

MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL  
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 (CENTRE COUNTY)

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REGULAR MEETING

March 14, 2017

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, Lauralee Snyder, Sharon Heckman, Roy Rupert, Michele Aukerman and Tim Bowser.

ABSENT: Patty Beckenbaugh and John R. Miller, III

CITIZEN'S INPUT:

Leslie Warriner entered the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

The interconnection between Millheim Borough and HAMA was discussed. Michele Aukerman explained that in addition to representing Millheim Borough she also represents the Professional Engineering Services (PES) program. This is a program designed to help small water systems do basic upkeep. PES would pay for the engineering study that HAMA needs. Ed Bowman asked how this interconnection project was brought up. Leslie Warriner was contacted by Mark Stephens and she was told that HAMA is in dire need because of issues with the water sources. Mr. Rupert stated that Millheim Borough could only supply water to a portion of Aaronsburg. Since Mr. Bowman was not involved through the entire STAG grant process, President Ilgen explained the history of this grant. Ms. Warriner wants to help HAMA with the water situation but HAMA isn't asking for help. Ms. Aukerman explained that the PES Program wants to see a commitment from the recipient receiving the help from this program. DEP is recommending a new water plant for HAMA. After much discussion, the consensus of Council was to wait until HAMA comes to the Borough asking for help before Council gets involved. Ms. Warriner wants to be sure the Haines Township Supervisors are aware of the situation so Council members agreed that she could go to the Supervisor's meeting but she is to emphasize that it starts with HAMA.

The response letter received from DEP after the Chapter 94 review was discussed. The connection ban will continue but DEP will consider allocating additional EDU's if they are requested. Council discussed preparing a letter to DEP explaining all that the Borough has done to correct this situation and requesting the EDU's needed for this year. A separate letter will be sent immediately to DEP requesting an emergency EDU for the Lower property at 254 East Main Street because of a failing on-lot septic system. A letter is to be mailed to the five business owners that needed to install grease traps and Mr. Rupert is to inspect the properties prior to the April meeting to be sure the installations have been done. Ms. Aukerman is to organize a "draft" letter to DEP for the April meeting but the letter will be sent from the Borough explaining the history and requesting additional EDU's. Mr. Bowser expressed frustration that a letter is being done instead of requesting a meeting with DEP to get the issue resolved. The Solicitor will be asked if the Borough could allow residents to reserve EDU's with the understanding that the connection must be made within one year because of the situation. Council would consider this as a one-time event and would not want to set a precedent. Mr. Bowser explained there is no land development for his proposed expansion because of the EDU's but he thinks the County would allow him to move forward if the EDU's were reserved.

Mr. Rupert explained that two flowmeters at the water plant need calibrated as this hasn't been done since 1995. He received a quote from Moyer Instrument to calibrate the flowmeters as soon as possible at a cost of \$640. A motion was made by Leslie Warriner and seconded by Ed Bowman to approve Moyer Instrument to calibrate two flowmeters at a cost of \$640. Motion carried.

Ms. Warriner left the meeting at 8:30 p.m. due to illness.

The downtown parking situation was discussed. Mr. Collins of PennDot was unavailable for the meeting due to the snow storm. Mr. Bowman explained some people spoke to him because they want to keep Church Street a two-way street. President Ilgen explained the liability issues involved because the Engineering Study explains the street isn't wide enough for two vehicles. Leaving the street two-way also creates a loss of parking spaces because of site distance. Mr. Sprowls explained that there were no compelling reasons to leave it as a two-way street and Mr. Bowman explained that this is a logical plan. A motion was made by David Sprowls to accept the Engineering Traffic Study and to make the following alleys one-way in from Rt. 45 and to authorize the Solicitor to amend the necessary ordinances. Motion carried.

Church St. going north to East Poplar St.  
 Maple Alley going north to East Poplar St.  
 Sugar Alley going north to East Poplar St.  
 Sugar Alley going south to Race St.

State St. going south to Race St.

The need for more enforcement and increased costs of fines for parking violations was discussed. Council members suggested increasing the fine to \$50. Mr. Bowser stated that he thinks \$50 is too much for parking too long but is okay for illegal parking. The possibility of changing the two-hour parking limit was discussed. After discussion, the consensus was to wait until the signs are put up, request the Code Enforcement to get more aggressive with the enforcement and to speak with the Solicitor about increasing the fines.

**HARB/CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

The Code Enforcement's written report was reviewed with no questions.

**EMPLOYEE REPORTS:**

The written report submitted by Justin Kerstetter was reviewed with no questions. The leaf and brush collection will be done the same time as last year and Mr. Kerstetter is to set the schedule for the fire hydrant flushing.

President Ilgen explained he would like to get the newsletter out by the end of March.

**PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:**

The written report submitted was reviewed. A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by David Sprowls to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the Penns Valley Comprehensive Plan Update as presented. Motion carried.

**OLD ACTION:**

There is nothing new on the town clock.

The Secretary reported that the FedEx damage claim was paid and Maryland Biochemical has been paid in full.

**NEW ACTION:**

President Ilgen reported that the Women's Club would like to make a donation and a picnic table was suggested. Ms. Warriner is checking on costs to have Rockview Correctional inmates build a table. The consensus of the group was that this is a good idea.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by David Sprowls to adopt Resolution #2017-1 authorizing the expenditure of \$3,197.31 from funds collected from the Fire Tax fund for the Borough's portion of the 2017 Workers' Compensation Insurance for the Millheim Fire Company No. 1. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by David Sprowls to adopt Resolution #2017-2 appointing the Secretary-Treasurer of Millheim Borough as Chief Administrative Officer of its Non-Uniformed Pension Plan. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by David Sprowls to adopt Resolution #2017-3 increasing the monthly flat rate user charge payable per equivalent dwelling unit from \$67.50 to \$70.00 for use of the Borough's community sewage disposal system. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

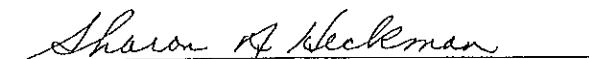
A motion was made by David Sprowls and seconded by Ed Bowman to accept the February 14, 2017 council meeting minutes and the March 7, 2017 public meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by David Sprowls to approve the February 2017 financial reports as presented. Motion carried.

The Secretary's written report was reviewed. The consensus of Council was that they were not interested in assisting with Watershed Cleanup Day and there was no interest in attending the public accommodations and fair housing public meeting.

An employee meeting will be scheduled later for the end of April.

A motion was made by Ed Bowman and seconded by David Sprowls to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Motion carried.

  
Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer