

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL  
(Hybrid Meeting)

AUGUST 12, 2026  
7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Walker. The following Councilpersons were in attendance: Mr. Swartz, Ms. Fawess, Mr. Pfeil, Mr. Derr, Mr. Garman (ZOOM), Mrs. Meckley, and Mr. Scheimreif. Also attending were Mrs. Foust, Mr. Sam Shaffer, Mr. Alec Klingler, Chief Heddings, Atty. Grimes, Chief Zettlemoyer and Mayor Aber. Absent from the meeting were Mr. Moralez and Ms. Moralez.

Minutes: On motion from Mr. Derr, seconded by Mr. Pfeil and carried, Council approved the minutes from the July 8, 2026, Council Meeting.

Report of the Borough Manager: Chief Zettlemoyer reported the following to Council: The DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant application has been submitted for the Mahoning Street Phase 1 project. The total grant request is \$700,430.00.

The 2026/27 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) application has also been submitted. This grant was completed with assistance from Northumberland County. Special thanks to Justin Skavery for his collaboration and support in making this submission possible.

Both grant applications required letters of support from community leaders, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and public entities. We appreciate everyone who assisted with and supported the submission of these grants.

PlateSmart visited the Milton Police Department to provide training and assist with the onboarding process for the LPR cameras. The camera project is nearing completion; however, we are currently waiting for PPL to install power at several locations. The cameras have already been used to assist in the apprehension of individuals involved in criminal activity.

We anticipate presenting a candidate to Council at the next meeting to fill the part-time code enforcement vacancy. In the meantime, Alec continues to assist with addressing quality-of-life concerns.

Jenn and I met with Amanda Bradley, President and CEO of the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce, to discuss the status of the Comprehensive Plan. Amanda indicated that she would work with us to ensure the plan is completed. We also discussed the façade grant process and anticipated funding opportunities that may become available this fall.

Pursuing these opportunities will require collaboration with several community organizations.

Jenn, Sam, and I met with Sarah Dries regarding upcoming Harvest Festival events. We will be reaching out to PennDOT for assistance with additional signage to ensure northbound traffic on Route 405 has sufficient time to adjust to lane closures associated with the event. A follow-up meeting will be held one week prior to the event.

The Borough's pension funds were recently audited, and there were no findings issued against the Borough. Special thanks to Jenn and Kaylei for their efforts throughout this process.

The Borough has been notified of a court date for the Arch St. Church issue. That date is October 15<sup>th</sup> in Northumberland County Court.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Aber thanked everyone for their attendance. He did not have anything else to report.

Report of the President of Council: President Walker provided a 30,000-foot view of the situation with the Church. He agreed with the residents and would like to get the road opened. He stated that the Borough does have a court date and the Borough continues to look for funding to remedy the situation. He also advised that the camera project continues through the gift from Mr. Dale Ranck. No taxpayer money is being used toward that project.

Report of the Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer advised that Qualyn Rice is ready to move to active duty on his own in the next month. Annual training continues. He reminded everyone that school is back in session and everyone should slow down. Officers will be out running speed checks.

Report of the Public Works Director: Mr. Shaffer advised Council of the following:

A. Street Maintenance

- Continuing with getting power to locations for new camera system and installed poles for said equipment
- Paved unnamed alley off Stills hill to High St 4<sup>th</sup> Ward
- Prepped and Paved unnamed alley Beaver St to Weis Parking lot 4<sup>th</sup> Ward
- Prepped and paved Pleasant Valley alley, Strein Ln to Hepburn St 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward
- Cleaned storm drains after several heavy rainstorms
- Cleaned weeds from curblines on Arch, Lincoln and N Front St
- Sprayed curblines in the entire downtown business district
- July 8- Aug 12, 2026, responded to 83 one call request

B. Cemetery / Parks / River and Creek banks

- 1 Grave opening/closing Harmony Cemetery, 4 Grave opening/closing Milton Cemetery
- Cut down and sloped bank at entrance of Brown Ave Park for ease of maintenance
- Mowing continues in all parks, cemeteries and Borough owned property
- Clean up of storm damage in several locations

