

**MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
JUNE 1, 2023**

Media Borough Council met on the above date at the Media Fire Company with the following officials present: Mayor McMahon, President Hall, Vice-President Romaine, Councilpersons Boyer, Paikoff, Robinson and Washington. Also present were Borough Manager Forman, Engineer Matson and Solicitor Scott.

President Hall called the Workshop meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment & Privilege of the Floor

Received via email:

First, allow me to introduce myself- Paul Saulino, 203 E. Fifth Street Media (Borough), which is the corner of Fifth and Edgmont Streets. My wife Marian and I, and three daughters Gianna, Sofia, and Sabella (all graduates of Media Elementary, Springton Lake MS, and Penncrest HS) have been residents of the Borough since 2010. We have lived at this address since 2011.

The specific public comment I wish to make at the June 15th meeting is this:

Is it acceptable for the residents of the Borough to have to put up with drugs being openly dealt out of a neighbors home?

Specifically, the home at 141 E. Fifth Street, which is directly across the street from our home. This activity has been ongoing since the family moved in in September of 2019. The drug activity has been very well documented. Directly observing drug deals and domestic violence, we have made at least 40 calls to the Media Police since this started. Other neighbors have made calls as well; the police have been to the house dozens of times; and there have been several arrests for drugs and domestic violence.

In addition, the property has deteriorated significantly since this all started. Trash, junk, and debris are all over the property. Multiple calls to the landlord about the drugs as well the condition have yielded nothing but run around.

I would assume Council is aware that there is significant documentation and evidence that with drug activity comes all other kinds of nasty unwanted stuff- violence, guns, and mayhem. It is only a matter of time before something truly horrific happens.

Unlike most members of Council, we as a family we are in the untenable position of having to put up with this, in front of our faces, day in, week out, month after month. If it was you, and your family, what would you do?

Assuming that the answer to my original question is that it is NOT acceptable, my questions for the council are:

What is the plan (if any) to deal with this?

If there is no plan, what is the borough and council waiting for?

Can action be taken against the landlord?

It is my intent to be at the 6/15/23 Council Meeting and to present the above, in person. I hope that in the interim, some progress might be made towards a resolution. We remain willing and able to be part of the solution.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Our family looks forward to a formal response.

Received in person:

Michael Straw of W. Jefferson Street mentioned a revision to the Glen Providence Park Music schedule.

Dell Jackson of W. 5th Street congratulated those who won the primary. He mentioned he is part of New Visions and wants to continue to serve the community.

David Director of N. Monroe Street representing the EAC would like the light section of Borough Code reviewed to consider light pollution.

Julie Smith of N. Olive Street mentioned the mosquito spraying and drift are ongoing. She encouraged residents to complain to the Department of Agriculture.

Borough Manager's Report

Manager Forman reminded Council about the upcoming NIMS training.

Engineer's Report

Engineer Matson mentioned he has provided a written report. He mentioned the State Street lighting project is complete and the CMAQ sidewalk project is almost complete.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Scott had no report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor McMahan gave the police report. Mayor McMahan mentioned the Memorial Day Parade and Pride Parade were well attended and successful.

Council/Committee Reports

Properties, Public Works and Fire - Mr. Robinson

Councilperson Robinson mentioned an agreement with the County for cost sharing of a swale at the location of the Third Street Bridge.

Personnel and HARB– Ms. Washington

Councilperson Washington mentioned the Personnel Committee mentioned interviews for the position of Lieutenant will take place on June 12th.

Finance and Media Business Authority– Ms. Romaine

Vice President Romaine had no report.

Community Development – Mr. Hall

President Hall mentioned he will now be on the Finance Committee.

President Hall mentioned the Planning Commission has not met yet, therefore they have not reviewed the 6th & Olive subdivision/land development application. The application requires no variances and is compliant.

President Hall mentioned the Third Street Project noting that representatives from BLCC and the County saw the presentation and the BLCC will discuss with their Board. County representatives requested a presentation be made to County Council.

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

Councilperson Boyer mentioned a mass gathering permit application for First Baptist Church Vacation Bible School to be held July 10-14 from 6pm - 8:30 p.m.

Councilperson Boyer mentioned a mass gathering permit application for Media Rotary Music and Food Festival needs further discussion by the Public Safety Committee.

Councilperson Boyer mentioned the resignation of Brendan Potash from the Recreation Board.

Councilperson Boyer mentioned the resignation of Andrea McIntire from the Recreation Board.

Library – Lisa Gelman

Councilperson Gelman mentioned the appointment of Jack Lemon to the Media Archives Commission for a term expiring 12/31/27.

Environmental Advisory Board and Shade Tree Commission – Mr. Paikoff

Councilperson Paikoff mentioned the Shade Tree Commission is working on an ordinance for the protection of tree roots.

Councilperson Paikoff mentioned the resignation of Ian Piro from the EAC.

Councilperson Paikoff mentioned the resignation of Robin Lasersohn from the EAC.

Public Comment and Privilege of the Floor

Michael Straw of W. Jefferson Street mentioned the intersection of W. Jefferson and S. Lemon Street is dangerous and adding some traffic calming measures would help.

Dana Marks and Tray Herman of W. Jefferson Street mentioned traffic concerns.

Adjournment

Councilperson Robinson made a motion to adjourn the Workshop meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Repino
Recording Secretary