MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

April 10, 2019

The meeting was called to order with the following Councilpersons in attendance: Mr. Specht, Mrs. Meckley, Mr. Budman, Mr. Robol, Mr. Pfeil, Ms. Fawess, Mr. Walker, Mr. Shearer, and Mr. Swartz. Also in attendance were Shelly Sandstrom, Chuck Beck, Chief Zettlemoyer, Joe Stump, Mayor Nelson, Sam Shaffer, and Attorney Benion. Mr. Farr was absent.

Minutes: On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Shearer and carried, Council approved the minutes from the March 27, 2019 Council meeting. Mr. Walker abstained.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mr. Beck informed Council that he and Mrs. Sandstrom received the award today at the Governor’s Mansion for Local Government Fiscal Accountability and Best Management Practices. He stated that he was unaware until the ceremony of what an accomplishment this was for a Borough the size of Milton.

Next, Mr. Beck stated that the Borough had received a $1 million multi-modal grant for the Marsh Road Project and he has been authorized by Council to submit a second application for $1.5 million. He is now asking Council to proceed with the application to include ARC Grant funding as a match. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council authorized Mr. Beck to apply for ARC funding.

Mr. Beck reported that the Memorandum of Understanding for the Milton Police Officers’ Association is signed and the attorneys are drafting the agreements to be signed. This is a 5-year contract.

Next Mr. Beck informed Council that there are additional, major problems with the roof at the Borough Hall. The main beam that runs the front length of the building is rotted out. He stated that T-Ross Brothers construction was hired to make routine repairs to the roofs at the Borough Hall and the Police Station on a time and material basis. He expected to spend around $20,000 on the project. It has already cost $35,000. Initially, Council gave him approval to have the roof repaired on a time and material basis. It was noted that if the beams are not secured, the entire front of the Borough Hall will have to be shut down due to safety concerns. Mr. Beck also stated that there are other beams in the roof that are not visible and have not yet been inspected. He does not know if they may also be rotted. Mr. Beck said the cost to repair the roof will come out of the reserve account. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Shearer and carried, Council authorized Mr. Beck to continue on a time and material basis to secure up the front of the Borough Hall up to $11,000 in addition to what has previously been expended.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson had no report.

Report of the President of Council: President Budman addressed the Comprehensive Plan informing Council that Mr. Beck continues to look for funding sources. The Municipal Aide Grant that Mr. Beck looked into will not be available for the Borough to be considered in 2019. The funding for the new Comprehensive Plan which is approximately $90,000 would have to come out of the Borough’s reserve account. President Budman stated that we also have the option of doing revisions to our current Plan at a lesser cost. Our current Plan was written in 1996. Attorney Benion noted that from his research it is not legally necessary to
do this. Mrs. Meckley stated that Council should wait to see what may happen with the roofs on both buildings before spending more reserve funding. Mr. Robol expressed his concern about the amount of money needed to completely redo the plan and felt that a revision would be more feasible. Mr. Beck stated his strong concern about utilizing the reserve funding due to the fact that the revenue source from the Milton Regional Sewer Authority will stop in April of 2022. Mr. Beck also stated that although he feels a Comprehensive Plan of some form is necessary, it is of no value unless there is a means and method to make sure it is implemented. President Budman placed the Comprehensive Plan under Unfinished business until we learn more about the buildings.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer reported that the person that recently fired shots downtown is in custody. The persons using their children to deliver drugs have also been apprehended. Chief Zettlemoyer also stated that there has been an increase in burglaries at the storage units in the Industrial Parks. Mr. Walker asked if the Chief felt a 2nd School Resource Officer has been discussed or evaluated. Chief responded that no formal evaluation has been made and the school is in the process of cutting programs. Mr. Beck added that this would have to be initiated by the School Board and not the Borough.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported the Department has been working on Spring cleanup. The Municipal Lot and parks are completed. Brown Avenue is being worked on next. The Department will be draining the Community Pool in the next couple weeks. Spring Brush Pick-up will be from May 6 – 10 throughout the Borough.

Report of the Fire Chief: Joe Stump reported that 16 members from the department attended Arson Detection Classes. This Sunday is the Department’s Palm Sunday Dinner from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and invited all to attend. Since the last meeting, there have been 13 incidents. He stated that the Fire Department is also having issues with the roof on the Race Street station which is owned by the Borough. While replacing two gas heaters, the contractors discovered cracks in eight roof rafters. The rafters have been secured.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property:

A. On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council approved a request from the Drum Corps Associates to utilize the Milton Fire Police for their Drum Corp contest on June 23, 2019.

B. On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council approved a request from the Milton Harvest Festival Committee.

General Government and Recreation: There was no report.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

A. 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 $147,853.84.

At this time, 7:51 p.m., President Budman announced that Council was entering into Executive Session to discuss Administrative Personnel and will reconvene.
On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Swartz and carried with an unanimous roll call vote, Council voted to offer the Borough Manager position to Dan Dorman under the terms and agreement that they agreed upon and that he will respond to this offer by Friday, April 12th. His start date will be subject to the terms of his current employer’s appropriate notice. President Budman stated that he will inform Mrs. Sandstrom of Mr. Dorman’s decision and she will notify Council.

There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom  
Secretary/Treasurer