C. Building Maintenance

- Pressure washed the front of Borough Hall & Police Station

D. Recycling

- Continued normal operations
- Curbside pickup

E. Equipment Maintenance

- Serviced washed all mowers
- Washed and cleaned all DPW trucks & Equipment
- Battery replaced on deck over trailer and paver
- Door latch replaced on 2019 F550

Report of the Code Enforcement Officer: Mr. Klingler reported the following: Since the last report, the Codes Department continued to carry out its core operational responsibilities, including rental inspections, property maintenance enforcement, and permit administration. A total of 4 building permits and 4 zoning permits were issued during this reporting period, along with 62 property citations. Department staff also completed 3 rental inspections and 4 building inspections associated with active permits and ongoing compliance requirements.

Property-maintenance enforcement remained a significant focus throughout the reporting period. Violations were issued across multiple categories, including 11 violations for garbage and rubbish accumulation, 22 violations for high grass and weeds, 24 violations for violations of the International Property Maintenance Code, and 5 violations for abandoned vehicles. These enforcement actions bring the year-to-date total to 445 violations issued by the department. In addition to routine enforcement activities, the Codes Department prepared Ordinance 1268, which updates the Borough's regulations governing street excavations and openings, for Council's review. The department also completed work on Ordinance 1266, concerning the formal closure of an unnamed alley.

The department continued providing assistance to residents by responding to inquiries related to zoning requirements, permitting procedures, and property-maintenance standards. These outreach efforts support voluntary compliance and help ensure consistent and fair application of borough ordinances.

The Codes Department remains committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of borough residents through consistent enforcement of municipal ordinances, responsive public service, and ongoing interdepartmental collaboration.

Report of the Fire Chief: Chief Heddings advised that in the month of August, the Milton Fire Department responded to two (2) fire and rescue calls, the QRS responded to four (4) calls totaling six (6) calls for the month. MICU 15 was dispatched to 74 calls for service. Members took part in six (6) hours of inhouse training totaling 120 manhours for the month. For July, the Fire department responded to 37 calls for service, the QRS responded to 25 calls for service totaling 62 calls for service, and MICU 15 responded to 232 calls for service. Members took part in nine (9) hours of inhouse training totaling 180 manhours for the month.

2025 January – July

Fire Department: 182 calls

QRS: 117 calls

MICU 15: 2500 calls

2026 January – July

Fire Department: 227 calls

QRS: 143 calls

MICU 15: 1495 calls

Report of the Library Director: No Report

Report of the MRSA representative: No Report

Public Comments: Steve Diehl – 1270 Grange Hall Rd- Advised council that he owns several lots in the cemetery, and he would like to see something done about people allowing their pets to use the cemetery as a bathroom. He advised the cemetery is not a dog park, and people should treat it with respect. The rules of the cemetery state animals are not permitted in the cemetery. He also advised that he spoke to the police and they advised that there is no ordinance in place to ticket those for not following the rules.

Richard Engleman- 370 Mahoning St – asked council if there is something that can be done about the tractor trailers using their brake retarders (jake brakes) in town. Chief Zettlemoyer to question PennDOT on signage for this issue.

Karen Moser – Woodside Dr – advised council of concerns with speeding and the lack of sidewalks on Shakespeare Ave. She advised many children use that route to and from school and she feels that its an accident waiting to happen.

Sarah Bakorski – Questioned council on the status of the church on Arch St. How is there no insurance, is the Borough looking for grant funding, and if the steeple is structurally sound why cant Arch St be opened?

Carmella Power- Franklin Ave Turbot Twp- Advised she is new to the Milton area and loves the town. She has noticed on her walks that the town has several decaying buildings and asked who she can contact when she notices a danger. Council advised on the Blight Committee and their purpose as well as contacting the Borough office and Codes Department with any concerns she may have.

Rob Jones – Locust ST – Questioned the \$200,000 benchmarked for the Church. Council advised that to move forward with the legal proceedings, the Borough had to show that funds were available for remediation. It does not mean that the Borough is spending that money. Mr. Jones also gave praise to the DPW crew for keeping the cemeteries in great shape.

Colleen Francis Geiss- Honeysuckle Ln – Voiced her concern with the 287-G vote that took place at the previous meeting. Questioned why there was no public comment, and how was there a tied vote, and why was the mayor allowed to vote? Council advised on the process of when there is a tie, that the mayor is the tie breaker.

Kate McCabe – Center St – Questioned the 287-G vote last month. Was there a cost analysis completed? What happens to the Borough's insurance? Attorney Grimes advised the Borough Council, and specifically the President Council, has the right to set the rules for public comment, and nothing in public comment requires any response from Council. It requires that the public have an opportunity to speak. There is a right to know request that is open. That right-to-know request may be granted, it may be denied, it may go through a hearing, but you'll also look for the records, at which point it will be adjudicated, and that's why Council's choosing not to address it at this point in time.

Judith Hill – Walnut St – Asked if Council was going to answer any of the questions being asked? She asked why Council was being “Dr. Fauci” and not answering.

Resident from 87 Franklin Ave questioned how many felony warrants and how many illegals have been arrested? Chief Zettlemoyer advised people can pull that information from the PAUCR website. The resident also asked if anyone from Council talked to Bloomsburg or Selinsgrove before they voted on the 287-G. Mr. Scheimreif advised that he did speak to Selinsgrove and their issue was with insurance.

Vanessa McGaro – 25 Old Orchard Rd – Where is the footage from the cameras going and where is it being stored? Is the Data being shared. Chief Zettlemoyer advised the data is not being sold. It's on our servers and from an operations standpoint, we will not be discussing those items.

Wendy Hall – 52 Filbert ST – Would like to see sidewalks maintained better since the trees are causing the sidewalks to heave.

Lois Snyder – 30 Sycamore Ln- questioned when sidewalks will be put in on Sycamore Ln.

Mark Neilson – Honeysuckle Ln – 287-G with any precedent with Borough in the past with the vague language in the MOA. Was it reviewed by the solicitor. Would like to see the matter taken up with more care and questions answered.

Lynn Yocum – 314 High St – questioned if ordinances could be placed online prior to votes. Mrs. Foust advised they will be placed on the Milton website moving forward.

At this time, 8:00 p.m. the CDBG public hearing began for the project selection. Council selected the following projects to be submitted for approval via motion from Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Scheimreif, and carried:

1. Stormwater Mitigation – Sugar & Mill Alley
2. Slum Blight Removal
3. SEDA-COG administration

Total funding of \$121,824

The hearing concluded at 08:13 p.m.

#### Public Works and Cemeteries:

- Consideration to work with the regional PennDOT Municipal Services Coordinator, Barry Garvick, to prepare and advertise bid documents to pave Hepburn St. utilizing funds from Liquid Fuels.
  - On motion from Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Swartz, and carried, council approved this request.
- Consideration to approve Ordinance 1266 vacating an unnamed alley in the second ward.
  - On motion from Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Scheimreif, and carried, council approved this request.
- Consideration to approve Ordinance 1267 Street Openings and Excavations.
  - On motion from Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Derr, and carried, council approved this request.
- Consideration to approve Ordinance 1268 Traffic Ordinance Amendment.
  - On motion from Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Derr, and carried, council approved this request. Mrs. Meckley was opposed.
- Consideration to approve Resolution 26-03 approving handicapped parking space on Columbia Ave.
  - On motion from Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Swartz, and carried, council approved this request.
- Consideration to allow Sam Shaffer to attend the PSATS Public Works Expo November 10-11, 2026 for a cost not to exceed \$400.00.
  - On motion from Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Swartz, and carried, council approved this request.

#### Public Safety:

- Consideration to approve TIME's list of events to be held in Lincoln Park. They are requesting use of the park, pavilion and electricity.
  - On motion from Mr. Derr, seconded Ms. Fawess, and carried, council approved this request.

General Government and Finance:

- Consideration to approve the 2027 MMO's.
  - On motion from Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Scheimreif, and carried, council approved this request.
- Consideration to pay the bills from the General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Liquid Fuels, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$260,461.74.
  - On motion from Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mrs. Meckley, and carried, Council approved this request.

At this time, 8:22 pm, on motion from Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Scheimreif, and carried, Council adjourned.

(Seal)

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Foust  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer