

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

FAX (814) 349-5733

PHONE (814) 349-5350

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**June 9, 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, Leslie Warriner, Lauralee Snyder, Sharon Heckman, John R. Miller, III, Mike Lesniak, Glenn Ripka, Roy Rupert, Michele Aukerman and Carl Rote.

**ABSENT:** Kay Brown and Marlene Corl

**CITIZEN'S INPUT:**

Michele Aukerman updated Council on the sewer and DEP issues as follows:

- Ms. Aukerman reported on DEP's June 1, 2015 response letter to Uni-Tec's May 8, 2015 letter about the wastewater inspection report. She explained that DEP is looking for a one-page plan of changes for their file and Uni-Tec will do this plan. Mr. Rupert is making gradual changes and he now has a new probe so he will have daily readings. DEP wants to check in with a visit in July. DEP wants to see an effort to improve and they want to work with the Borough. Uni-Tec will get the requested drawings to DEP.
- Testing will be done to determine if the high BOD levels are related to the brewing process at the Elk Creek Café. If the Brewery is identified as the problem source, the existing Ordinance has limits and options that can be applied. Mr. Rupert explained that Elk Creek has an independent group looking into this. Mr. Rupert should have the test results by the next meeting. He will also get an updated list of cleaning chemicals.
- An equalization tank would help with food consistency for the bugs at the sewer plant. Ms. Warriner requested figures on the cost of a tank for budget discussions.
- Mr. Rupert reported that there is some surface water getting into the sewer plant. He thinks there could be some downspouts hooked in. When things dry out smoke testing will be done.
- Mr. Rupert reported that there is a lot of grease in the pump station because it has been four years since the last cleaning. He explained that if costs were shared with Gregg Township the Borough could save on travel time. If costs were shared, the cost to Millheim Borough would be approximately \$1,000. Mr. Rupert was instructed to get a more definite cost to clean the pump station for the next meeting.
- Ms. Aukerman discussed the proposed CDBG water line project. An interconnection with the old line would be included in Phase 1 and would extend from the reservoir to the pump station. Phase 1 would include the following: 4,300 feet of ductile iron pipe; demolishing the old spring house and replace with a new building; construct a concrete weir below the reservoir to monitor the flow from the dam. Phase 2 would replace the water line from the pump station to the intersection at Rt. 45 and would include 4,000 feet of 8-inch ductile iron pipe and PennDot road restoration. Keeping the existing line for use as a backup line would need to be determined based on whether the need outweighs the cost. Mr. Rupert suggested that Phase 1 could be done with PVC pipe but that would require a flow meter at the end of the PVC pipe to be able to check for leaks. The Secretary explained that Phase 1 should be a stand-alone project so it can be submitted as part of the County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT/HARB:**

Mike Lesniak reviewed his written report with Council. He explained that approximately 65% of the parking tickets he writes are for parking too close to a fire hydrant. He suggested when the parking stalls are painted that diagonal stripes could be painted at the fire hydrants to alert the drivers. Glenn Ripka explained that when the parking spaces are painted Council should be sure of the right width and length and that the T's are not painted. Millheim Borough accounts for 38-40% of the complaints received by the Agency. Mr. Lesniak explained that mowing is a problem at foreclosure properties and suggested that the Borough might want to mow these properties. President Ilgen instructed Mr. Lesniak to file citations with the District Magistrate on these properties.

Mr. Lesniak explained that the property at 130 East Main Street is compliant to the minimum requirements. The paperwork was done for the HARB, the windows and siding are consistent, the gingerbread woodwork was rotted and she is getting an estimate to have repaired. The recommendation is that Council approve what she has done. President Ilgen explained that what he has heard from people is that if the HARB is going to do something they should be consistent. Mr. Ripka explained that the owner wouldn't comply. He also explained that the HARB had meetings every month to approve minor issues. The HARB Board decided that if signs met the ordinance the Code Enforcement representative could approve without holding a meeting. In the past Council has approved putting vinyl siding over wood even though the ordinance said wood must be replaced with wood. Mr. Lesniak pointed out

250 that the house at 130 East Main Street looks better but the house at 130 North Street is vacant and deteriorating with no work being done and this property is in compliance.

Mr. Lesniak explained that there are no requirements that prohibit the fence installed at 209 Hillcrest Avenue but it is in the Borough's right-of-way. The Solicitor recommended that Council send a letter to the property owner stating that if anything happens to the fence it is their problem because it is in the Borough's right-of-way.

Mr. Lesniak recommended that the abandoned vehicle ordinance should be revised to read "no unregistered or uninspected vehicles on private property". He suggests Council use the Fountain Park ordinance for the entire Borough on abandoned vehicles. He also suggested that the towns issue fines or have a fine schedule that could be appealed through the district magistrate but the person would still be responsible for the fines the same as with a parking ticket. This would eliminate the increasing costs of certified mailings. The Solicitor hasn't had a chance to review the information sent to him by Mr. Lesniak. Mr. Ripka also suggested doing this with snow removal and mowing violations. The consensus of the group was for the HARB to review the existing ordinance and make recommendation to Council if there are changes that should be made so the ordinance is consistent with actions taken and for the Planning Commission to review the vehicle ordinances for possible changes.

The Zoning Amendment request was discussed. The Solicitor explained that the decision to be made at the July meeting should be based on whether Council agrees that being zoned commercial is the best use of the proposed 7-1/2 acre lot subdivision. He further explained that you can't put conditions on the zoning map amendment. Since the decision on this zoning amendment request must be announced at the July 14, 2015 meeting, the Solicitor needs to know Council's intent. The consensus of the group was for the Solicitor to prepare the report for the July Council meeting to approve the request.

**EMPLOYEE REPORTS:**

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

**PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:** None

**OLD ACTION:**

To date no further action has been taken with the STAG grant.

President Ilgen reported that Stacy Richards must send information to the Appalachian Commission to continue to fund the Energy Project. Consensus of the group was to approve the two letters requested by Ms. Richards. One letter commits Millheim Borough to \$3,500 in-kind match and the second is a letter of support for the second year of the project.

The Secretary has heard nothing from PennDot for the proposed Agility Plan.

Ms. Warriner reported that there was no meeting this month but she hopes to have the information for the letter to the downtown businesses by the end of June.

To date the Borough chimney work has not been completed.

**NEW ACTION:**

Fountain Park issues were discussed. Patti Beckenbaugh has requested an estimate to do the lattice work at the gazebo as Mr. McCracken has not gotten to this project. Ms. Warriner requested that the Borough employee's power wash the brick sidewalk, fix the one section of brick sidewalk, spray weeds in the rocks and deliver mulch to the park. Ms. Warriner requested payment of a 2014 invoice to Brookside nursery for \$195.04 from the flower budget.

The Secretary requested permission for the flower area at the front steps of the Borough to be put back into grass because the library was to maintain this area and the weeds are getting very unsightly. She was instructed to give the library an opportunity to take care of this before having it put back into grass.

The need for a lap top computer for the Borough employee was discussed. A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman to purchase a laptop, protection software and Microsoft Office at a cost not to exceed \$700. Motion carried.


**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Leslie Warriner to approve the May 12 and May 26, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman to approve the May budget report as presented. Motion carried.

The written report submitted by the Secretary was reviewed. President Ilgen reminded Council that an employee meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, June 26, 2015.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by Leslie Warriner to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Motion carried.

  
Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer