

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

June 24, 2020

7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Shearer. The following Councilpersons were present: Mr. Shearer, Mr. Walker, Mr. Robol, Mr. Moralez, Mrs. Meckley, Mr. Specht, Mr. Dale Pfeil, Ms. Fawess, and Mr. Swartz. In attendance via Zoom Call was Mr. John Pfeil. Also in attendance were Jess Novinger, Shelly Sandstrom, Attorney Benion, Chief Zettlemoyer, Scott Derr, Sam Shaffer, and Kevin Mertz. Doug Diehl and Mayor Nelson were not present.

Minutes: Mrs. Meckley felt that her motion to advertise and fill the two positions open in the Public Works Department was incorrect, stating that she only made a motion to advertise the positions. Ms. Novinger reported that in her Manager's report she asked to advertise and fill the positions. Mrs. Sandstrom indicated that her notes read that the motion was to advertise and fill. Mrs. Meckley made a motion to amend the minutes to read advertise only. This motion was seconded by Mr. Specht. President Shearer stated that we have always authorized the Borough Manager and the Public Works Director to hire the Public Works employees. Mr. Walker made a motion to accept the minutes as they were presented, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil. After a roll-call vote with a result of 8 yes and 2 no, Council approved the minutes from the June 10, 2020 meeting, Council approved the minutes as presented.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mrs. Novinger informed Council that today is her one-year anniversary at the Borough and thanked Council for giving her the opportunity.

Mrs. Novinger then thanked all the Council members that were able to attend the investigative meeting at the Milton Community Pool on June 16th. She then recommended to Council that the Borough make the necessary repairs/updates to the facility to be operational for the 2021 season, however, any additional work would wait to see how the attendance at the facility will be at the end of the 2021 season. Following are the repairs/items needed to open at the end of the 2021 season: Repairs to the pump house rear wall for structural stability - \$30,000; Repair/replace tiles in both the main and baby pool (715 replaced) - \$12,250; Pressurizing the pipes under the concrete to identify and repair any leaks - \$5,500; and purchase a new pool vacuum - \$5,366.99. She asked for Council's permission to complete the projects listed for a not-to-exceed cost of \$53,116.99. After discussion, on motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council authorized the Borough Manager to proceed with the above-listed repairs to the Community Pool as outlined.

Next, Mrs. Novinger informed Council that the Harvest Festival Committee has chosen to cancel the festival this year due to the unpredictability of COVID-19 and future gathering limitations. She consulted our insurance Broker and he agreed that there would be concerns from an insurance standpoint if they had gone ahead with the event.

She then stated that Suburban Propane will be closing its fuel island as soon as the tanks are empty. The Borough was notified on Monday and is currently awaiting fleet cards from Sunoco for gasoline and Leighow Oil (Spirit) for diesel.

Mrs. Novinger explained that the reason for the agenda item for the new VISA card application via Susquehanna Bank (TMC) is due to the abrupt cancellation of our account from Chase, Ink, due to their inability to "certify the Beneficial Owner(s) of the business". The account could not be re-opened after multiple attempts to navigate Chase's customer service hotline and an extended period on hold. The Borough opted to find a local solution.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson was not in attendance, but Chief Zettlemoyer reported that he is home recovering and sends his regards.

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

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer reported that the Click-it or Ticket Program continues to be successful. Through the program, they have had over 100 stops. During the enforcement, a DUI arrest was made, and they located and apprehended a fugitive. He also thanked the community and businesses for their continued support.

Mr. Walker asked Chief Zettlemoyer why it is not mentioned about body cams in the agenda item to purchase a new police vehicle. Mrs. Novinger responded that she sent a memo earlier to Council that she and the Chief are working on this and looking into the process of dash cams or body cams, but both are not financially feasible at one time. Mr. Specht asked if the Police Department is having any problems with the Black Lives Matter events. Chief responded that there will always be questions and inquiries, but they have not had any major issues.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that they continue to move forward with stormwater work. They have 4 more to finish. He received the land easement from PP&L and should be able to start work on the pavilions at Brown Avenue Park soon. The special brush pick-up went well.

Report of the Fire Chief: Scott Derr reported that the Department has responded to 24 calls with 220 manhours so far in the month of June.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property: No report.

General Government and Recreation:

- A. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved the CDBG-COVID funding to be used as outlined by Linda Sterling from SEDA-COG as follows: \$43,465 as the LMI Project to the Salvation Army and \$18,600 to be used as urgent need to include things needed by the Borough due to the COVID-19 pandemic. \$6,800 goes toward administrative costs to SEDA-COG.

On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council approved the use of regular CDBG funds to be used as follows: \$73,449 toward the removal of architectural barriers; \$30,500 for slum/blight; and \$20,250 for administrative costs to SEDA-COG.

- B. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council adopted Ordinance #1228 amending Ordinances 762, 677, and 1159 pertaining to the Borough's Non-Uniformed, Non-Bargaining Retirement Plan to revise the retirement benefit for those full-time salaried employees hired on or after January 1, 2019.
- C. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council adopted Ordinance #1229 amending to repeal Ordinance #1226 pertaining to the Non-Uniformed/Bargaining Pension Plan.
- D. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council adopted Resolution #20-05 authorizing the Borough to obtain Visa cards through Susquehanna Community Bank.
- E. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council authorized Attorney Benion to advertise an Ordinance amending sections of the Code of Ordinances of the Borough pertaining to stop intersections, speed limits, and regulations.
- F. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved the SRO Agreement as outlined. This approves a second SRO Officer. Chief Zettlemoyer asked for permission

to hire Mark Evans as a condition employee. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council authorized hiring Mark Evans as outlined.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council authorized the purchase of a 2020 Dodge Durango through Co-Star for \$44,512.67 for the Milton Police Department as outlined by Mrs. Novinger and Chief Zettlemyer. Mrs. Novinger informed Council that we will be financing the vehicle through Susquehanna Community Bank with a 3-year payment plan and a 4% interest rate rather than using the Borough's Reserve account.

Mr. Walker stated that we need to expedite the Police Department getting body cams. He stated that this issue has been discussed and postponed for a long time and he does not want to see it not happen for another year or so. Mrs. Novinger and Chief Zettlemyer assured him that they are actively discussing this and looking into their options.

- B. 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 \$112,759.44.

There being no further questions or business, on motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Secretary/Treasurer