

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL  
(Hybrid Meeting)

January 11, 2023  
7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Walker. The following Councilpersons were present: Mr. Walker, Mr. Dale Pfeil, Mrs. Meckley, Mr. Swartz, Mr. Robol, Mr. John Pfeil, and Ms. Fawess. Also in attendance were Jess Novinger, Shelly Sandstrom, Attorney Wiley, Sam Shaffer, and Mayor Aber. Mr. Morales, Mr. Derr, Chief Zettlemoyer, and Doug Diehl were absent.

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council approved the minutes from the December 14, 2022, Council meeting.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mrs. Novinger reported that the Borough has retained its PSAB+ Training membership for 2023, which all Borough Officials and Staff are entitled to access. We will continue to have free access to most PSAB webinars. She will email a link to PSAB's training schedule and will take care of anyone wishing to register for anything.

Next, she informed Council that DCED has approved the Milton Police Department's Social Worker program utilizing CDBG-CV funding. She and the Chief are meeting with SEDA-COG, Northumberland County Mental and Behavioral Health Representatives, and representatives from the Center for Community Resources (CCR) to iron out details and get the program up and running as soon as possible. There will be a formal press release once all organizations involved have reviewed the draft.

She and Sam met with PennDOT representatives, Matt Swartz, and Joseph Lyons on Friday, January 6. We have formed a tentative plan for cycling through the funding PennDOT offers to replace/evaluate all the traffic signals within the Borough. The next steps would be to find and hire a traffic signal consultant to put together drawings and estimates, as well as pass a resolution authorizing the Borough Manager to be the authorized signer on the first grant application in the cycle for the Automated Red-Light Enforcement (ARLE) program, which is due in June and does not require a municipal match. Mr. John Pfeil asked if there was a cost estimate for this project. Mrs. Novinger responded that she does not have an estimate yet but will inform Council as things progress.

She then informed Council that she and Sam have also been working with SEDA-COG to get all the information required to amend our current contract with Peters Consultant's, Inc. for engineering of additional ADA curb cuts on South Turbot Avenue from Susquehanna Avenue to Race Street utilizing CDBG funding for removal of architectural barriers. Peter's Consultant's was the low bid on July 15, 2022, and continues to come in significantly under the other engineering bids. Linda Sterling from SEDA-COG will have an official amendment for the January 25 meeting. This will coincide with the final paving done by Big Rock from UGI's main replacement project and where the Borough will tie-in with paving utilizing Liquid Fuels funding this year.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Aber reported that the Christmas Program delivery went very well, and he was able to ride along with Mark Evans to deliver the gifts. He thanked all that donated to the program and those that helped. There are more deliveries every year. He continues to do wedding ceremonies.

Report of the President of Council: President Walker introduced Jennifer Mabus who was in attendance and is interested in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Council vacancy. He asked her to wait until the end of the meeting for questions from Council. He then reported that there would be a Revitalization meeting at Chef's Place on January 18<sup>th</sup>. He asked the Borough Manager and the Code Enforcement Officer to attend the meeting.

President Walker then informed Council that the Quality-of-Life Ordinance is in progress and will be back to Committee soon for review. With regard to the strategic plan, Mrs. Novinger has not received a call back from the Chamber.

He then welcomed Troop 605 Milton Boy Scout group to the meeting. They were in attendance to earn their Citizenship of the Community Merit Badge.

President Walker thanked everyone who participated and donated to the Christmas Program through the Police Department.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer was absent. Officer Lehman had no report from the Chief but stated that there has been an increase in the use of meth and crimes related to this.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that all Christmas decorations are down. They are picking up Christmas trees and brush this week. They have dealt with several minor winter storms since the last meeting with no incident. They are making progress enclosing the Recycling Center, but he has no time yet when it will be completed.

Report of the Fire Chief: No report.

Public Comments: Dean Crites, Scout Master for Troop 605 thanked Council for allowing the troop to attend the meeting to earn their Community Merit badge.

Public Works and Cemeteries: No report.

Public Safety: No report.

General Government and Finance:

- A. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. John Pfeil and carried, Council adopted Resolution #23-01 for handicap parking for 258 Park Avenue.
- B. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council appointed Charles Swartz to the Milton Regional Sewer Authority as nominated by Ms. Fawess. This is a 5-year term from 2023-2027. Mr. Swartz abstained.
- C. Mrs. Novinger asked Council to table amending the current agreement between the Milton Historical Society and the Borough asking to remove the requirement to place a canopy over the existing ACF Railcar replica. She feels we need approval from Mr. Gumbo who donated the Railcar to the Historical Society.
- D. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Payroll, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$262,355.03.

President Walker then asked Jennifer Mabus to approach Council for questions to fill the vacancy in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward for Council. Jennifer introduced herself saying that she is excited about the way she can contribute to improving the Borough. She works as a Career and Technical Education Aide at the Milton High School. She is from Milton and other than leaving to serve in the Navy, she has always lived here. She stated that she believes in serving because she served her country and now it's time to serve her town. Ms. Fawess said that February is Career Tech Month and there are a lot of programs at the school that she is happy about. Mr. John Pfeil asked how she sees her role on Council. Mrs. Mabus replied that she's not sure yet, but has read the previous minutes, she will observe, and is ready to help. Mrs. Meckley asked what she is most passionate about. Mrs. Mabus replied that she loves the town and would love to see it flourish. She has a strong loyalty and ownership of Milton. Mayor Aber thanked her for coming in and thanked her for her work at the school. Ms. Fawess said that it is important what she is doing at the school and hopes to build a stronger relationship between the school and the community.

Ms. Fawess made a motion to add to the current agenda appointing Mrs. Mabus to Council to fill the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Vacancy. This motion was seconded by Mr. John Pfeil. After a roll-call vote of 7-0, Mrs. Mabus was appointed to Council. This term will end in December 2023.

There being no further questions or business, on motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Dale Pfeil and carried, Council adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom  
Secretary/Treasurer