

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

April 12, 2017

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

Minutes: On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Cyphers and carried, Council approved the minutes from the March 22, 2017 Council meeting. Ms. Fawess abstained.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mr. Beck addressed Council stating that he would like to take the time to clarify a few misconceptions that have come to his attention concerning various events and projects that have been completed and some that are being planned.

The 2017 Streetscape Project was originally the idea of TIME. They had a concept of what they wanted to construct and Borough Council authorized them to proceed with the concept and begin their fund raiser to pay for the project. After approximately 3 to 4 years they were not able to find funding for the project and asked the Borough to partner with them on the project. Mr. Beck recommended to Council that if they wanted to be involved with the project that it would become strictly a Borough project. Council and TIME agreed that the project would be a Borough project. After that, he was able to secure a Multi-Modal Grant and a Keystone Community Development Grant. The Borough committed \$54,750.00 and TIME committed \$150,000.00 in required matching funds. TIME also asked the Borough to consider having George Venios be Mr. Beck's assistant and pay him 10% of the grant funds I secured for the project. Mr. Beck informed Council that he did not need an assistant on this project and any monies we paid to George Venios would take away from the project. Council agreed and he moved forward with the project, working with the engineers, and submitted the final design for Council's approval which they did and we began the construction phase of the project. When Mr. Beck got to the point that he needed the matching funds, he contacted TIME and requested the \$150,000.00 they committed. He was told they did not have the \$150,000.00 but they had \$72,461.50 which they gave to the Borough. This meant the Borough had to make up the unfunded balance of TIME's commitment in the amount of \$77,538.50, plus the Borough's commitment of \$54,750.00 for a total of \$132,288.50 from the Borough. The project was finished on time and on budget by the Borough. To date, the Borough has not received the \$77,538.50 balance from TIME's original commitment.

The second phase of the project is Front Street. TIME is not involved with this phase at all.

Mr. Beck applied for an \$800,000.00 Multi-Modal Grant for the Front Street Phase and was awarded \$588,202.00 the required match funding is \$170,065.00 from Community Development Block Grant and \$252,087.00 from the Borough's Reserve Funds. Due to the reduced amount of Grant Funding he received, it was necessary reduce the footprint of the project. After reviewing it with the engineers, Mr. Beck recommended that Council reduce the project area from Walnut Street to Mahoning, to Broadway to Mahoning. The project is scheduled to be completed in June of 2018.

The TIME organization had nothing to do with the reconstruction of the Municipal Parking Lot. This project was a Borough project and was funded through CDBG Funds, Liquid Fuel Funds, and Reserve Funds. The design, funding, and construction inspection was completed with in-house staff.

Mr. Beck asked John Meckley if he would be interested in being chairman of a Council appointed committee to plan and oversee the Bi-centennial Celebrations. He said he would as long as he could

work in conjunction with the Milton Historical Society and pick his own committee members. Council agreed and appointed him as chairman of the Bi-centennial Committee. Council also designated the Bi-centennial functions and events as Borough Functions which includes them under the Borough's Liability Insurance Policy. Council also instructed Mr. Beck to deposit \$25,000.00 in a sinking fund to be used for the celebration costs. John Meckley along with the committee, which is all volunteer's, have been very successful at fund raising and scheduling interesting and exciting events for the Bi-centennial Celebration.

The Beer Festival Is not a Borough designated function. It is his understanding it is to benefit the TIME Organization and being held under the Moose License and liability insurance.

The Borough was not involved with the purchase of the clock, the landscaping, or the monument constructed at the southeast corner of Arch and Broadway. It is Mr. Beck's understanding that the Milton Savings Bank contributed \$50,000.00 to TIME for the purchase of the clock and landscaping, which is located on their property.

TIME is a stand-alone non-profit organization and its events and or projects are not designated by the Borough and the Borough does not provide financial support to them. Any future project they wish to undertake that is located on Borough property will require prior permission for Borough Council.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Nelson thanked Sam Shaffer and the Public Works crew for the great job during the recent Spring brush/leaf clean up.

Mr. Walker also thanked the Public Works Department for all of their work at Brown Avenue Park.

Report of the President of Council: President Budman read a letter from FEMA stating that the Borough will continue to have their CRS Class 7 rating and a 15% discount for residents. President Budman commended Doug Diehl for all of his hard work and efforts to achieve this goal.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer reported that there is no date confirmed when the new cruiser will be on the road. He met with John Meckley recently to discuss events for the BiCentennial and things are going well as planned. He also thanked everyone involved with the work done at Brown Avenue Park.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that the Public Works Department has been repairing pot holds on all streets and repairing damage from plowing. Spring brush and leaf pick up has started. They finished repair work at the Brown Avenue Park baseball fields and cleaned leaves at the Tennis Courts and Skate Park.

Report of the Fire Chief: Chief Stump reported that he attended the Fire Chief's meeting last month regarding 911 changes. He feels there will be no changes for us. It will still be Union County dispatching in Union and Snyder County in Snyder. The Department's current radios will stay the same for at least 3 more years. Next, Chief Stump informed Council that during the snow storm in March, there were 4-10 members in the station for 48 hours in case of an emergency. On March 18 & 19, 10 members attended Muncy's training weekend. The Palm Sunday dinner was successful. They served 425 dinners and 43 different members prepared and helped serve. Since last meeting, there have been 29 emergencies.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Highways and Protection to Persons and Property:

- A. On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Ms. Fawess and carried, Council approved a request from the Milton Lions Club to hold their annual carnival at Brown Avenue Park from May 31 - June 3, 2017.
- B. On motion of Mr. Swartz, seconded by Mrs. Meckley and carried, Council approved a request from the Salvation Army to hold a Block Party on May 20, 2017 using the alternate street closing.

General Government and Recreation

- A. At this time, 7:25 p.m., Attorney Benion opened a Public Hearing to vacate a portion of Starrett Street in the 5th Ward. There being no public comments, Attorney Benion closed the Public Hearing at 7:26 p.m.
- B. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council adopted Ordinance #1211 vacating a portion of Starrett Street in the 5th Ward as outlined by Attorney Benion.
- C. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council authorized Attorney Benion to prepare and advertise an amended Ordinance (1021) increasing fees.
- D. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Specht and carried, Council entered into a lease agreement for a portion of Cherry Alley with the Milton YMCA. This is a five year lease with a 60-day out clause.
- E. On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Farr and carried, Council approved a request to use the council room on Thursday, May 4th for the Loretta M. Sprengle Essay Contest winners.

Finance, Health and Sanitation

- A. On motion of Mr. Shearer, seconded by Mr. Cyphers and carried, Council approved paying the bills from General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Community Pool and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$160,716.12.

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Cyphers and carried, Council adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Shelly Sandstrom
Borough Secretary/Treasurer