

## BOROUGH OF MORTON

### AGENDA MEETING

JUNE 23 2021

\*please note, on the zoom recording, there was no sound until "community and economic development section of the meeting\*

The borough agenda meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President, Michelle Miller. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called. The following is the response from roll call: Michelle Miller-present, John Miller-present, Michele Roberts-present, Hiele Hodnett-present, Joseph Boylan-present, Douglass Eagar (zoom), and Mayor App. Also present: Kristin Acquarola-present, Solicitor Ewald, and Borough Manager Richmond.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS –None**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** –Charles Lillicrapp – 114 Locust Road, complained of tire tracks and markings from recent work done by PECO subcontractor. He stated that he filed complaint with the company and with PECO and was awaiting their reply. Council concurred that there was a lot of tar left on the street, as if they drove through it before dry.

#### **PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Ms. Miller reported that the signage for the CDBG project was installed in the park area and they are still awaiting on sign in Sycamore woods.

#### Children at Play sign

Council discussed a Children at play sign for Broad and school Street. The manager stated a sign will be ordered for that area.

#### **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

Tax Anticipation Note – June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Boylan reported that we have to pay back the loan which is \$175,000.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### Fireworks Ordinance

Mr. Miller reminded everyone that fireworks are not legal in Morton, per our ordinance and if there are problems, please call 911 to let the police handle .

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH/SAFETY/SANITATION**

Ms. Roberts reminded everyone that the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2021 sewer bills were due by July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Ms. Roberts reported that she would be holding her Recycling and Sanitation meeting on July 13 at 6:30.

## **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Ms. Hodnett announced they had a meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>, and they were looking to commemorate Morton Day. Hope to get together within the next six weeks, and clarify the date.

Plans for Morton Mailer have been waylaid but hoping to have another plan for that possibly to be distributed in another format. She stated a newsletter form, distributed by mail.

Ms. Miller announced Morton was founded on June 6, 1898.

Ms. Hodnett announced that Chris Nelson was going to be filming a music video in the park on June 26<sup>th</sup> at Jacobs Park at 4-6 p.m. Ms. Miller stated she has to speak with him about addressing council on this matter. There is a permit that needs to be applied for to use the park.

### Neighbor question

Ms. Gloria Lee – 14 Alfa- complained of a neighbor's fence being too close to the creek, and possibly causing damage to the creek area if there was to be a flood. She was told that council would address this issue with code enforcement.

## **LAW AND ORDINANCE**

No report

Mayor asked if a date when the police department was established is available. Solicitor stated there is no date. However, Doug is speaking with his committee and working on this matter once a final decision is made they would bring it before council on what was found.

## **PARK AND RECREATION**

Ms. Miller stated they were hoping next week to have a meeting to go over odds and ends and what we cannot do. Marlene, the new borough manger and she did go over to the park to look at things that need to be addressed. The meeting would be at the beginning of the week, and it would be posted and we should report at our next meeting and see what can be done.

Mr. Miller requested if there was any follow up on the high grass situation at 116 School Street. The secretary answered that she did speak with a family member today who said they would be trying their best to keep the grass cut, and Ms. Roberts stated that she also spoke with a relative of the property owner as well and they did state that they would also be trying their best to take care of the property.

Mr. Boylan questioned the high grass at 129 Althea Lane. This is in a mortgage foreclosure situation, and the property has been unkempt. This would be addressed.

## **OLD BUSINESS - NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS** – not announced verbally, but the Morton Rutledge Fire Department is collecting donations of cases of water from June 8- July 13<sup>th</sup>.

**OPEN DISCUSSION** – Michael Lee – 123 W Sylvan – commented that he was glad that we had a borough council with had honor and integrity and cited a saying Herbert Hoover. Also came across a quote by Malcom X, 'if you are not careful, newspapers will have you hating those who are being oppressed and loving those who are doing the oppressing' Wished everyone an enjoyable 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Mario Cimino – 46 S Morton Avenue- announced that he is on the County Green Space task force board and there is a grant program for a mini grant for all municipalities under 8000 residents. There is \$50,000 in funding to do park and recreation and open space. He recommends we apply for this grant.

Ms. Miller announced that the new Manager is already looking into this grant. Mr. Cimino also commented on a recent reading of the Morton Chronicle that Mr. Lytle ran for constable in 1890, the Lytle family are long standing family in Morton.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Ms. Miller announced that there would be a brief executive session on a personnel issue then the meeting would be adjourned. The council did adjourn at 8:05 for the executive

Reconvened at 8:10 – Solicitor Ewald stated council has discussed a usage for Covid Recover Plan Act is they are allowed to provide bonuses to employees who worked the front lines during Covid. Council is proposing that all employees of the borough would receive a one-time only bonus if they were employed by the borough from April 1 2020 through March 31 2021 and are currently still employed at the borough. Part time would be prorated and the proposal is a \$500 bonus for each employee who worked and an additional \$500 bonus who becomes vaccinated within the next two months.

Ms. Miller made a Motion to approve this bonus. MR. Boylan seconded. All voiced in favor. Motion carried.

Mario Cimino-46 S Morton – commented that he missed out on this bonus as he just became manager to Milbourne Borough. He asked that we consider that for our employees that were working through the year.

Adjournment: meeting was then adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Martha Preston

Secretary