

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

July 14, 2021

7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Walker. The following Councilpersons were present: Mr. Walker, Mrs. Meckley, Mr. Specht, Mr. John Pfeil, Mr. Morales, Ms. Fawess, Mr. Dale Pfeil, Mr. Robol, and Mr. Swartz. Also in attendance were Jess Novinger, Shelly Sandstrom, Sam Shaffer, Chief Zettlemyer, Doug Diehl, Mayor Shearer, Attorney Benion, and Kevin Mertz (via zoom). Chief Derr was absent.

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council approved the minutes from the June 23, 2021, Council meeting.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mrs. Novinger informed Council that the Borough has received its first allotment of Federal American Recovery Plan Act funding in the amount of \$345,146.73. She will be asking for Council's permission later in the meeting to open a separate savings account for these funds for auditing purposes. The final guidelines for reporting on these funds have not been set in place, therefore until these guidelines/regulations are finalized it is recommended to not expend any funds. She has been closely following any and all guidance from a multitude of sources and will continue to do so. The remaining allotment will not be received until June 2022.

Next, Mrs. Novinger updated Council that the Milton Community Pool is still experiencing some major mechanical issues this season; however, those have been well managed by the Department of Public Works. On the positive side, there has been an increase in private parties, swimming lessons have been hugely popular, and special events (including the Twix Splash Hop tomorrow evening) have also been doing very well. The pool will plan to close on Saturday, August 7th and the Dog Swim will be the following day, Sunday, August 8th. This closure date was selected due to personnel's extra-curricular activities preparing for the start of the school year on August 19th.

This morning multiple state, federal, and elected officials, as well as members of Larson Design Group met at the Housel's Run Road end of Marsh Road to discuss all the moving parts of all the permits required to remain on schedule for the proposed 2023 construction of Marsh Road. This was a good meeting to get all agencies on the same page and work out a more organized schedule for the permits required from each agency. The Borough is still in the environmental review process and will need individual permits from the Army Corp of Engineers, DEP, PennDOT and a recommendation from the PA Fish & Boat Commission. Many of these agencies have a six – eight-month lead time on permit approvals and all need to be completed in a certain order. The permitting process and wetland mitigation will be the biggest challenges to overcome for the Marsh Road Project.

Mrs. Novinger stated that there has been an update to the Sunshine Law that states governmental entities will be required to provide a detailed agenda 24 hours in advance of the meeting. This will be effective on August 29, 2021.

Mr. Robol asked if we should be looking into potential funding for the community pool. He also asked if there were other ways to save money. Could we possibly charge non-residents more? Mrs. Novinger answered that we have and will continue to look at these options.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Shearer had no report.

Report of the President of Council: President Walker informed Council that Mayor Shearer is resigning from the Planning Commission as he was a Council representative. On motion of Mr. John Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Morales and carried, Council accepted his resignation. President Walker asked for nominations to fill this vacancy. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. John Pfeil and carried, Mr. Dale Pfeil was nominated to fill this position. President Walker thanked Mayor Shearer for his years of service on the Planning Commission.

Next, President Walker asked for a motion to end the zoom meetings. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council approved the motion to end zoom meetings. Mr. Morales was opposed.

President Walker then stated that the new committee structure will be effective at the next Council meeting. The Committees are: Public Works and Cemeteries which includes Borough Properties, Parks/Recreation, Highways, and Community Pool – Mr. John Pfeil (Chair), Mr. Swartz, and Vacancy on Council; General Government and Finance which includes Borough Codes, Finance, Economic Development, and Zoning – Ms. Fawess (Chair), Mrs. Meckley, and Mr. Robol; Public Safety which includes covering Police, Fire, EMA, and anything that could be considered a safety issue – Mr. Dale Pfeil (Chair), Mr. Morales, and Mr. Specht. President Walker would like the Committees to meet at least quarterly.

Next President Walker entertained a motion to do RFQ's for Legal, Engineering, and IT services which is good business practice. On motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, this motion was approved.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer reported that testing is completed, and the candidate has been approved by the Civil Service Commission. He then asked for Council's permission to hire Travis Stotelmyer contingent upon successful completion of a psychological and physical examination. The wage of hire will be \$26.85 per hour with a twelve (12) month probationary period. On motion of Mr. Morales, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council approved this request as outlined by Chief Zettlemoyer.

Next, he stated that the License Plate Reader is still delayed but hope to receive it soon. The cameras are also moving forward but still delayed.

With regard to the proposed Annual Parking Permits for the municipal lot – the Police Department agrees but asked that we begin this next year rather than ordering the new stickers to be utilized for less than half of a year.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that work continues at the community pool. They are also working on stormwater issues throughout the Borough. Mowing continues in the parks and cemeteries. Because they will be finishing the concrete work at the recycling center, he doesn't want to move the dumpsters for tin and glass to the other side of the parking lot for safety reasons, so during this time, they will not be accepting the items. Council responded to post this on the sign and put in the newspaper.

Next, Sam informed Council that we lost our cemetery building during a recent storm. He and Mrs. Novinger are working with the insurance company to determine the damage value.

Report of the Fire Chief: Chief Derr was absent.

Public Comments: Tom Aber thanked Council for allowing the use of Brown Avenue Park for the softball tournament.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property:

- A. On motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council approved a request from the Mifflinburg Borough/Police Department to utilize the Milton Fire Police for their carnival from July 29 – July 31, 2021.
- B. On motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. John Pfeil and carried, Council approved a request from the Milton Rotary Club to host the Annual Harvest Festival Bike Race on September 11, 2021.
- C. On motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved a Handicap Parking Space at 228 Hepburn Street as recommended by Mrs. Novinger and authorized Attorney Benion to prepare a Resolution for this.

General Government and Recreation:

- A. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved a request from the Milton Historical Society to provide a proper site between Broadway and the Police Department under the existing railroad canopy for the Milton Car Works tank car replica. The Milton Historical Society will be responsible for the maintenance for this. Attorney Benion suggested an agreement be sign outlining this.
- B. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council appointed Ruben Medina to fill the Council vacancy in the 4th Ward. The roll call vote for this was unanimous. This term will be until December 31, 2021. Mayor Shearer swore Mr. Medina in as a Council member.
- C. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. John Pfeil and carried, Council adopted Resolution #21-07 to terminate the Proclamation of Disaster Emergency for COVID from 2020.
- D. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. John Pfeil and carried, Council adopted the Quality-of-Life Ordinance #1235 as outlined by Attorney Benion.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council authorized the Borough Manager to open a savings account at Susquehanna Community Bank for the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.
- B. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Community Pool, Liquid Fuels, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$815,424.07.

Mr. John Cooper, 106 South Front Street, Milton, PA addressed Council to plant a Franklania Alatomaha tree in the Center Street Park in honor of the late Mayor Ed Nelson. He stated that it would be of no cost to the taxpayers and would be planted in the Spring of 2022. President Walker asked the Public Works Committee to research this and report back to Council.

There being no further questions or business, on motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Secretary/Treasurer