

**MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL
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(CENTRE COUNTY)**

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**SPECIAL MEETING
July 26, 2011**

President Linn Auman called the special meeting of the Millheim Borough Council to order at 7:04 p.m. with the following persons in attendance: Linn Auman, Kay Brown, Alan Ilgen, Tom Strebel, Sharon Heckman, Glenn Ripka, Brian Niewinski, and Leslie Warriner.

Absent: Marlene Corl, Lauralee Snyder and John R. Miller, III

The meeting with Steve Balky of Ameron Construction to discuss the bid received for the Playground/Ball Field Upgrade Projects attended by Linn Auman, Todd Smith and Leslie Warriner was discussed. Mr. Balky reduced his bid and tried to redesign the playground with a savings of \$60,000 but the amount is still more than the money available for these projects. Todd Smith recommended more negotiations with Ameron and if the price can't be reduced enough the projects may be rebid in separate contracts. Kay Brown and Alan Ilgen like the idea of telling Mr. Balkey what the Borough's budget amount is and if he can't reduce the bid to that amount the project will be rebid. A design moving the playground to the eastern corner of the property up near the sidewalk was discussed. Leslie Warriner feels that if fencing and heavy plantings are done between the playground and the sidewalk this should be a workable plan. Brian Niewinski doesn't think it will be a problem for ball parents if the playground is moved to this upper corner. This move would minimize the wall and would require less grading and fill. After discussion, it was decided the existing fence is not in good enough condition to be reused. Mr. Niewinski reported that Arlen Kauffman has agreed to help the ball team with masonry work on the dugouts. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to authorize Todd Smith to continue to negotiate and value engineer with Ameron Construction to reduce overall project costs and come back to the August meeting with a recommendation to award or rebid the projects. Motion carried.

A memorial for Susie Parrett was discussed. President Auman explained that adding brass plaques "In Memory of Susie Parrett" to the downtown flower baskets was one idea because these baskets were originally her idea and she took care of them. Since 2000 only one basket has been stolen and it was returned. He also explained that no plaques have been placed in Fountain Park for any other donations that have been made. Tom Strebel stated that he likes the idea of plaques on the flower baskets. Alan Ilgen suggested that Council think about this until the August meeting.

The Secretary presented a breakdown of the costs incurred by the Borough for the old Mill Property to be offered at the public auction on July 27, 2011. The unanimous consensus of council was to set the reserve price for this property at \$37,037, which includes all costs to date and 1% of that total to cover the Auctioneer's fee. Glenn Ripka explained that when the Borough took over this property the sidewalk issue was discussed and Council decided that sidewalk repair/replacement of this property would not be required until a structure was put on the property.

In response to a question raised by Alan Ilgen, the Secretary reported that the Solicitor recommended waiting to handle the variance request from David Rearick/Jay Houser until the regular August Council meeting.

In response to a question raised at the July 12 meeting by Kay Brown, Glenn Ripka reported that the sidewalk repair/replacement at the old Gladys Rearick house on Penn Street has been completed.

A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Motion carried.

Sharon A. Heckman

Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer