giammarco reported that, as many have seen in the news, there are ongoing concerns about the potential closure of Crozer-Chester Medical Center. In response, the department is working with Elwyn, a mental health crisis treatment provider, in the event that Crozer does close.

He stated that if the closure happens, the nearest option for 302 mental health commitments would be Bryn Mawr Hospital. However, a complication is that the specific part of Bryn Mawr used for these services is located in Montgomery County, not Delaware County, which could create jurisdictional issues.

Chief Giammarco assured that they are actively monitoring the situation through emergency management channels and continuing to plan as needed. He concluded by expressing hope that Crozer will remain open, noting the significant impact its closure would have.

3. Fire Department

Chief Summers greeted the Mayor and Council and expressed appreciation for their continued support of the Yeadon Fire Company. He noted that the department has been in continuous service since its founding in 1904 and currently has 55 active volunteer members.

In 2024, the Fire Company responded to 1,166 incidents, including building fires, motor vehicle accidents, carbon monoxide calls, fire alarms, and medical emergencies involving sick or injured residents. He acknowledged the department's strong mutual aid relationships with neighboring departments, including Darby, Lansdowne, and Clifton Heights Fire Companies.

Chief Summers shared a concern regarding the aging ladder truck, which is now approaching 17 years in service. Given that the typical service life for aerial apparatus is 15 to 20 years, he asked to schedule a meeting or call with Borough leadership to discuss the feasibility of budgeting and planning for a replacement. He offered to research any needed information to support that conversation and concluded his report.

D. Library

Karla Kaufman introduced herself as the new Library Director and wished everyone a happy National Library Week. She shared her background, noting that she previously served as Chief Librarian at VA medical libraries in Erie, Pennsylvania, and relocated from Northeast Ohio in 2017 to work at the Veterans Hospital.

Karla expressed her enthusiasm for expanding library programming and pursuing grant opportunities for improvements. Beginning in June, the library will launch a new men's book club on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m., and she extended an invitation to any male borough personnel interested in leading the group.

She also highlighted plans to expand programming for Yeadon's veteran community and announced that the library now offers free notary services to patrons, as she is a certified notary public. While the service is free, donations to the library are welcome.

Finally, Karla thanked the Friends of the Library and the Board of Trustees for providing lunch to the library staff in celebration of National Library Week.

E. Recreation

Councilor Beaty reported that planning for Flag Day is well underway and shared several updates. This year, the parade route will shift from Church Lane to Bailey Road. Coordination has already taken place with Holy Cross Cemetery, thanks to a suggestion by Ms. Samuel, to avoid any potential conflicts with funeral services. The cemetery's entrance on MacDade Boulevard will remain accessible if needed.

The parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. from Community Park and proceed along Bailey Road to the Circle, followed by the main program. Councilor Beaty expressed enthusiasm for the day's lineup, which includes activities for all ages—children and adults alike—along with live music, food vendors, and a drone show and light presentation at the field.

Additionally, there are plans for evening activities at Kerr Field, including a special ice cream experience. She encouraged everyone to attend, invite friends and family, and help make this year's Flag Day celebration memorable. More updates for future events will follow after the Flag Day event.

Mr. Hunter reported the following:

- The Rain Barrel Workshop on May 14th in Yeadon Borough is now full. Additional workshops will be held on May 27th in Upper Darby Township and June 3rd in Morton Borough.
- It's Spring Cleanup time! Yeadon's Earth Day Cleanup Event is set for Saturday, April 19th, from 8 AM to noon. Volunteers will meet at West Cobbs Creek Parkway and Parmley Avenue. For more information or to sign up, email info@yeadonborough.com.
- The 2nd Annual Rap Curry Invitational Track Meet will be held on Saturday, April 19th at Kerr Field's stadium complex. More than 40 schools from Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania will be competing. Come out and watch our future Olympians run, jump, and throw!

- We're currently planning our Vegetable Program for the summer and fall—stay tuned for more details!
- Construction on the Rain Garden at Yeadon Community will begin soon.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by Borough Secretary.