

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL  
(Hybrid Meeting)

May 10, 2023  
7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Walker. The following Councilpersons were present: Mr. Walker, 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, Sam Shaffer, Doug Diehl, Mayor Aber, Solicitor Wiley, Dakota Bearce, Chief Zettlemyer, and Amy Day.

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Derr and carried, Council approved the minutes from the April 26, 2023 meeting with one correction.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mrs. Novinger informed Council that Ron Marshall, Milton YMCA Branch Executive Director, reached out to her asking for the Borough to compose a letter of support for its grant application to the Stabler Foundation in support of its locker room renovations. She asked for Council's consideration to allow her to write this letter of support. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council approved this request.

She then asked for Council's consideration to compose a letter of support for Pat Mack, from the Northumberland County Housing Authority, for its HUD security grant application to purchase additional security cameras for all three of its affordable housing locations in the Borough (Hepburn Acres, Milton Towers and Filbert Street). Mrs. Novinger noted that the Housing Authority works well with the Police and would share access of footage and information if needed. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. John Pfeil and carried, Council approved this request.

Next, she informed Council that the Milton Rotary Club donated 20 new American flags to replace any flags flying on the Milton bridge in need of replacement.

Mrs. Novinger reported that the interview process has begun for the Secretary/Treasurer position. Several applications have been received via Indeed and a few emails from the website or Facebook post. She anticipates having a candidate to bring for Council's approval at the upcoming meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

She then informed Council that CCR (Center for Community Resources) will be making an offer to an applicant that applied for the co-responder position. Pending everything is accepted and goes through, that individual will be at the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting to meet Council Members.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Aber had no report.

Report of the President Walker: President Walker announced a multi-phase process to revitalize Brown Avenue. The Brown Avenue Revitalization Committee has been assembled with the following members: Jamie Walker, Chief Zettlemyer, Mr. Dale Pfeil, Mrs. Mabus, Mr. Derr,

Mayor Aber, Mrs. Novinger, Mr. Shaffer, Chris Coup, Bonnie McDowell, Amanda Bradley, Jason Letteer, Kevin Scheimreif, Pat Mack, Lance Laubach, Rod Harris, Dr. John Bickhart, two Milton Area High School students - Hunter Zettlemoyer and Abby Kitchens. As of now, there are 19 members. The committee will come to Council with an ideology of what the future for Brown Avenue looks like. Mr. Walker stated that we have to create something that we know is going to live on way past our time. The park is used by a lot of individuals, and we have to do a better job. There is no timeline for the Brown Avenue Revitalization multi-phase process, but the committee will meet every two weeks, they will be agenda driven and very involved.

Report of the Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer stated that the Northumberland County Housing Authority works great with them and he's spoken to other municipalities and they do not have that. The cameras would be very helpful that the Northumberland County Housing Authority shares with the Department.

Chief Zettlemoyer informed Council that the community has been a victim of a retail theft ring, of over \$100,000. Some individuals have been captured and some have not. He asked that the community call the police or report to the store owner if they see anything suspicious. The individuals are using multiple vehicles with different plates and they are very organized.

Chief Zettlemoyer gave Officer Davis and our other SRO's a shout-out for the Prom coverage and the extra trainings they completed.

Chief Zettlemoyer then informed Council that the department was at the range yesterday and will be over the next several weeks for their qualifications.

Report of the Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that the crew has completed the Spring Clean-Up and residents were given notice if they had items out that were unacceptable.

Sam Shaffer reported that the curbside recycling pick-up went well and they are aware they missed Brown Avenue due to the gas line construction. He stated the cemeteries have been taken care of from any winter damage and all the parks should be finished this week with playground mulch.

President Walker asked about the Brown Avenue street construction and Sam Shaffer stated that the projected gas line construction on Brown Avenue was originally to be a 12-week project and they are moving along faster than they thought and will likely be complete in the next two to three weeks. The street restoration won't be done immediately, it will have to settle for a month or so until they come back through for the final restoration.

Mr. Derr asked about the potholes in town and Sam Shaffer reported that no one around us has cold mix, we can only buy hot mix. This will be addressed as soon as the material is available.

Report of the Fire Chief: Dakota Bearce reported that the Fire Department has responded to 5 calls for service. The volunteer EMS staff have responded to 10 calls. Micu 15 has responded to 58 calls.

Public Comments: Kris Lavanish, 521 Center Street, also the Milton Public Library director, informed Council that the library is turning 100 on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month. They are having an open house and doing a big campaign. She thanked Council members who have already sent checks.

Public Works and Cemeteries:

- A. Regarding the Consideration to amend the current agreement between the Milton Historical Society and the Borough.

Mr. John Pfeil stated that initially the person who did the restoration of the train car wanted it covered, he since said it's not necessary if annual inspection and maintenance are completed. Mr. John Pfeil moved to amend the current agreement between the Milton Historical Society and the Borough, seconded by Mr. Moralez, followed by a roll-call vote, which denied this motion. The roll-call results were as follows: Mr. Robol – yes; Mrs. Meckley – no; Ms. Fawess – yes; Mrs. Mabus – no; Mr. Derr – no; Mr. John Pfeil – yes; Mr. Walker – no; Mr. Dale Pfeil – no; Mr. Swartz – yes; Mr. Moralez – yes; being tied 5-5, the mayor voted no; denying this motion and keeping the requirement of the canopy.

Mr. Dale Pfeil inquired if the Milton Historical Society had a range of cost or budget. President Walker informed Council that nothing has been turned into the Borough regarding numbers.

Public Safety:

- A. On motion of Mr. Dale Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved a request from the Central PA Pickleball Lovers. This motion is that the Central PA Pickleball Lovers purchases the paint and tape for all the courts and contributes the labor to tape out the lines and the Public Works Department will clean the area and apply the paint.

Mr. Dale Pfeil stated that awhile back we agreed to paint lines on two of the courts and the high school tennis coach objected to them all being painted. He made a motion to paint the two until we speak with the tennis coach. In the audience was the assistant tennis coach, Joanna Johnson, informed Council that they had tennis matches in Lewisburg and there all the lines are painted, and it wasn't an issue. The pickleball lines are blue and the tennis lines are white. Ms. Johnson stated that they have no interference with each other and the pickleball players wait until the tennis players are finished before coming onto the court. Also in attendance were many supporters of pickleball as well as D'Arcy Sampsell.

Mr. Robol asked D'Arcy Sampsell to tell him about the tournaments that the pickleball players hold and if they come into the Borough to request usage of the courts. He also asked if there was a charge. Mrs. Meckley asked if they were a non-profit. D'Arcy clarified that they are just a club and they would reach out to an organization to host a

tournament and then the pickleball players would manage it. They are not in to make money for the club, but to raise money for other organizations.

Mr. Dale Pfeil then rescinded his motion of only painting the two lines until we speak with the tennis coach.

General Government and Finance:

- A. On motion of Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Moralez and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$106,118.48.

Mr. Moralez requested to know when the borough sold the Milton Regional Sewer Authority for and the amount that it was sold for. Borough staff will e-mail this to Council.

President Walker wished Mr. Moralez and Mrs. Novinger a Happy Birthday. Mr. Moralez wished President Walker a Happy Birthday as well.

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Amy Day  
Borough Clerk