

**Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

October 25, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Walker at 7:00 PM.

**Attendance:** President Walker, Mrs. Meckley, Ms. Fawess, Mrs. Mabus, Mr. Derr, Mr. J Pfeil, Mayor Aber, Mr. D Pfeil, Mr. Swartz, and Mr. Moralez (Mr. Robol was absent). Also present: Jess Novinger, Brittnee Vann, Sam Shaffer, Officer Henrie, and Atty Wiley

*Motion* to approve the meeting minutes from Oct. 11, 2023: **1<sup>st</sup> Moralez / 2<sup>nd</sup> D Pfeil / Carried**

**Borough Manager's Report**

- The Borough received notice that Mr. Bob Benion, Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor and Mr. Randy Rhoads, Pension Solicitor are both planning to retire at the end of 2023. The Borough is seeking to fill these vacancies and is working with Solicitor Wiley to identify individuals locally that may be willing to serve in these capacities \*Professional Services do not require a formal bid process
- The Winterfest Committee has a letter submitted for approval later in the agenda outlining all their upcoming events – I wanted to highlight Santa's arrival and tree lighting ceremony that will now include craft and food vendors on December 1st. The Committee and Borough worked together to complete all the necessary PennDOT road closure forms
- I attended the KMIT Trustees meeting yesterday (Oct 24) to discuss upcoming Unemployment Compensation rates. I am pleased to say that rates will remain the same for 2024; however, the Borough's experience MOD has increased slightly over last year and will therefore result in an increased premium. The Borough's safety committee and via the KMIT safety grant, I intend to work diligently in 2024 to bring that MOD back down. (went from .811 to .971\* being under 1.0 is still considered good)
- Sam and I have been working with PennDOT to answer additional questions and prevent future delays on the paving projects underway on the State Routes. The wearing course will be completed as soon as the ADA curb cuts have been completed
- I am presenting the Borough's TASA application for wildlife crossings within the Marsh Road Project to the SEDA-COG MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) board on Friday to answer any additional questions prior to the Board and PennDOT considering the grant for award
- Council President Walker and I met with Bob Garrett, of the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce – he is willing to revise his original proposal to do a Strategic Plan for the Borough, to now do a Comprehensive Plan at the same not to exceed cost of \$5,000.00. The Comprehensive Plan would be completed by October of 2024. The monies for this project were previously allocated and Council voted to proceed with the Strategic Plan on March 8, 2023

\*Council motioned to add approval of the Comprehensive Plan to the agenda:

**1<sup>st</sup> J. Pfeil / 2<sup>nd</sup> Meckley / Carried**

### **Mayor's Report**

- Attended Milton's Track-or-Treat event where roughly 1100 children visited

### **President's Report**

- Asked everyone to please be safe and drive appropriately for Halloween
- Commented on moving forward with the Comprehensive Plan and how it's a big deal for the Borough and community to have the opportunity to utilize one as it will be great for the future of Milton

### **Chief of Police's Report**

- Officers have been training with the new drone
- The PD has assisted in two (2) Trick-or-Treat events so far and both ran smoothly
- Officers are looking forward to having a safe Halloween night
- President Walker asked about speed traps in which Officer Henrie and Sam Shaffer were able to give helpful responses per the legality of speed traps being located in the Borough

### **Public Works Director's Report**

- Brush pick-up is going well and only a few notices have had to be handed to residents who didn't follow pick-up stipulations (i.e. no dirt balls, etc.)
- Leaf pick-up has started and will continue until the first snowfall
- Working with PennDOT regarding the ADA ramps as well as the paving on 405. There will be no more night paving as the temperatures are getting too cold at night so paving is to commence during the day on Friday and Saturday or until completed
- Two (2) more storm sewer issues were found on Mahoning near the Weis store. DPW is working to get those taken care of

### **Fire Chief's Report**

- 31 Calls for Service, 13 EMS Calls, and 177 MICU calls
- Ambulance rechassis is on schedule

### **Public Comments**

- Lynn Yocum – to continue the topic of the Comprehensive Plan, Mr. Yocum asked President Walker if the Borough had checked with other companies for costs and quality of their comprehensive plans. President Walker, Mrs. Novinger, and Mr. D. Pfeil were all able to respond that there are other comprehensive plans on hand that can be viewed by anyone interested but ultimately the Chamber is a quality worth investing in at the rate that was provided which is lower than other companies and the plan is going to be a great foundation that can always be adjusted in the future if need be

### **Public Works and Cemeteries**

- Nothing to report

### **Public Safety**

- *Motion* to approve the list of anticipated events for the 2023 Milton Winterfest which includes: Santa and Mrs. Claus, Tree Lighting At Lincoln Park, Craft & Vendor Fair, Breakfast with Saint Nicholas, Home Decorating Contest, and Pictures with Santa

**1<sup>st</sup> D. Pfeil / 2<sup>nd</sup> Swartz / Carried**

### **General Government and Finance**

- *Motion* to enter into an agreement with Northumberland County for snow removal on the bridges and sidewalks within the Borough **1<sup>st</sup> Fawess / 2<sup>nd</sup> Meckley / Carried**
- *\*Motion* to approve moving forward with the Comprehensive Plan from Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce rather than the originally proposed Strategic Plan, not to exceed the cost of \$5,000 **1<sup>st</sup> Fawess / 2<sup>nd</sup> Meckley / Carried**
- *Motion* to pay the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$341,918.85: **1<sup>st</sup> Fawess / 2<sup>nd</sup> Meckley / Carried**

### **Final Comments**

- LERTA went to the Planning Commission where the tax abatement was heard and will be included on in the Planning Commission's next meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>
- President Walker thanked everyone for their time and efforts

*Motion* to adjourn at **7:29 PM**

**1st Meckley / 2<sup>nd</sup> D Pfeil / Carried**

Submitted By:



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**Brittnee Vann**  
Secretary / Treasurer