

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

January 27, 2016

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

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council approved the minutes from the January 13, 2016 Council meeting.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mr. Beck reported that the survey and engineering work is progressing for the Public Works Department Paving project; hopefully we will be ready to go to bid early spring and have an early fall completion.

We have made final payment for the Broadway portion of the 2017 Streetscape Project. There is an issue with the thermo-plastic peeling up from the crosswalks and railroad crossing warning areas. This will be addressed in the spring when weather permits.

Due to the State budget not being passed, Mr. Beck has not received any information on the status of the Multi-modal Grant application for the Front Street portion of the 2017 Streetscape Project.

Mr. Beck has been in contact with our Attorney concerning the status of both the CBA arbitration and the pending Dreishbach arbitration. She has informed him that the earliest we would receive a ruling on the CBA arbitration would be in April. The arbitration hearing was held on January 7, 2016. There has been no further movement on the Dreishbach matter.

Next, Mr. Beck requested Council to authorize him to purchase a fully equipped 2016 Police vehicle with a not to exceed cost of \$41,000.00. The base vehicle will be purchased through Costar contract #013-026. The required, after-market, Police equipment will be purchased from and installed by Keystone Communications. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council authorized Mr. Beck to purchase the 2016 police vehicle as outlined.

At the November 24, 2015 Council meeting, Council authorized the Milton Historical Society to organize the Borough's 200th Year Anniversary Celebration. John Meckley, from the Historical Society attended the December 9, 2015 Council meeting and informed Council of the preliminary fund raising plans they had for the celebration. Mr. Beck requested Council's permission to create a fund for the 200th Year Anniversary of the Borough of Milton Celebration and \$10,000.00 be deposited in the fund both in 2016 and in 2017, for a total of \$20,000.00 to be expended for the celebration. The monies would be transferred from the general fund reserve account. This is an allowable expenditure under Section #1202.41 of the Pennsylvania Borough Code, and the Borough would pre-approve all expenditures made from this account. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Cyphers and carried, Council authorized Mr. Beck to create the fund as outlined.

Mr. Beck informed Council that on Monday February 1, 2016, MRSA is scheduled to start up the new Belt Sludge Dryer. The contractor has informed us there may be a considerable odor until the equipment is properly calibrated. Council members may receive calls about this.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson had no report.

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

Report of the Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemyer reported that the Department has been working with the new District Attorney on a regular basis and things are going well.

Report of the Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported on the winter road maintenance to date this year. He also reported that construction continues in the maintenance bay of the garage. The Department has cleaned out and flushed storm drain pipes in the alley to the rear of A & S mechanical. The Winter Brush/Christmas Tree pick up was during the week of January 19th with the crew picking up all brush and trees in all five wards. The Department removed dead trees and brush along the south entrance of Brown Avenue Park and the community pool parking lot as well as the hill by the Harmony Cemetery garage.

Report of the Fire Chief: Fire Chief Stump reported that there were 306 calls in 2015 and 28 calls so far this year. He also reported that there were 1,967 EMS calls in 2015 and 155 so far this year. The department volunteers had a total of 2,381 hours of training in 2015.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property:

- A. On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved a request from the Standard Journal to promote the Community Yard Sale on May 7, 2016.
- B. On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved a request from the Milton Relay for Life to hold their Bark for Life event at Brown Avenue Park on May 21, 2016 and granted a variance to allow dogs in the park for this event.
- C. On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved a request from the Milton Fire Department to hold the 23rd Palm Sunday Ham Dinner on March 20, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and suspended the “no parking” regulations on Ridge Avenue near the station.

General Government and Recreation:

- A. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Farr and carried, Council authorized Attorney Benion to prepare a Resolution pertaining to the Emergency Operations Plan.
- B. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Farr and carried, Council authorized Attorney Benion to prepare and advertise an Ordinance pertaining to prohibiting smoking in all borough-owned parks and recreation areas including the parking lots. Mr. Specht stated that he feels it could be controlled by signs indicated where smoking is not permitted and designated areas where it is permitted. President Budman did a roll-call vote to determine if Council was in favor of the presented ordinance with the following response: Mr. Swartz – yes; Mrs. Meckley – yes, Mr. Keiser – yes, Ms. Fawess – yes, Mr. Cyphers – no, Mr. Budman – yes, Mr. Farr – yes, Mr. Specht – no, Mr. Walker – yes. With 7 yes and 2 no, motion carries.
- C. Research the feasibility of a Main Street Manager.

- D. Mr. Walker reported that regarding the agenda item regarding the use of the field located by Baugher Elementary – the Committee is waiting to hear from the Little League about this item.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Community Pool, Liquid Fuels, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$152,144.24.

Ms. Fawess reported that she has been in contact with the County Commissioners and they are interested in holding a community outreach at the Borough Hall in the future.

Mr. Walker thanked everyone involved in helping with the “no smoking” ordinance. He also commended the Public Works Department for their great work during the recent snow storm.

There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Cyphers and carried, Council adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Borough Secretary/Treasurer