

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

January 10, 2018

The meeting was called to order with the following Councilpersons in attendance: Mr. Specht, Mr. Keiser, Mr. Cyphers, Ms. Fawess, Mr. Shearer, Mr. Farr, Mr. Walker, Mrs. Meckley, Mr. Budman, and Mr. Swartz. Also in attendance were Chuck Beck, Shelly Sandstrom, Sam Shaffer, Doug Diehl, Attorney Benion, and Chief Zettlemyer. Mayor Nelson was absent.

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Mr. Shearer and carried, Council approved the minutes from the December 13, 2017 Council meeting. Mr. Walker and Mr. Farr abstained.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mr. Beck informed Council that Mr. Faubion retired from the Public Works Department effective 12/31/2017. He completed 38 years of service with the Borough.

Due to Mr. Faubion's retirement, Mr. Beck requested Council's permission to advertise for an Operator in the Public Works Department. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council authorized this request.

Next, Mr. Beck stated that the Borough currently owns a 2000 Ambulatory vehicle that is being used as a Fire Police Vehicle. Due to its age and condition, he requested Council to authorize him to advertise and sell it through MuniBid. On motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved this request.

The Borough has received the Highway Occupancy Permit for the Front Street Streetscape Project and we have mailed notification letters to property owners that own property in the limit of work area. The bids will be advertised in January, opened in February, and hopefully construction will begin in early spring of 2018.

We have also received the Act #101 Section #904 Recycling Performance Grant for the calendar year 2015 in the amount of \$29,123.00. Milton Borough continues to collect the largest recycling tonnage of any municipality in Northumberland County.

Mr. Beck reported that he is going to have the computer system in the Borough Office updated to include updates to the backup system and each of the four computer stations. He is also going to purchase a new desktop computer for the Police Clerk, have applicable software installed, update the in-house system, decommission one server, and move all information into existing remaining server. Even though the costs are far under the required quote amount he wanted to inform Council due to questions from Council in the past concerning computer associated costs.

The last time the Borough's Comprehensive plan was updated was in 1996, it should be done at least every ten years. Mr. Beck has spoken with several consultants concerning updating the Borough's Comprehensive Plan, and he asked for Council's permission to allow him to draw up RFP's for Consulting Services to work with Council, himself, and other Borough committees and representatives through the process of updating the plan. On motion of Mr. Farr, seconded by Mr. Swartz and carried, Council authorized Mr. Beck to prepare the RFP's for the Comprehensive Plan as outlined.

Next Mr. Beck requested Council's permission to purchase a 2018 Ford F-550 all-wheel drive dump truck, including a stainless-steel dump body, stainless-steel salt spreader and a power reversing snow plow, at a cost of \$69,296.00. This truck would be purchased through the co-star program and would be paid for through the cemetery budget and reserve account on a 50/50 basis. On motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council authorized this purchase.

Mr. Beck then requested Council's permission to advertise and sell a 2007 F-550 dump truck and deposit the funds from the sale into the cemetery budget and reserve account on a 50/50 basis. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council authorized this request as outlined by Mr. Beck.

Mr. Beck informed Council that the last time Cemetery costs were adjusted was October 2009, and as with everything else, the operating costs have increased. Mr. Beck asked for Council's approval to increase the costs as follows:

Grave Openings

Full Grave

(1) Monday thru Friday	- \$ 700.00	- this is a \$100.00 increase
(2) Sunday	- \$ 900.00	- this is a \$100.00 increase
(3) Holidays	- \$1,200.00	- no change
(4) Infant/Child	- \$ 200.00	- \$50.00 increase

Cremations

(1) Monday thru Friday	- \$300.00	- \$50.00 increase
(2) Sunday	- \$400.00	- \$100.00 increase
(3) Holidays	- \$600.00	- \$100.00 increase
(4) Infant/Child	- \$150.00	- no change

Lot Sales

(1) Full Grave	- \$700.00	- \$100.00 increase
(2) Cremation (Milton Only)	- \$300.00	- \$50.00 increase
(3) Baby Lots (Harmony Only)	- \$200.00	- \$50.00 increase

Footers

All footers shall be installed by Milton Borough at a charge of \$.75 per square inch. This is a \$.25 per square inch increase.

On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Cyphers and carried, Council approved the amended cemetery costs as outlined by Mr. Beck.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson was absent.

Report of the President of Council: President Budman had no report.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer informed Council that he attended a meeting with the Pennsylvania Attorney General held at Evangelical Community Hospital regarding the opioid epidemic. During the meeting, Chief Zettlemoyer said he suggested the state modify reporting standards for law enforcement officials to include a box which could be checked on reports if a crime is linked to drugs. He said that if an individual commits a burglary to support a drug habit, reports filed to the State only include that burglary charges were filed. This would help portray a true picture of just how many crimes are drug related.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that the department continues with winter maintenance, clearing the river bank, and flood mitigation. He informed Council that he would be having knee surgery next Monday and would be off for two or three days. Council wished him luck with his surgery.

Report of the Fire Chief: Chief Stump distributed year-end reports to Council. He stated that in 2016, the Fire Department responded to 342 calls with an average response time of four minutes. An average of 11 volunteers responded to each call with a high of 24 members responding to three different calls. Of the 342 calls, 66 were motor vehicle accidents, 44 were calls to assist emergency medical services, 20 were building fires and 30 were to assist police or other agencies with traffic control. He also reported that the Department's ambulance which is staffed by Evangelical Community Hospital, responded to 2,102 calls for service in 2017.

Public Comments: Tea Jay Aikey, President and CEO of the Central PA Chamber of Commerce was in attendance stating that she is at the meeting to observe and see what is going on in the Borough and will be attending more meetings in the future in Milton, as well as other communities to see if the Chamber can assist them with anything.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property:

- A. On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Mr. Farr and carried, Council approved a request from the Milton Moose Family Center to hold their second annual Beer Fest on Saturday, June 9, 2018, as outlined closing Elm Street from Center Street to South Front Street from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for this event. The Milton Police Department will assist if necessary. Mrs. Meckley was opposed.

General Government and Recreation: No report.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Community Pool and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$233,354.88.

Doug Diehl handed out information regarding a Conditional Use Hearing that will be held at the January 24, 2018 meeting.

Mr. Shearer asked Mr. Beck a question about the Streetscape Project asking if they could continue the project to include Walnut Street to Broadway at some point in the future. Mr. Beck responded that an underground conduit will be installed during this phase of the project making it easy to connect without digging if we expand the project in the future.

There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Shearer, and carried, Council adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Secretary/Treasurer