

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
(Hybrid Meeting)

August 28, 2024
7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Walker. The following Councilpersons were in attendance: Mrs. Mabus, Mr. Morales, Ms. Fawess, Mr. Swartz, Mr. Robol, and Mr. Pfeil. Also, in attendance were Jessie Novinger, Sam Shaffer, Jennifer Lamoreaux, Chief Zettlemyer, Atty Wiley, and Mayor Aber. Absent from the meeting were: Mr. Derr, Mrs. Meckley and Mr. Scheimreif.

Minutes: On Motion from Mr. Morales seconded by Mr. Pfeil, and carried, Council approved the minutes from the August 14, 2024, Council Meeting. President Walker abstained.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mrs. Novinger informed Council that the Borough received the 2025 Pension Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for each plan, and they are as follows: Police - \$246,812.00; Non-Uniformed/Non-Bargaining - \$89,256.00; Non-Uniformed/Bargaining Defined Contribution - \$40,000.00. TOTAL MMO's for 2025: \$376,068.00. The MMO's are funded through Act #205 Funds, Employee Contributions, and General Funds. (Difference of \$6,934.00 over 2024).

Mrs. Novinger then advised Council that she, President Walker, and Vice President Morales met with Brianna Apfelbaum Kula, Solicitor for the Sunbury Redevelopment Authority, on Monday, August 26th at 2PM to learn more about the Redevelopment Authority's process for addressing blight within the City. She advised this may be a model the Borough would like to pursue to further address blighted properties within the Borough. She would like to discuss establishing a Blight Review Committee and the proper Blight Ordinance(s). She did address this with President Walker and would like to proceed with setting of the Committee with the help at Solicitor Wiley. President Walker added his thanks to Ms. Apfelbaum Kula for talking with them over the hour she was on site. He advised she did an outstanding job. He advised that he met with Mrs. Novinger and Mr. Diehl at length about this issue, and the Borough will be setting up a committee. President Walker advised that anyone from council that would like to participate, should let Mrs. Novinger know and she will share with President Walker.

Mrs. Novinger had one other topic for Council's consideration, she advised that a few nonresidents have been asking about proration of the \$50.00 price tag for the recycling sticker – this was not something we had considered when originally working on the ordinance. As an example, if a non-resident were to purchase a sticker in September should they pay \$46.00 vs \$50.00: in October \$42.00 vs \$50.00 (basically \$4.00 off per month for round figures)? She posed some things to consider, such as the Borough does not limit the amount of goods one can bring to the drop-off center, nor does the Borough limit the number of times one can come to the drop-off center. The holidays are a time when we see a spike in cardboard. Mr. Robol made a motion to keep the \$50 fee for the entire year, Vice President Morales seconded, however Mr. Wiley spoke up and advised that the Ordinance already has the price set at \$50, so there would be no need to amend the agenda or make any changes if the cost is remaining the same. Mr. Robol and Vice President Morales rescinded their motions

Mrs. Novinger advised that the rest of her report was informational only to prepare for the next Council Meeting.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Aber advised that he attended and spoke at the Freedom Life Block Party at Brown Ave with Pastor Cruz on Saturday, August 17th.

Report of the President of Council: President Walker advised that Bill Seibert will be remaining on the MRSA board until a replacement is found. Just as a reminder he is retired from Con Agra. There is nothing that prohibits him from remaining. The Blight committee will be ready for the next meeting. He also thanked everyone that reached out to see how his vacation in Africa went.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer advised the first few days off school went well, outside of a few children getting on the wrong buses. Patrols continue in the school zone to monitor speed and have people slow down. He also advised that the Harvest Festival begins in two (2) weeks, there will be detours in place for the bike race as far as Filbert St specifically. The Borough and Police department will still be accessible for emergency situations. President Walker asked the Chief to meet with the Public Safety Committee for Office Wachter's six-month review, and to meet with Mr. Pfeil to review the camera schematics.

Report of Public Works Director: Mr. Shaffer reported that the crew has completed right of way clearing of the streets, and have moved to the alleys, they are in the third ward and should finish up by the end of the week. The street sweeper is out again in the Borough, sweeping was completed in the first ward on Tuesday (August 27th) and Wednesday (August 28th) and started the second ward as of Wednesday afternoon and will continue until the entire Borough is completed again. Crews continue to mow and are performing other clean-up projects around the Borough. New cameras were installed at the recycling center and are working well. The new gate is also working well, and the recycling did drop off in the first 2 weeks of the month, however it is starting to increase again. Mr. Shaffer also wanted to let everyone know that on Saturday, UGI will be installing gas in the house next door to the recycling center and that he notified UGI that they will need to work around those coming to use the recycling center.

Report of the Fire Chief: Chief Heddings and Chief Derr were absent from the meeting.

Public Comments: No Comments

Public Works and Cemeteries: No Comments

Public Safety: No Comments

General Government and Finance:

- Consideration to approve paying the bills from the General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Liquid Fuels and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$218,542.45.
 - On motion from Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Moralez, and carried, Council approved this request.

President Walker then asked if there was any other business or comments, Mr. Shaffer thanked Council for purchasing the bucket truck. He advised its working well and on the road. President Walker requested an update on LERTA, Mrs. Novinger responded that she did get a response from the county advising that the county passed something a long time ago to support LERTA on their end and that the Borough will need to work with the school moving forward. Ms. Fawess questioned where the Borough stood with Bob Garrett and the Chamber, Mrs. Novinger advised that there was a meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 29th at 1pm.

At this time, 7:13 p.m., motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mr. Moralez, Council adjourned.

(Seal)

Submitted By:

Jennifer Lamoreaux
Borough Secretary/Treasurer