

MILTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
(Hybrid Meeting)

June 12, 2024
7:00 p.m.

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

Minutes: Mrs. Meckley stated she would like the comments from Atty Wiley and Mrs. Novinger added to the minutes on the penalty for leaf waste removal in Ordinance 1253 before approving the minutes from the May 22, 2024, meeting. After discussion on how to move forward, Mr. Robol made a motion to approve the minutes with the updated wording added, seconded by Ms. Fawess, and carried, Council approved the minutes from the May 22, 2024, Council meeting with the requested update from Mrs. Meckley. Mr. Pfeil abstained.

Report of the Borough Manager: Mrs. Novinger advised Council that the final punch list of items to wrap up the curb cut project on S. Turbot Ave will be taking place June 17th – 21st. The final walk through will be completed by June 28th.

Mrs. Novinger then asked for Council's consideration to work with the regional PennDOT Municipal Services Coordinator, Barry Garvick, to prepare and advertise bid documents to pave S. Turbot Ave. utilizing funds from Liquid Fuels.

- On Motion from Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Pfeil, and carried, Council approved this request.

Mrs. Novinger advised that the Borough will be extending its HOME grant contract one more year through May 13, 2025, at the Commonwealth's request. SEDA-COG prepared the extension agreement. She also mentioned that Milton has been selected as a stop for the annual "Go Joe" event, where Joe Snedeker, from WNEP, bikes through communities to raise money for St. Joseph's Center. The event is tentatively set for July 22nd.

Mrs. Novinger reminded Council members to review the changes in the Recycling Ordinance requested at the last Council meeting, so that the Borough is able to send updated information to residents at the end of the month.

As a final announcement, Mrs. Novinger stated that Hardline Volleyball has found another location and is no longer requesting use of Brown Ave. Park.

Report of the Mayor: Mayor Aber had no report.

Report of the President of Council: President Walker reminded everyone that All-Stars has begun, and that there is a lot of activity at all the parks in the Borough. He encouraged everyone to come out and show their support for the teams.

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Zettlemoyer informed Council that Beer Fest went well with no incidents to report, and unfortunately, he couldn't say that about the rest of the week. He advised that there have been several use of force incidents recently, and that Christian is doing well and filed his first series of felony charges.

Chief Zettlemoyer then advised that the graphics on the new car were not to the Borough's liking and have since been removed from the car and will be removed from the invoice. It will go to have the graphics replaced on June 26th with the vendor that handled the graphics in the past.

Report of Public Works Director: Sam Shaffer reported that crews cleaned out all the storm drains in the Borough, and they are good for the season. He is working on a project with Mrs. Novinger to camera and inspect the storm line on Mahoning Street where it floods with heavy rain. Mowing continues in the cemeteries. He advised that he and Mrs. Novinger are working on getting the recycling center up and running in the next few months. Once the ordinance is complete, the system is already up and running and has been tested quite a few times. Users will need to proceed slowly so that the system has time to read the sticker and open the gates. There will be updated signs at the facility for traffic movement.

Report of the Fire Chief: Chief Heddings read the Fire Department report as: So far this month of June, the Fire Department has responded to 8 calls, the volunteer QRS has responded to 4 calls for service, and they were also on Standby for the Milton Beer Fest. MICU 15 has responded to 87 calls. He advised the new utility truck has been built and shipped to Reading Truck. The Brush and Engine are on standby for the Watsonstown Carnival's fireworks tonight.

Public Comments: No Comments

Public Works and Cemeteries: No Comments

Public Safety:

- Consideration to approve a request from Brookside Ministries Church to do community outreach on August 24, 2024, in Brown Avenue Park from 10am – 3pm.
 - On Motion from Mr. Derr, seconded by Mr. Swartz, and carried, Council approved this request.
- Consideration to approve a request from Independent Home Health to hold a caregiver appreciation event on July 10th and 11th from 10am – 2pm in the Hermani/Milton Garden Club Mini Park on South Front St.
 - On Motion from Mr. Derr, seconded by Mr. Swartz, and carried, Council approved this request.
- Consideration to approve the Milton Rotary's request to hold the Annual Harvest Festival Bike Race on September 7, 2024. They would like approval for the bike race to pass through some of the roadways in the Borough. Requesting help from the Milton Fire Police to assist with Traffic Control, and for approval to use the Borough Council room for registration the morning of the race. President Walker raised concern to Mrs. Novinger and Chief Zettlemyer about the use of Filbert St. and the placement of the Start/Finish line. Mrs. Novinger stated that the Finish line needs to be pushed back to allow access for first responders in the face of an emergency.
 - On Motion from Mr. Derr, with the addition of the information from Mrs. Novinger, seconded by Mr. Pfeil, and carried, Council approved this request.

General Government and Finance:

- Consideration to approve the SRO Agreement with the Milton Area School District. Mrs. Novinger advised that the only changes made to the SRO agreement were the updated KMIT insurance rates and the PSAB unemployment compensation to state up to the first \$10,000, this figure includes overtime.
 - On Motion from Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Scheimreif, and carried, Council approved this request.
- Consideration to approve paying the bills from the General Fund, Reserve, Payroll, Liquid Fuels and Cemetery accounts in the amount of \$206,086.03.

- On motion from Ms. Fawess, seconded by Mr. Scheimreif, and carried, Council approved this request.

President Walker asked if there were any questions from Council to Council: Mr. Robol expressed his thanks for the quarterly financial report that was distributed. Mrs. Novinger advised that Amy Day did the heavy lifting, and she would share his remarks.

Mrs. Meckley requested an update on the progress of Marsh Road. Mrs. Novinger advised that there has been no movement on this subject. She reminded Council that the Borough applied for three (3) grants, two (2) through CFA DCED that were not awarded and one (1) through TASA that was also not awarded. The Borough is having conversations with Northumberland County's Dirt and Gravel Road program coordinators in the coming week to see if anything can be done through that program. The Borough is \$2.8 million short in funding to cover the project last valued at a little over \$5 million. The Borough has \$2.697 million waiting to move forward but the Borough is still seeking \$2.8 million. Mr. Scheimreif inquired about a timeline to use the funds already awarded, Mrs. Novinger advised that we have until June 2025 to begin construction. She advised that the Borough is talking with DCED, representatives at SEDA-COG, Representative Stender and Senator Culver to see if we can reallocate funds to another project within the Borough if another source of funding does not present itself. No other questions were posed.

At this time, 7:16 p.m., motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Pfeil, seconded by Mrs. Mabus, Council adjourned.

Submitted By:

Jennifer Lamoreaux
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

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