

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

February 12, 2020

The meeting was called to order with the following Councilpersons in attendance: Mr. Shearer, Mrs. Meckley, Mr. Robol, Mr. Specht, Mr. Walker, Mr. Morales, Mr. John Pfeil, Mr. Dale Pfeil, Ms. Fawess, and Mr. Swartz. Also in attendance were Jess Novinger, Shelly Sandstrom, Mayor Nelson, Scott Derr, Attorney Benion, Chief Zettlemyer, and Sam Shaffer. Doug Diehl was absent.

Minutes: On motion of Mr. John Pfeil, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council approved the minutes from the January 22, 2020 meeting. Mr. Walker and Mr. Specht abstained.

Report of the Borough Manager: Ms. Novinger reported that the Borough has received \$697,659.00 for the Marsh Road Project by the Appalachian Regional Commission. This is the final piece of funding for Marsh Road and we will begin moving forward with this project.

Next, Ms. Novinger stated that she attached a completion report for the roof repairs to both the Borough Hall and Police Station as prepared by Mr. Beck.

She continues to work on getting the proper permits through PennDOT's Right-of-Way Encroachment & Outdoor Advertising Control Act to update/replace three (3) of our five (5) "Welcome to Milton" signs. This will include the "Permits Required" signs as well. All other signs by outside organizations posted below our "Welcome" signs will also have to go through the same permitting process.

Ms. Novinger informed Council that she is beginning the process of getting quotes on items (i.e. roll-off containers and concrete) to prepare the 902 Recycling Equipment Grant which is due March 20, 2020.

Mr. Walker stated that Ms. Novinger's probationary period ends on February 25, 2020 and asked if we could end that now and make her a permanent, full-time employee. Mr. Shearer stated that he was going to report that we would have an Executive Session at the next Council meeting to discuss this but would be more than happy to end the probationary period now and discuss terms of employment at the February 26th Council meeting. Mrs. Meckley asked if we would be setting a precedent by doing this? Mr. Morales stated that it would be a great precedent to establish in this case. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Morales and carried, Council approved ending Ms. Novinger's probationary period effective immediately with deliberation in an Executive Session at the next Council meeting. Mr. Specht was opposed.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson had no report.

Report of the President of Council: President Shearer informed Council that there would be an Executive Session to discuss the Borough Manager's agreement at the next Council meeting on February 26, 2020.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemyer reported that the department has been very busy. There was a foot chase on Saturday for a wanted individual. Shots were fired on Hepburn Street and the suspect was arrested. He continues to be concerned about the increased use of meth that ultimately results in increased burglaries. The Department has received funds from the Buckle Up Pennsylvania grant for traffic enforcement.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that the department continues to work on some of the dumpster containers. They have been trimming trees in the cemeteries and reset over 100 headstones in Harmony and Milton cemeteries. The Department repaired a leak in the basement floor at the Borough Hall and installed a new wall heater in the lobby. They continue to refurbish the dumpsters at the Recycling Center.

Report of the Fire Chief: Scott Derr informed Council that since the last meeting there have been 10 calls and 70 hours of training. The Department will be selling Autism Awareness T-shirts and donating a portion to the special needs program at the Milton Schools.

Public Comments: Chuck Beck outlined the Marsh Road project for Council stating the Opinion of Probable Cost (OPC) is \$2,729,460.00. We have now received a total of \$2,696,659.00 in grant funds for this project. With the OPC at \$2,729,460.00, this leaves a difference of \$31,801.00. This figure is assuming that the project comes in at the OPC. Any overage would be the responsibility of the Borough, and if the project costs were to come in under the OPC, any unexpended funds would be returned to the funding agency. Mr. Beck asked for Council's approval to proceed with the steps necessary for the reconstruction of Marsh Road. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Swartz and carried, Council approved this request.

Mike Mollica, 3 Sycamore Road, addressed Council asking if there is a way he can get a no parking sign put in front of his house. He has to park in his yard due to restrictions of an Ordinance. When there are events at the school or during drop off or pick up times at the school, people park on both sides of the street making it impossible for him to pull out. President Shearer stated that he must come to the Borough Office to see Doug Diehl about getting a permit for this. After further discussion Chief Zettlemoyer stated that he will look into this as well.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property:

- A. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved a request from the Milton Fire Department for a trainee driver request for Megan White and Butch Johnson.
- B. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council approved a request from the Salvation Army to hold a Block Party on June 5, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- C. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Swartz and carried, Council approved a request from the Standard-Journal to promote the Milton Community Yard Sales for May 1, 2020 and May 2, 2020.
- D. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved a request from the Susquehanna Community Bank, in cooperation with the Milton Lions Club, to hold an Egg Hunt at Brown Avenue Park on Saturday, April 4, 2020 with a rain date of Sunday, April 5, 2020.

General Government and Recreation:

- A. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council adopted Resolution #20-01 regarding the PLCB Noise Ordinance.
- B. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council authorized Attorney Benion to file the Petition regarding the PLCB Noise Ordinance.
- C. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council adopted Ordinance #1227 for the Road Dedication of Briarcliff Court and a portion of Foxglen Drive.
- D. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council authorized Attorney Benion to draft an Ordinance amending the current vehicle and traffic control ordinances. Mrs. Meckley asked if this would include any penalties from the existing Ordinance. Attorney Benion responded not at this time.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council adopted Resolution #20-02 which is a Resolution of Organization for the Milton Savings Bank to change the signature cards on the Borough accounts.
- B. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Community Pool and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$145,252.22.

Mr. John Pfeil asked why the reserve funds are utilized in January and where the money comes from for the reserve account. Ms. Novinger reported that the reason reserve funds were currently utilized is because the project involving the roofs on the Borough Hall and Police Department started last year and the costs are from last year. Mr. Beck stated that a percentage of taxes are put into the reserve account for unforeseen capital expenditures.

Ms. Fawess thanked Chief Derr for invitation to attend the Firemen's' Banquet.

Ms. Novinger thanked the Chamber of Commerce for their help cleaning up Brown Avenue Park.

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Secretary/Treasurer