

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

October 14, 2020

7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Shearer. The following Councilpersons were present: Mr. Walker, Mrs. Meckley, Mr. Specht, Mr. Shearer, Mr. John Pfeil, Mr. Dale Pfeil, Ms. Fawess, Mr. Moralez, Mr. Robol, and Mr. Swartz. Also in attendance were Jess Novinger, Shelly Sandstrom, Mayor Nelson, Chief Zettlemoyer, Sam Shaffer, Scott Derr, and Kevin Mertz.

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council approved the minutes from the September 23, 2020 Council meeting.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mrs. Novinger reported that we have done the first draw down on the Multi-Modal Grant funds for Marsh Road. The scoping field view of the project was also completed last week.

Next, she reported that the Department of Public Works will begin leaf pick-up on Monday, October 26th by ward until there are no more leaves or the first snow fall.

Mrs. Novinger then gave her opinion on body cams for the Milton Police Department stating that there are other priorities within the department that need addressed prior to consideration of the body cams. She feels strongly that increased training and an update on policies should come before considering body cams. To address training and policy updates, she has worked with the Chief and our insurance provider, EMC Insurance, and have selected LexiPol, which is a company that provides policy manuals, training bulletins, and consulting services to law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and other public safety department. By utilizing LexiPol, we will reduce the Law Enforcement premium by 10%. The prorated cost for the remainder of 2020 is \$783.42 and the cost for 2021 is \$4,700.50 (\$829.50 is the 15% discount). On motion of Mr. Moralez, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council authorized the Borough Manager to move forward with this program.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson thanked everyone for their support and stated that he is feeling better. He also thanked Council and those involved for approving the LexiPol Program as it will be of great benefit to the Police Department and the community.

Report of the President of Council: President Shearer had no report.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer reported that the Department had CPR and First Aid training today with Geisinger. He also informed Council that the new Jeep should be here soon and hopefully ready for service in a few weeks.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that the new pavilions are done except for seeding. He informed Council that brush pick-up went well and leaf pick-up will begin the week of October 26th.

Report of the Fire Chief: Scott Derr reported that the Department has responded to 8 calls so far in October.

Public Comments: Rob Jones, representing the Milton Public Library, announced that the Library will hold a drive through trick-or-treat event on October 31st from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property: No report.

General Government and Recreation:

- A. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Morales, and carried, Council voted to enter into an agreement with Northumberland County for snow removal from the County bridges in the Borough.
- B. With regard to the consideration of the 2021 season for the Milton Community Pool, Mrs. Novinger addressed Council stating that after discussion with the Department heads, she is proposing that we fix the bare minimum at the pool in order to be able to open in 2021. This work could be done by our Public Works Department. This would give us an idea of how COVID may affect our attendance. Mrs. Novinger asked for this work to be done at a cost of not to exceed \$7,500. Mrs. Meckley asked if this included the pump house repair and Mrs. Novinger responded that it did not, but that work could wait for another year once we repair the leaks. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Morales and carried, Council approved this request.
- C. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Morales and carried, Council approved a request from T.I.M.E. to take over ownership of the .23-acre Rotary Park located next to the Gov. James Pollock Memorial Bridge. This approval is pending final approval of all legal paperwork by Attorney Benion. Mr. Robol was opposed.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Morales and carried, Council authorized the Borough Manager to open a new checking account at Susquehanna Community Bank exclusively for the HOME Grant funds.
- B. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council adopted Resolution #20-07 reducing Police Officers' Contributions to the Police Pension Plan for the year 2021.
- C. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Community Pool and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$163,086.22.

Mr. Walker thanked the Public Works Department for their help at the Panther Cub field.

Rob Jones, representing the Milton Pool Committee, thanked Council for their decision tonight regarding the community pool and all the work that happens at Brown Avenue Park. He reported that the Pool Committee is having a chicken barbeque on Sunday, October 18th from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Brown Avenue Park (large pavilion). He also indicated that there is a resident that is willing to donate \$30,000 toward improvements to the community pool.

Mr. Morales then asked if we can move to a Committee structure and one meeting a month in 2021. President Shearer responded that he would take this under consideration and re-address at a later meeting.

There being no further questions or business, on motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council adjourned at 7:44 p.m. President Shearer announced that Council would be entering into an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and would not convene.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Secretary/Treasurer