

**MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2023**

Media Borough Council met in Council Chambers on the above date with the following officials present: President Hall, Vice President Romaine, Councilpersons Boyer, Gelman, Paikoff, Robinson and Washington. Manager Forman, Solicitor Scott and Engineer Matson were present.

Approval of Minutes

Councilperson Robinson made a motion to approve the September 7, 2023 Workshop minutes. Councilperson Boyle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Robinson made a motion to approve the September 21, 2023 Council minutes. Councilperson Boyle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Mr. Valdez-Dapena of South Jackson Street asked for an update on the removal of the bamboo at 309 S. Plum Street. He mentioned he has had no contact from the Borough except that Mr. Jeffrey is discussing this with the property owner. Mr. Valdez-Dapena asked if there are any public records regarding this issue. Solicitor Scott mentioned that would not be available while the issue is under investigation. President Hall asked Manager Forman to have Mr. Jeffrey contact Mr. Valdez-Dapena.

Keith Johns of W. Jefferson Street mentioned he is the court appointed administrator for the property at 16 W. Ridge Road. He is aware that Council is considering filing a petition for conservatorship for this property. He mentioned that he has been working on the property for the past 7 years to bring it up to code standards so he could move in, however the amount of work is immense. He would like to make the outside of the home look presentable first, then work on the inside. He pays the utilities and taxes. He feels a conservatorship would delay the rehab of the home and would be a lot of expense. He is committed to fighting the conservatorship in court. He is requesting Borough council allow him 6 months to make the outside look presentable.

Linda Coulston of the Farmer's Market mentioned that softballs have been hitting vehicles and nearly missing participants. Manager Forman mentioned that the RTMSD is looking into higher netting.

Borough Manager's Report

Manager Forman mentioned the bump out at #rd and Monroe Streets has been installed.

Engineer's Report

Engineer Matson submitted a written report.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Scott had no report.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor McMahon gave the police report. He mentioned a box truck struck the post office and damaged the lobby. There were no injuries. The Veterans Day Parade will take place on Friday, November 10th at 11am.

Council/Committee Reports

Properties, Public Works and Fire – Mr. Robinson

Councilperson Robinson mentioned a Holiday House Tour will be held on December 9, 2023 from 4:00-8:00 PM. The proceeds will benefit the Minshall House.

Councilperson Robinson made a motion to approve the lease of the Carriage House with the Commonwealth of PA for State Representative Jennifer O’Mara’s office. Councilperson Paikoff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilperson Robinson made a motion to approve resolution #2023-32 authorizing a language change and signature for the Ridge Road TASA grant. Councilperson Paikoff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilperson Robinson made a motion to authorize an amendment to the agreement with NV% for the Philip Green Park project. Councilperson Boyle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel – Ms. Washington

Councilperson Washington had no report.

Finance and Media Business Authority– Ms. Romaine

Vice President Romaine made a motion to ratify the payment of bills for the month of September.

General Fund	\$945,618.76
Recreation Fund	9,095.12
Liquid Fuels Fund	0.00
Capital Fund	<u>154,121.04</u>
Total	\$1,108,834.92

Councilperson Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Vice President Romaine made a motion to approve a request from the MBA to offer complimentary parking in the Baltimore Pike garage from November 23 thru January 1. Councilperson Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President Romaine made a motion to accept the resignation of ed Blanchard from the MBA Board. Councilperson Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development – Mr. Hall

President Hall made a motion to approve a proposal from Alex Danovitch for consulting fees related to 902 grant. The consulting fees are covered under the grant. Councilperson Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

President Hall mentioned the petition for appointment of a conservator for 16 W. Ridge Road. He noted the law is intended to remedy blighted properties, to take control not ownership of the property. A judge will consider the matter and make a decision. Before taking a vote Council decided to discuss the issue further in executive session. President Hall made a motion to adjourn to executive session. Councilperson Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

President Hall reconvened the meeting. President mentioned the point of this motion to put the issue before a judge. President Hall made a motion to authorized the solicitor to file a petition for the appointment of a conservator for 16 W. Ridge Road. Councilperson Paikoff seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Public Safety, Recreation and Civil Service Commission – Mr. Boyer

Councilperson Boyer encouraged residents to slow down and obey stop signs.

Councilperson Boyer made a motion to ratify the mass gathering permit application for the Media Police Faith and Blue event. Councilperson Paikoff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Library – Ms. Gelman

Councilperson Gelman mentioned the Library Book Sale will take place on October 21 through October 23.

Environmental Advisory Board and Shade Tree Commission – Mr. Paikoff

Councilperson Paikoff made a motion to accept the resignation of Ron Joines from the EAC. Councilperson Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment and Privilege of the Floor

There was none.

Adjournment

Councilperson Robinson made a motion to adjourn the Council meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Repino
Recording Secretary