

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
(Hybrid Meeting)

April 12, 2023
7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Walker. The following Councilpersons were present: Mr. Robol, Mrs. Meckley, Ms. Fawess, Mrs. Mabus, Mr. Derr, Mr. John Pfeil, Mr. Moralez, Mr. Swartz, and Mr. Dale Pfeil. Also in attendance were Jess Novinger, Shelly Sandstrom, Sam Shaffer, Mayor Aber, Attorney Stephen Hartley, Seth Heddings, Chief Zettlemyer, and Amy Day. Solicitor Wiley was absent.

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Derr and carried, Council approved the minutes from the March 22, 2023 meeting.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mrs. Novinger reported that she and Sam Shaffer, Public Works Director, have talked to CAT at Cleveland Brothers regarding purchasing a new backhoe from the funds we've been awarded through a Local Share Grant. Ms. Novinger asked for Councils' consideration to allow her to sign a quote not to exceed \$164,998, which is less than the \$165,000 we were awarded for the Local Share Grant. Mr. Robol asked what the warranty was like and if it covered labor. Sam Shaffer reported that the warranty is 5 years – powertrain; 2 years – parts; no labor is covered. On motion of Mr. Moralez, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council approved the Borough Manager's request to sign the quote at a not-to-exceed cost of \$164,998.

Mrs. Novinger reported that she met with Bob Garrick from the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce, and they have been discussing information for the Borough's Strategic Plan. She will be circling back with him and gathering information to present to Council.

Mrs. Novinger reported that Co-Responder interviews are on-going and we are still actively accepting applications.

Mrs. Novinger reported that she will be finalizing and submitting our County ARPA fund report tomorrow.

Finally, Mrs. Novinger reminded Council and residents that our Spring Clean up will be the last week of April; April 24th, 2023 until April 28th, 2023.

Report of the Mayor: No Report.

Report of the President Walker: President Walker relived this morning of the Mayor calling him to tell him an officer was down and he immediately reached out to the Chief. He said today was a very quick reminder of the work they do daily. President Walker extended prayers from himself, Council, and the Borough of Milton to those affected today at the Pennsylvania State Police and Watsontown Police Department.

Report of the Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemyer reported that the Police Department has been very busy. They have had a recent death investigation on Hepburn Street as well as the current events that happened today in Watsontown. He saw his officers' training go into effect and it showed how much their trainings are paying off. Chief Zettlemyer stated that our SRO's are a huge part of our department. Today, they all left the schools and went to assist the other Police Departments. They are instrumental in securing a scene to ensure that families can be notified prior to seeing any photos online from a bystander.

Chief Zettlemyer informed Council that Prom is soon approaching and there will be several programs at the Milton High School focusing on drugs and alcohol.

Chief Zettlemyer also reminded everyone to please slow down. Kids are everywhere and the police are out with increased patrol.

Report of the Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that the mulching is almost complete. They are continuing to mulch at playgrounds. He reported that the Columbia Avenue park has recently been vandalized and the Public Works Department was able to repurpose the items and remove the vandalized items allowing children to continue to use the park.

Sam Shaffer currently has two men completing renovations at the Police Department.

Sam Shaffer reported that Street Sweeping will begin after Spring Clean-Up has concluded.

Sam Shaffer reported that we are accepting applications for seasonal mowers and we currently have had 2 applications for the positions and are in need of more.

Report of the Fire Chief: Seth Heddings reported that in March they have responded to 12 calls for service. The volunteer EMS staff have responded to 13 calls in March. Micu 15 has responded to 87 calls in March. He also reported that the Milton Fire Company held their 30th Annual Palm Sunday Ham Dinner.

Public Comments: Cameron Metzger, 442 King Street came to ask what the status is of the property cleanup for the property located near his home at 701 Shakespeare Avenue. Cameron was told by President Jamie Walker that the Borough Manager will follow up with the Code Enforcement Officer, Doug Diehl, tomorrow, and that Cameron can expect a phone call by Friday.

No other public comments.

Public Works and Cemeteries: No report.

Public Safety:

- A. On motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Morales and carried, Council approved a request from the Downtown Merchants Association to host First Friday events for May, June, July, and August using Hermani Park and the gazebo in Lincoln Park from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

General Government and Finance:

- A. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved preparing and advertising an amendment for special purpose parking zones to the Vehicle and Traffic Ordinance, Section 233-62.
- B. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved, with regret, a letter of Retirement from Michelle Sandstrom as Borough Secretary/Treasurer. Council President Walker thanked Shelly for 20+ years of service. Borough Manager, Jess Novinger informed Council that upon attending the PSAB conference in Hershey, she will be receiving awards for 20 years of service for both Michelle Sandstrom and Douglas Diehl, Code Enforcement Officer.
- C. Mr. Robol made a motion to amend the agenda to add consideration to close the Milton Community Pool. This motion was seconded by Mr. Morales and carried. Mr. John Pfeil and Mrs. Meckley were opposed.
- D. Mr. Robol made a motion to permanently close the Milton Community Pool. This motion was seconded by Mr. Derr. President Walker called for a roll-call vote on this with the following results: Mr. Robol – Yes; Mrs. Meckley – No; Ms. Fawess – Yes; Mrs. Mabus - No; Mr. Derr – Yes; Mr. John Pfeil – No; Mr. Walker – Yes; Mr. Dale Pfeil – No; Mr. Swartz – Yes; Mr. Morales – Yes. With a result of 6-4, this motion carried.

President Walker stated that Council has made many strides and discussed this many times. Council will not let the area become a grass field and they will be developing a plan for the site in upcoming Council meetings.

- E. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Liquid Fuels, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$223,496.97.

There being no further questions or business, on motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Derr and carried, Council adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Secretary/Treasurer