

## MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

March 12, 2014

The meeting was called to order with the following Councilpersons in attendance: Mrs. Meckley, Mr. Specht, Mr. Farr, Mr. Shearer, Mr. Budman, Mr. Keiser, Mr. Peterman, Mr. Cyphers, Mr. Swartz, and Mr. Walker. Also in attendance were Attorney Benion, Mr. Beck, Mayor Nelson, Sam Shaffer, Chief Lutcher, and Shelly Wood.

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Cyphers, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council approved the minutes from the February 26, 2014 Council meeting.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mr. Beck informed Council that the Council Report for February would be handed out at the next Council meeting.

He then reported to Council that the contract between the Borough and the Milton Police Officer's Association (MPOA) expires on December 31, 2014. It is for that reason he asked for Council's permission to notify the M.P.O.A. Steward, Officer Embeck that the Borough is prepared to begin negotiations. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council authorized Mr. Beck to begin negotiations.

Next, Mr. Beck stated that the contract between the Teamsters expires on December 31, 2014. It is for that reason that he asked for Council's permission to notify the union representative, Mr. Little that the Borough is prepared to begin negotiations. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Shearer and carried, Council approved this request.

The bids have been advertised for the renovations to the Public Works Building and the pre-bid meeting was held. The bid opening will be held on at the Borough Hall on March 21, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. After reviewing the bids with the architect, Mr. Beck will make a recommendation for Council's consideration at the March 26, 2014 meeting.

As he informed Council at the February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Borough has one open grant for TIME in the amount of \$60,000.00. It is the close-out grant and has a close-out date of June 30, 2014. When we received the grant he forwarded TIME \$50,000.00 and retained \$10,000.00. This week he forwarded TIME \$7,500.00 which leaves a balance of \$2,500.00 to be utilized for the audit, which Neal Lewis has agreed to complete. If there are monies remaining after the audit is paid they will be forwarded to TIME. This will close out all the Downtown Revitalization Grants between the Borough and TIME.

Mr. Beck reported that he has been asked by a member of the Watsontown Council if Milton Borough Council would be willing to discuss the feasibility of forming a Regional Police Department. He informed him that he felt Milton Council would probably be willing to discuss the matter. Mr. Beck then e-mailed President Budman and informed him of the phone call. Other than the initial phone call Mr. Beck received, there have been no further discussions on the matter. Mrs. Meckley made a motion that discussion would only be held if we receive a written notification from the full Council of Watsontown Borough. This motion died due to a lack of a second.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson had no report.

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

Public Comments: John Meckley, representing the Milton Public Library thanked Council and the Borough staff for all of their support for the Library.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property – No report.

General Government and Recreation

- A. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved the proposed language pertaining to the Milton Public Library as outlined and authorized advertisement of the changes to the Ordinance.
- B. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Shearer and carried, Council approved a request from Fogarty Homes to allow the construction of seven duplex structures and one single residential structure in Phase 2 of the Rolling Ridge Project. However, before any other dwelling can be constructed, the Community Park must be completed.

Mr. Farr asked Mr. Beck when the porta-potties would be placed in the parks. Mr. Beck responded that it was typically in April, but he would have them placed sooner as the weather permits.

Finance, Health, and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mr. Shearer, seconded by Mr. Cyphers and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Investment Reserve, Payroll, Pool, Liquid Fuels, and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$71,109.69.

At this time, 7:31 p.m., Council entered into an Executive Session pertaining to personnel matters regarding the Chief of Police. Council re-convened at 7:42 p.m.

On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council accepted the retirement agreement between the Borough and Chief Craig Lutcher. Chief Lutcher thanked Council and the staff for all of their help through the years. Council applauded Chief Lutcher on his performance as Chief.

President Budman asked the General Government Committee to review the existing job description for the Chief of Police and incorporate any necessary changes for advertisement.

On motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council approved advertisement for the Chief of Police position upon completion of the updated job description.

President Budman stated that at the next meeting he would be appointing a committee to assist through the interview process to hire a new Police Chief.

Mayor Nelson reported that until a Chief of Police is hired, Officer Curt Zettlemyer will be the Officer in Charge.

There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Meckley, seconded by Mr. Walker and carried, Council adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Wood  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer