

**MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL
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(CENTRE COUNTY)**

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**REGULAR MEETING
November 8, 2016**

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: Patty Beckenbaugh, Ed Bowman, Alan Ilgen, David Sprowls, Lauralee Snyder, Leslie Warriner, Sharon Heckman, John R. Miller, III, Roy Rupert, Tim Bowser, Scott Myers and Carl Rote.

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Scott Myers expressed concerns about changing State Street on the South side of Rt. 45 to a one-way alley entering from Rt. 45. He explained he pulls out onto Rt. 45 every day from this alley. Mr. Myers stated that a speed test should have been done first. He also stated that you can't park a foot from the curb and not get a mirror knocked off. Mr. Myers also raised concerns about traffic speeding now that the parking spaces have been eliminated in front of his property. President Ilgen explained that we had other comments also and they will be considered but in all options discussed PennDot required that these spaces had to be removed.

HARB/CODE ENFORCEMENT:

The Code Enforcement's written report was reviewed.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:

The Planning Commission met so they could provide comments on the two grant applications being submitted to the PA Small Water/Sewer Program. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve submission of both applications and to state that both projects are in compliance with the comprehensive land use plans.

EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

The written report submitted by Justin Kerstetter was reviewed with no questions. Mr. Sprowls raised a concern about ponding water possibly draining into the sewer line but Mr. Rupert reported that this isn't happening. Mr. Rupert reported that to be considered for sending sludge to UAJA a Chapter 271 Sludge Analysis must be completed along with other paperwork. He isn't sure this would be a benefit to the Borough. Mr. Rupert also reported that John Myers is unhappy with the water pressure at his daughter's house on Hillcrest. The property across the street has the same pressure and no other complaints have been received. Mr. Rupert suggested he put a pressure tank in the house.

OLD ACTION:

The downtown parking issue was discussed. Mr. Sprowls explained that the road is not wide enough in front of Mr. Myers area for cars to be parked on both sides of Rt. 45. Other concerns discussed were an increased speed of traffic and that when PennDot plows snow it will be thrown against houses. Mr. Myers explained that if he closes the alley behind his property his neighbors will not be able to access the back of their properties for parking. Mr. Myers suggested the Elk Creek Café purchase a piece of land from Houser's for additional parking. Mr. Bowser explained he is trying to buy land but has issues. Mr. Myers also suggested the Borough condemn the old Nieman's building and tear it down to create parking. President Ilgen and Ms. Warriner explained that these spaces had to be removed and an engineering study will have to be completed to determine the outcome for the alleys. President Ilgen suggested that the business people need to advertise that parking is available in the Fire Company's gravel lot. Ms. Warriner asked the Solicitor if the Borough can change the clarification of the law as they did in New York making it a civil penalty for running a red light so cameras could be used. The Solicitor explained he doesn't know what authority the Borough has to do that. President Ilgen explained that Mr. Lesniak works for other municipalities in addition to Millheim Borough and the bulk of the Agency complaints already come from Millheim. The Solicitor explained that in Centre Hall a person was hired just to enforce parking. He explained Council would have to designate who is authorized to enforce the parking. Currently the Mayor is authorized by the Borough Code. Mr. Bowser stated that he doesn't actively encourage people to park in the Fire Company lot because of liability for the Fire Company. The Secretary reported that during zoning discussions Mr. Jacobs of the Centre County Planning Office explained that parking is the responsibility of business owners and landlords. At that time he recommended the business people work together to share parking lots with lease agreements and sharing of liability insurance. President Ilgen explained nothing will be solved tonight but there may be an open meeting with PennDot representatives attending to answer questions.

Mr. Sprowls hasn't heard anything further from Mr. Gyekis on the town clock. Mr. Gyekis wouldn't commit to using the steps to the clock tower but it could be inspected when a lift comes in to do the roof. Mr. Gyekis reports that the bell is fine.

President Ilgen reported that he spoke with the three contractors who submitted bids about compacting the timbering road. Only one contractor felt compacting the road was necessary. Mr. Guisewite complained that the breakers need fixed but the other property owners said they are as good or better than they were. Ms. Warriner raised a concern about the road washing out at the bottom but President Ilgen explained that Mr. Carper and Mr. Smith think this area is okay. A motion was made by David Sprowls and seconded by Leslie Warriner to award the bid to Dave Fetterolf as low bidder at \$1,736.04 to repair the upper part of the road. Motion carried.

The Engineer's Report submitted by Michele Aukerman was reviewed with no questions.

Mr. Sprowls had nothing further to report on the Race Street Bridge.

NEW ACTION:

President Ilgen reported on the Centre County Tax Agency meeting he attended on October 27, 2016. The agreement between the Tax Agency and the municipalities is being rewritten. The Agency is very efficient and the cost to the municipalities is 1.7% of collections.

A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman to adopt the 2017 tentative budgets with no tax increase. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman authorizing the Solicitor to prepare and advertise the Ordinance establishing the Tax Rate for 2017 at 4 mills. This rate remains the same as the 2016 Tax Rate. Motion carried.

The Secretary explained that even though DEP is responsible for the connection ban on the Millheim Borough Sewer they have instructed Nittany Engineering to consider the possibility of connecting the Penns Valley School District Sewer facility to Millheim Borough. A letter prepared by the Secretary to Nittany Engineering explaining this was reviewed. The unanimous consensus of Council was to send this letter as written.

Mr. Bowman suggested that more employee meetings be held to improve communications and to help Council members better understand the daily routines. Ms. Warriner suggested the first Friday of each month. Employees will be consulted to see what they think.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman to approve the October 3, 11, 17 and 24, 2016 budget and regular council meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman to approve the October 2016 financial reports as presented. Motion carried.

The Secretary's report was reviewed. The Secretary explained that the invoice submitted by HRI, Inc. for the alley paving is \$1,551.52 more than the bid price submitted. She explained that the Liquid Fuel Representative from PennDot approved this overage. A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman to approve payment of the invoice submitted by HRI, Inc. in the amount of \$29,839.52. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried.

Sharon A. Heckman

Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer