

**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
April 13, 2010**

Vice-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: Kay Brown, Marlene Corl, Alan Ilgen, Tom Strebel, John R. Miller, III, Sharon Heckman, Glenn Ripka, Roy Rupert, John Hawkins Cub Scout Leader, two Cub Scouts and Carl Rote. Linn Auman entered the meeting as noted.

Absent: Lauralee Snyder

Everyone present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CITIZENS INPUT:

John Hawkins explained that he is a Cub Scout Leader in Millheim and that the two Scouts with him tonight are working on their Civic Participation Badge.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

A written report submitted by Glenn Ripka was reviewed. Mr. Ripka then discussed the following:

1. A vehicle parked along Park Road for two weeks. After some discussion, the consensus was for Mr. Ripka to continue to monitor the situation since it isn't obstructing traffic and it is legally licensed.
2. Felicia Shultz prepared a sign request for consideration by the HARB but there weren't enough members present for a quorum. Mr. Ripka is requesting Council act on her application. The request is for a handmade quilt type sign for "Open" and "Closed". A motion was made by Marlene Corl and seconded by Tom Strebel to approve the "Open" and "Closed" sign request as presented. Motion carried.
3. The Altoona Sign Company has submitted a sign request application for a proposed Dollar General Store. The request is for a variance because they propose a back-lit sign much larger than the permitted 50 sq. ft. After some discussion, the consensus was to send this request to the Planning Commission for their recommendation. The Secretary was instructed to notify the surrounding property owners about review of this request at the April Planning Commission meeting and invite them to participate in this discussion.

HARB REPORT: None

EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

Roy Rupert was present and gave his report as follows:

1. Discussed the proposal submitted by Advanced Controls, Inc. for a new Master Control Unit. Due to corrosion from a flooding situation in the water plant in 1995 and the corrosive atmosphere in the plant, it is recommended that this unit be replaced or upgraded prior to the installation of the VFD's so this work doesn't have to be done a second time if the existing unit goes bad. Any parts that can be reused would be used at the pump station because it isn't used as often. The proposal is \$16,195 to replace the unit or \$15,813.50 to upgrade the existing unit.
2. Discussed the invoice submitted by Advanced Controls, Inc. for a cost difference of \$2,267.35 more than the Not to Exceed Cost of \$9,200 originally given for the cost to install VFD's at the Water Plant. Al Ilgen stated that this should have been included in the original proposal. The Secretary explained that when she discussed this with Linn Auman he thought they should be held to the \$9,200 proposal. Tom Strebel said for the good of the Water system it should be paid. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to approve payment of the three invoices at a cost of \$11,896.35 (\$2,729 Engineering/Study for VFD's; \$6,900 for VFD's delivered and holding Retainage of \$2,300; and the cost differential of \$2,267.35) submitted by Advanced Controls, Inc. based on the fact that this is proprietary equipment and to borrow the money from the Sewer Fund until the Water Certificate of Deposit matures. The result of vote was 3 votes yes; 1 vote no - Alan Ilgen opposed payment of the extra \$2,267. Motion carried.
3. The leak near the Jim Bryant property on Main Street was repaired but the water line is in bad condition. It is time for a new line in that section of town.
4. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Kay Brown to replace the Master Control Unit at the Water Plant as proposed by Advanced Controls, Inc. in the amount of \$16,195. Motion carried.
5. Discussed a memo from A3-USA offering to assist in upgrading the container at the sewer plant to split membrane tank flows to individually control them. They will provide the equipment for a cost to the Borough of \$2,500. This upgrade could help to process higher flows when the plant has to deal with I&I. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to accept the A3-USA proposal to make the upgrade to the sewer plant at a Not to Exceed Cost to the Borough of \$2,500. Motion carried.

6. Discussed the requirement of our DEP permit to add chlorine as part of the process at the sewer plant even though we meet our permit requirements without chlorine. The request to stop adding chlorine was made to DEP and denied.

No report was received from Todd Wasson.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:

A written report was reviewed. The Solicitor explained that the information regarding Walter Street is in the road docket at the Prothonotary's office but to date he hasn't found the information.

OLD ACTION:

1. The Solicitor reported that he needs information for the legal description to do the sewer easement agreement for Race Alley.
2. Al Ilgen reported that the Library has requested proposals from consultants to help with a Capital Fund Project to raise money for the library renovation project.
3. The Secretary reported we are waiting for DCNR approval for the playground project.

