

MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL
225 EAST MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 421
MILLHEIM, PA 16854
(CENTRE COUNTY)

267

FAX (814) 349-5733

PHONE (814) 349-5350

REGULAR MEETING
November 10, 2015

President Alan Ilgen called the regular meeting of the Millheim Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following persons in attendance: Ed Bowman, Alan Ilgen, David Sprowls, Sharon Heckman, John R. Miller, III, Michele Aukerman, Tim Bowser and Richard Winebold.

ABSENT: Kay Brown and Leslie Warriner

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Brian Chilton, the structural engineer working with Uni-Tec, reviewed with Council his written report on his inspection of the town clock tower in the old church building owned by Gary Gyekis. He found that through years of neglect the wood has rotted allowing water to get behind the masonry. He also found that one section of masonry near the top of the tower is bulged out. This section is precarious and may come loose. The lower section of masonry is in decent water tight condition. The water damage has worked into support of the floors and planks. Mr. Chilton explained that the corrective action would be to replace the wood in the upper section; make it water tight and reestablish the tie back to the building. There should also be new planking and connections to the beams. He explained that the cost to make repairs would be significant. In response to a question about removing the clock, Mr. Chilton explained that things could probably be shored up temporarily to remove the clock but if the tower isn't brought back there is a potential for the brick to fall. In response to a question, Mr. Winebold said the clock could be removed from the tower and stored safely in the Borough building. He explained that the clock dates to 1876 with a retail value for the clock/dials/bell of \$39,000 and that because it has four faces it is very rare. Most of these clocks are in Pennsylvania. President Ilgen requested the Solicitor contact Mr. Gyekis asking him to attend the December Council meeting to discuss this issue. If the clock is to be removed, Mr. Chilton recommends having a crane to remove it from the top for safety reasons.

Lauralee Snyder entered the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Michele Aukerman reported that the performance of the Sewer Plant is improved. She also reported on a follow-up inspection with DEP. DEP asked that the operational changes made to the plant be added to the Operation and Maintenance Manual and that Mr. Rupert consider protecting the exterior PVC discharge pipe from UV degradation.

Ms. Aukerman then discussed the organic loading Corrective Action Plan. The thirty (30) days of BOD testing at the sewer plant has been completed. To date there were three separate days the results exceeded the plant's permitted organic capacity of 200 pounds per day. The next step would be to sample the collection system for thirty (30) days to determine which section of the borough the high load is coming from so that area can be the focus of more testing to locate the source. Council decided to rent two samplers available from Fairway Labs and Ms. Aukerman will look for competitive prices for two additional samplers so all four sections of town can be sampled during the same thirty (30) day period starting as soon as possible. Ms. Aukerman can contact DEP about extending the December 31, 2015 deadline for the testing if necessary.

President Ilgen explained that Tim Bowser needs something from the Borough explaining that he can be connected to the public sewer to move his subdivision plans forward with the Centre County Planning Office. Mr. Bowser explained that he needs two EDU's to get approval for the subdivision and it remains to be seen what the total amount of EDU's he will require. Mr. Sprowls explained that he still has concerns about the impact and feasibility on the sewer and Mr. Bowser explained that he won't do anything that violates what Millheim needs to do to be compliant with DEP. Mr. Bowser further explained that some breweries truck brewery waste out to farms. President Ilgen explained to Mr. Bowser that Council doesn't want him to invest money and then can't expand and they also don't want a situation where no one else can build a house in Millheim. The Solicitor explained that the Borough never allows anyone to buy capacity without plans. Mr. Bowser will talk to his engineer to be sure what the Centre County Planning Office needs and he will get this information to the Solicitor. Nothing more can be done on this issue until the December meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT/HARB:

The written report submitted by Mike Lesniak was reviewed. Simon Leach of 105 Dana Drive has applied for two sign permits. One sign is to be placed on property owned by Donald Martin. The signs meet all criteria in the ordinance and the Penns Valley Code Enforcement Office recommends approval. A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the request from Mr. Leach as recommended by the Code Enforcement Office. Motion carried. There was no HARB meeting.

268 **EMPLOYEE REPORTS:**

The written report submitted by Justin Kerstetter was reviewed with no questions.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: No meeting was held in October.

OLD ACTION:

At this time, there is nothing more to report on the STAG Grant.

The Energy Independence Project was discussed. Nine homes in Millheim qualified for weatherization from Centre Action and Ms. Richards thinks there may be thirty more that could qualify. She estimates that eighteen people had energy audits done and saved approximately 12,000 kilowatts/month. President Ilgen thinks the surveyors should get together again. Ms. Richards would like to do a free workshop in February to teach people how to do their own caulking, etc. Mr. Bowman explained that he spent 1-1/2 hours at the polling place on election-day talking to people about the Project.

To date there is no further information on the Winter Sidewalk Maintenance Agreement with PennDot.

To date there is no further information on the Source Water Management Report.

President Ilgen reported that a Fire Tax Meeting has been scheduled for November 15, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. The truck the Fire Company is looking at must be ordered by the end of the year.

NEW ACTION:

The 2016 tentative budget was discussed. The proposed 2016 tentative budget is balanced with no tax increase. A Resolution will have to be done to increase the sewer rate \$1.00 making the 2016 sewer rate \$67.50/EDU.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the 2016 tentative General Fund Budget as presented with no tax increase. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the 2016 tentative Water Fund Budget as presented with no rate increase. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the 2016 tentative Sewer Fund Budget as presented with a \$1.00/EDU rate increase making the sewer rate \$67.50/EDU for 2016. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the 2016 tentative Liquid Fuel Fund Budget as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the 2016 tentative Fire Tax Fund Budget as presented with no rate change. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the 2016 tentative Downtown Beautification Fund Budget as presented. Motion carried.

The Solicitor explained that he doesn't think the Borough can make the change Mr. Lesniak is proposing which would allow him to issue tickets for snow removal or lawn maintenance because this would violate the Borough Code. He explained that the Borough Code is specific about what the Borough can do. He will talk to Mr. Lesniak about looking at possibly changing the time periods in the ordinance. No action will be taken on proposed Ordinance #257 at this time.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to accept the letter of resignation submitted by Kay Brown effective immediately. Motion carried.

The Secretary reviewed with Council her written report on the Leased Streetlight LED Conversion Workshop that she attended the end of October. Before leaving this meeting information on the Borough's contract with West Penn Power was requested and this information has been received. The Mayor volunteered to enlarge the map received so it is more readable. Mr. Sprowls volunteered to take the information and determine which sections of lights could be converted at no cost to the Borough.

An offer has been received from Delaware Township to purchase the hot patch buggy that was purchased jointly with Penn Township in 2010 for \$5,000. The Solicitor reported that Penn Township approved the sale of this equipment at their meeting on November 5, 2015. During discussion, the consensus of Council was to split this money evenly with Penn Township. A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the sale of the hot patch buggy to Delaware Township for \$5,000. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None


A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the minutes of the October 13, October 21 and October 26, 2015 meetings as presented with the following correction to page 262 of the October 13 minutes: "Add the word "linear" to the last sentence of the tenth paragraph. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to approve the October financial reports as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to pay the solvency fee for 2016 in the amount of \$321.01. Motion carried.

The written report submitted by the Secretary was reviewed.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Dave Sprowls to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m. Motion carried.



Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer