

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

February 25, 2015

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

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council approved the minutes from the February 11, 2014 Council meeting.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mr. Beck had no report.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson informed Council that Ron Keiser received an award at the Fireman's Banquet for 50 years of service in the Fire Department. Council congratulated Mr. Keiser on his achievement.

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

Report of the Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer reported that there is a Prison Board meeting at the end of March that he will attend and report back to Council. He also stated that the Strategic Plan for the Police Department is on the agenda for consideration.

Report of the Fire Chief: Fire Chief Shaffer had no report.

Public Comments: Connie Wallize from Park Lane asked Council if the burning ordinance would be discussed at this meeting. President Budman responded that it is an agenda item and would be discussed under the General Government Committee report.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property:

- A. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Keiser and carried, Council approved a request from the Standard Journal to hold the Community Yard Sales on May 1 and May 2, 2015.

General Government and Recreation:

- A. After a presentation from Curtis Barrick from Larson Design Group, on motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council approved a Land Development Plan from Weis Markets for an approximately 100,000 square foot addition to the Weis Warehouse in the Milton Industrial Park.
- B. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Farr and carried, Council adopted Resolution #15-01 between the Borough and PennDOT regarding the revised Winter Maintenance Agreement.
- C. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council adopted Ordinance #1194 – Definitions Ordinance as outlined by Attorney Benion.
- D. Mrs. Meckley stated that the next agenda item is to consider authorizing Attorney Benion to advertise the revised Burning Ordinance. President Budman asked for Public Comments. Fred Simon, King Street, had questions about the revised Ordinance asking if it has to be in a structure designed just for burning and could he possibly just put food

over the flame to be considered in the guidelines. Attorney Benion responded that open burning would no longer be permitted, however there were five exceptions to the ban: domestic or industrial heating purposes; charcoal or wood used in the food preparation process; decorative lighting such as tiki torches; for emergency services operations; and any activity specially approved by Council such as a high school bonfire. Connie Wallize, Park Avenue resident, stated that the only way for her to dispose of personal mail is to burn it. She will not recycle or shred it due to security risks. She suggested that Council charge residents \$1 per week for the ability to burn on their own property. She and Dottie Wallize, also from Park Avenue, feel their rights are being taken away from them. Council member Farr countered by saying that neighbors have the right not to smell the smoke created by those who do burn. Connie Wallize responded that if you just burn papers it does not create smoke. President Budman stated that this approval tonight does not mean there is an immediate ban on burning; it simply authorizes the advertisement of the Ordinance. The proposed Ordinance will be in the Standard Journal, on the Borough's website and available to review at the Borough Hall. President Budman advised the residents to attend the next Council meeting with their concerns after reviewing the proposed Ordinance.

On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council authorized Attorney Benion to advertise the revised Burning Ordinance. Mr. Walker was opposed.

- E. On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council authorized Attorney Benion to advertise the Penalty and Violation Ordinance.
- F. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council approved the proposed Strategic Plan from the Milton Police Department.
- G. Mrs. Meckley reported that her committee is continuing to work on the Borough's rental inspection ordinance. As part of the changes, they will be recommending requiring rental properties to be inspected every three years in the Borough. Currently, rental properties are only inspected when tenants move in and out.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Mr. Swartz and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Community Pool, Liquid Fuels, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$103,152.65.

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Mr. Swartz and carried, Council adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Borough Secretary/Treasurer