

**Sharon Hill Borough  
Legislative Meeting Agenda  
Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

---

**Quote of the Meeting**

**"You can't go back and change the beginning,  
but you can start where you are and change the ending. "-CS Lewis**

- **Call To Order**
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Moment of Silence in memory of Fanta Bility**
- **Roll Call by Borough Manager, Ieasa Nichols:** Present – President Tanya Allen, Vice President Keith Martine, Councilors William Felder, Sharon Booker, Edward Booker, Sandra Holcombe, Rodney Hill, Treasurer William Morgan, Borough Manager Ieasa Nichols, Solicitor Courtney Richardson, Lighthouse Engineering Susan M. Lynch, P.E., Mayor Hykeem Green [Excused], Borough Secretary CRA [Excused], Police Chief Richard Herron [Excused]
- **Presentation from Christine Joy Brunson, MSW, LSW, founder of Purple House Project PA Inc. whose mission is to Strengthen, Empower, and Transition women impacted by Intimate Partner Violence via connection to essential resources that aid in the healing process.** Her presentation highlighted the need for the following resources: stabilization of rent for housing, mental health and substance abuse services, financial assistance, and food security. She also requested assistance with more transitional housing and shelters.
- **Public Comment: President Allen** opened the floor for public comment reminding residents of comment rules and additional opportunities to voice concerns during their open hour session & use of website.

**Denay Avery, 611 Coates St:** Inquired about a SHPD car that was destroyed and whether the car was repaired or replaced. Council advised the borough placed a claim with our insurance carrier. Ms. Avery also had questions regarding a check that was destroyed. **Councilwoman Booker** and **Treasurer Will Morgan** advised that the check was initially created for a vendor that became ill and was unable to perform at an event. The check had to be voided. Ms. Avery also inquired about Councilor Felder's statement during the May 19<sup>th</sup> legislative meeting. **President Allen** advised that the questions were answered at various council meetings throughout the year. **Councilor Felder** stated that some of his concerns were not fully addressed and wanted to keep the issues on the forefront.

**Connie Pratt, 612 Coates St.** – Pratt voiced concerns about trash collection practices, issues with inconsistent street sweeping, enforcement of street sweeping, and requested more traffic calming efforts at Coates and Calcon Hook near the school. Also advised there is downed sign in near the school

**President Allen** advised of the proper practices which should include two trash collectors on the trash truck for safety reasons and that trash collection remains at twice a week. Advised if trash is missed, to please contact the borough. **President Allen** also addressed the street sweeper issue stating that our sweeper has undergone multiple repairs and advised that ticket enforcement was delayed approximately two months. **Pratt** states the borough is missing opportunities to gain monies because cars that are not moving are not being ticketed.

**Tracey Turner, 201 Laurel Rd** – Turner voiced her distain for the redacted report provided for the Fanta Bility investigation and that SHPD must receive sufficient training. President Allen advised that council thought it was a good idea to release the report as there was some pertinent information provide. Council soon after realized that it was not as the trail continues under litigation

**Bruce Petty, 1029 Elmwood Ave** – Petty states he has been a resident since 2000 and voiced concerns about traffic calming with speed bumps, lack of police enforcement on Elmwood Avenue, a broken manhole cover and a commercial vehicle that continues to park on their street. **Borough Manager Nichols** advised that there will be six speed bumps placed on Elmwood which were delayed by supply chains issues and the commercial truck issue is police related. Also advised that General Sewer will repair the manhole cover within the next few weeks. Discussion ensued regarding removal of speed bumps near the school as repairs were made to the street and the bumps will be replaced. Pratt states he wishes to put a lawn sign on his property to ‘Watch Children.’ **Petty** asked questions on how to rent the park and if non-residents can rent parks. **President Allen** advised that there is an application process and based on the type of event held, the application is reviewed by Recreation, Highway and Police Departments to coordinate safety efforts. Petty inquired about safety precautions at school. Advised to address concerns to the Sharon Hill School District and encouraged residents to come to the Open Hours meetings.

**Resident, 215 High St** – Resident had inquiry on the cost of the Fanta Bility investigative report, if there has been additional training of the SHPD since last August and if there have been updated procedures. President Allen advised the borough is diligently reviewing the information shared from the investigation and are working towards adjusting policies and procedures. **Solicitor Courtney Richardson** advised that the report was released approximately a month and half ago we must follow proper legal protocol. She also advised that there have been press released placed on the Sharon Hill Borough website as updates to the investigation. **Treasurer Will Morgan** calculate the exact amount of legal fees paid to date which is \$76,673.43

**Sheila A. Carter, (Undisclosed for safety concerns)** Verbally attested to her residency & offered to show driver’s license to Council– Carter inquired why the SHPD has not replied to comments during council meetings. Carter states she submitted a ‘Right to Know.’ **President Allen** advised our **Borough Manager Ieasa Nichols** answered according to the Pennsylvania state law advising that the 30-day extension was enacted to further investigate. However, **Carter** wanted the policy and procedures during an active shooting and asked why those policies have not been released. **Mayor Green** advised that the SHPD policies and procedures are on the website. **Councilor Felder** and **Councilwoman Booker**

inquired if the SHPD Chief Herron was provided an unredacted report. **Mayor Green** advised **Police Chief Herron** has received an unredacted report, has reviewed the report and a meeting has been scheduled by the end of October to revised procedures.

**John Carter** - Inquired when the Strategic Planning can occur again so that residents can be more involved. **President Allen** encouraged residents to take advantage of the Open-Hours meetings held on Thursday evening. Councilor Hill spoke to the importance of completing the investigative report and to allow the time needed to make the best decision.

**Brianna Myers, 200 Laurel Rd** – Spoke to **Councilor Hill's** comments stating that various council members have been in position for multiple administrations and inquired about missing assets and monies. **President Allen** advised that questions have been answered and the seated council members took significant steps to complete the proper investigations to reclaim monies. **Mayor Green** advised that council believed the reports presented were earnest and trustworthy. However, due to questions from residents and other concerns that produced an ongoing investigation and prompted the borough to hire NJN & Associates specifically our newest Borough Manager. The allegations are still under investigation.

**Resident, 611 Coates St** – Asked if the digital sign was repaired. **Borough Manager Ieasa Nichols** advised that there were electrical issues, in addition to supply chain issues. **Councilwoman Booker** inquired if our solicitor was involved with the process since the digital sign is under warranty. **President Allen** states that the borough has been working on the parts issue first. Once parts arrive and if sign does not operate, then the solicitor will be involved.

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**President Allen requested a Motion to approve the July 21 legislative meeting minutes**

**Moved by Councilwoman Sharon Booker**

**Seconded Councilor Rodney Hill**

**Motion passes 6 – 0**

**President Allen** advised residents that an **Executive Session was held on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1 PM regarding legal litigation.** **Madam President** thanked state representative and sharon hill elected officials for their involvement in the Resource fair. **President Allen** also thanked **Judge Tammi Forbes** for the recent reentry and expungement clinic.

- **Committee Updates:**

- **President Tanya Allen, CPCIP / Finance / Library – CPCIP Report** [Chester Pike Corridor Improvement Project] – A full report was provided to councilors: President Allen provided highlights on the partnership with **Tracy Barsavis of DCTMA [Delaware County Transportation]** and the borough which was awarded a \$125,000 grant towards improvements. The reports necessary to release grant funds are due by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Inquiry from PNC on how they can partner with CPCIP. The ‘Corridor Masterplan’ book has been written and published to

be accessible at the CPCIP Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Presented newest logo for signage. **Councilor Hill** thanked President Allen for the full report.

- **Library Report** was read by **Library Director, Richard Ashby** with focus on the upcoming 84<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the SHPL, along with the Cook-Off contest and staff development from Maturity Works. Highlighted various law students that have been accessing the library and will be taking book donations later in the year.
- **Finance Report** was read by **Treasurer, Will Morgan**  
**President Allen requested a Motion to approve treasurer report**  
**Moved by Councilwoman Booker**  
**Seconded Councilor Edward Booker**  
**Motion passes 6 – 0**

**The Bills list was discussed in detail. Councilwoman Booker** inquired about a membership to the Montgomery County Zoo. **Library Director, Richard Ashby** advised that at the recommendation of the Delco Libraries a renewal membership was purchased. **Councilor Felder** provided additional details stating that the zoo membership was acquired to give passes to residents. **Councilor Felder** also had an inquiry about payments made to Cerino's Auto. **Treasurer Will Morgan** and **Borough Manager Nichols** have advised that the borough's vehicles are repaired at Cerino's Auto and the invoices come with details of license plate numbers, etc. This includes repairs to the SHPL vehicles and the Highway Department. **Councilor Sandra Holcombe** voiced her appreciation of the council members for their inquiries to the bills list. **Councilor Edward Booker** agrees with **Councilor William Felder** requesting bi-annual reports of SHPD vehicle repairs. Inquiry was made about payments made to the Highway Department for cell phone usage. **Borough Manager Ieasa Nichols** explained that the payments are part of the union bargaining agreement. **Treasurer Morgan** thanked **Borough Manager Ieasa Nichols** on the accomplishment of completing the liquid fuels report which released over \$400,000 of monies for the borough. The borough will also receive the American Rescue Plan Act Funds [ARPA] within the next two weeks which will be approximately \$200,000.

**President Allen requested a Motion to approve the Bills List**

**Moved by Councilwoman Sharon Booker**

**Seconded by Vice President Keith Martinez**

**Motion passes 6 – 0**

- **Vice- President Keith Martinez, Public Safety – Vice President Martinez** read the SHFD report and reminded residents that the SHFD is still providing free fire alarms.
- **Councilwoman Sharon Booker, SHACC – Councilwoman Booker** provided details of the upcoming 'Hot Fun in the Summertime' Rhythm and Blues Music & Craft Fair which will be

combined with the Flea Market. Highlights on the upcoming paint night in September, as well as Delco Art Consortium partnership events and dance classes in the Fall.

- **Councilor Edward Booker, Public Health /Multiple – Councilor Booker** discussed the **Municipality Meeting with Dawn Wilson with Eckerson Connect** to create more opportunities for local youth which includes leadership training. The first meeting will be held in Darby Hall, Darby Borough tomorrow. Councilor Booker will be meeting with Collingdale next week and with the Sharon Hill Borough next month.
- **Councilor Rodney Hill, Recreation / Community Engagement – Councilor Hill** offers apology to residents for the cancellation of movie nights. The new dates will be published later. Councilor Hill announces that the borough is giving the key of the city to **NBA draft pick and resident Jalen Durban this Sunday at 12 PM – 1:30 PM.**
- **Councilor William Felder, Public Works – Councilor Felder** read the **Code Enforcement** report and special report for a violation sweep for high grass and debris. **Executive Tree** was issued a citation for encroaching on easements on Elmwood Ave. **Code Enforcement Official, Chris McSween** and **Borough Manager Nichols** recently met with the new owners at 1200 Chester Pike and there was discussion for improvements in addition to a privacy fence for the residents of Burnside Ave. **Vice President Keith Martinez** applauded their efforts. **Borough Manager Nichols** advised that she has scheduled a meeting with our Public Works, our Traffic engineer and PennDOT for street striping, and other special traffic projects.
- **Councilor Sandra Holcombe, Parks, and Properties – No report provided**
- **Officials' Reports:**
  - **Mayor Hykeem Green** read the **SHPD report which was compiled by Chief Herron**
  - **Borough Engineer, Kevin Matson** – Chester Pike bus shelters [3 total] being coordinated Septa, PennDOT and surveyor. The engineer is also working on the High Street sanitary sewer project by obtaining all necessary paperwork; Aqua construction is complete along Calcon Hook, Coates and Reese Streets. Roads to be smoothed out 30 days after completion of project.
  - **Borough Manager, Ieasa A. Nichols** – Advised the speed bump installation was delayed due to personnel changes in **Public Works Dept** and a pending repair to our back tow which is used to offload the speed bumps. Installation should be completed by the end of this month. President Allen thanked the Borough Manager for having the engineer present at the meeting providing insight on infrastructure. **Borough Manager** read the **MMO [Minimal Municipal Obligation] Pension** plan requirements to be adopted by Resolution. At the recommendation of the **Borough manager** the resolution must be amended. Our solicitor **Courtney Richardson** advised it indeed may be amended. The borough received from actuary the **2023 MMO pension plan**. Normal percent per payroll for **Uniformed officers is seventeen percent**. [17%] Further discussion will

be made during the budget meeting. **The Non-Uniform Officers MMO pension rate is 13.18%.** These were illustrated in the MMO resolution. **A Non-Uniform pension plan for Public Works was discussed.** Our **auditor was approved for seventy [70] hours,** and he will continue to audit our **liquid fuels** documents for an additional four weeks. Internal sewer audit conducted. **Three Inlet repair locations were discussed:** Elmwood, Clifton, Spring. Sharon Ave will be added. **Borough Manager Nichols** reiterated the importance of upholding the **collective bargaining agreement with Public Works** and advised council to be sure to provide details of upcoming events in a timely manner. **This will avert grievances. Discussion made for placement of safety mirrors at troublesome four-way stop sign intersections.**

- **Borough Solicitor, Courtney Richardson, Esq. presents the following resolutions:**

**Resolution 2022-0020** - MMO Funding Requirement for the SHPD pension plan uniform, and non-uniform union plans

**Moved Councilman William Felder**

**Seconded Councilman Edward Booker**

**Motion Passes 6 - 0**

**Resolution 2022-0021** - Tax Collector to grant waiver in payment

**Moved Councilwoman Booker**

**Seconded Councilman Edward Booker**

**Motion Passes 6 - 0**

**Resolution 2022-0022** - Sharon Hill recognizes resident and NBA Detroit Piston player, Jaylen Duren and will proclaim 'Jaylen Duren Day'

**Moved Councilor Rodney Hill**

**Seconded Councilman Edward Booker**

**Motion passes 6 - 0**

- **New Business:**

**Ratification of Motion to approve Phil Duca to position of Highway Foreman as of August 15th**  
**Borough Manager Ieasa Nichols** advised that due to manpower shortages we consulted the committee chair, Councilman Felder, Mayor and Madam President

As our interim foreman resigned Highway Department was operating outside of Teamsters agreement

**Moved Vice President Keith Martinez**

**Seconded Councilor William Felder**

**Motion Passes 6 - 0**

**Highway Foreman, Phil Duca** was officially introduced, and he provided an update on the street sweeper stating it was repaired. The street sweeper will begin sweeping on the regular schedule. Madam President requested a three-minute intercession.

**DCED** – President Allen opened the floor to council members discussion on changing the borough from a ‘dry’ town to a ‘wet’ town with the opening of small chain restaurants and brewery. The floor was open for further discussion on the report she provided council. **Councilwoman Sharon Booker** stated various reasons why the borough should not change to a ‘wet’ town such as: possible teenage drinking, increase in domestic violence and lewdness. **Councilor Sandra Holcombe** states she is against corner bars; however, she agrees with chain restaurants serving alcoholic beverages in the borough. **Vice President Keith Martinez** states he agrees with having restaurants serving but not small bars. **Councilor Rodney Hill** and **Councilor William Felder** also agrees with no corner bars or corner liquor stores and that there should be specific zones within the community for serving alcohol. Adding this will provide additional revenue within the community. **Solicitor Courtney Richardson** advised that the borough enact specific guidelines and zones where alcohol may be served. **Mayor Green** agrees with **Solicitor Richardson** and believes additional research should be conducted. **Councilor Felder** states we should also consider opening recreation centers, senior centers, and multipurpose centers.

- **Old Business:**

**Madam President Allen** provided additional details to the upcoming youth program spearheaded by Councilman Edward Booker in partnership with Eckert Connect for ages 19 to 25-year-olds

**Borough Manager Ieasa** has been drafting a Junior Council curriculum

**Councilor Holcombe** reminded council members to remain professional during meetings.

- **Adjournment 10:04 PM**

---

**The next Sharon Hill Borough Council Legislative Meeting will be held on:  
Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> @7:00pm**