Linn Auman entered the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

4. We received the Notice to Proceed on the building energy grant and the window installation has been scheduled.
5. Linn Auman explained about a meeting held about the waterline project and interconnect on April 29. Possible grant funding for this was discussed. An 8-inch line would be preferred. He suggested the Borough might want to consider a protective easement around Borough tracts of land so it couldn't be developed. The consensus was for President Auman to contact Katie Ombalski of the Clearwater Conservancy about attending a meeting to discuss this with Council.
6. Al Ilgen reported that Mr. Bierly and the Fire Company are not interested in advertising their parking lots for public parking because of liability issues. Public Parking Signs are to be put up pointing to the Borough's Community Parking Lot.
7. The recommendation was made to look at larger stones or another concrete wall to correct the eroding bank at Elk Alley and that State Street should be at the top of the priority list for street repairs.

NEW ACTION:

1. Linn Auman recommended sending to the Planning Commission the issue of wording of the sidewalk standards to require that existing sidewalks with the one-inch ADA issue must be replaced rather than allowing the property owner to grind down the walk to eliminate the height difference.
2. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Kay Brown to adopt the required DCNR Resolution to be submitted with the Ball Field Upgrade Application as approved by the Solicitor. Motion carried.
3. Alan Ilgen recommended that a second Crime Watch/Borough Newsletter be prepared. He and Linn Auman will work on this Newsletter for the May Council meeting for distribution in June.
4. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to approve payment for four reservations to the Clearfield/Centre County Borough's Association at \$15/person to be held in Bellefonte on April 22, 2010. Motion carried.

The Solicitor reported that the Judicial Sale will be held on April 21, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. There was a meeting last week to show cause and the George Friend property will be listed for sale. After discussion, the consensus of the group was that the Borough has no interest in bidding on the Heartbreakers Building. A motion was made by Linn Auman and seconded by Alan Ilgen to authorize the Solicitor to bid the Mill Property up to an amount to protect the Borough liens, costs and taxes. Motion carried. If necessary the Solicitor will need a check for a possible amount of \$6,900 paid to the County.

The Secretary explained that there is a current cash flow issue until some of the grant money is paid. A motion was made by Linn Auman and seconded by Tom Strebel to allow the Secretary to transfer funds from the Sewer Fund to the General Fund until the grant funds are received. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE/MAYOR REPORTS:

A motion was made by Linn Auman and seconded by Tom Strebel to approve the annual closing of streets for the Fire Company Carnival on June 17, 18 and 19, 2010. Motion carried.

Alan Ilgen reported that he requested a quote from Vanada Brothers for the covering for the stairs and the front door area but they have not responded. The consensus of the group was to make a decision from the two quotes submitted as follows:

Hide-A-Floor - \$2,275 (\$625 – Quarry Tile at front door; \$150 for Underlayment and \$1,500 for the stair treads)

Richards Warehouse Flooring LLC - \$5,000

A motion was made by Linn Auman and seconded by Kay Brown to accept the proposal submitted by Hide-A-Floor in the amount of \$2,275. Motion carried.

Tom Strebel reported that a resident asked about compost availability. The Borough usually mulches the park the first or second week of June. If there is any left it would be available to the residents at that time.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Kay Brown to approve the minutes of the March 2010 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Linn Auman and seconded by Kay Brown to accept the March 2010 budget report as presented. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

A written report submitted by the Secretary was reviewed. The Secretary explained that a large number of water/sewer payments were not received and late fees were added during the billing process to accounts that are never late. Several people have called explaining that they either didn't receive a bill or that they mailed a check but these were not received. The Secretary is requesting permission to refund the late fee to these accounts that are never delinquent. A motion was made by Linn Auman and seconded by Tom Strebel to refund the late fee to these accounts. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marlene Corl and seconded by Kay Brown to approve the Secretary's report as presented. Motion carried.

Carl Rote expressed the following concerns:

1. Property owners are not sweeping cinders off sidewalks.
2. The timer on the traffic signal isn't working. The Secretary was instructed to contact PennDot about this.
3. One property owner put mud in to repair a sidewalk and it is cracking and one sidewalk has step marks that were made in the wet concrete. Linn Auman explained that Glenn Ripka reviews the sidewalks every year to determine which ones need repaired or replaced.
4. He thinks there should be one way parking only on the south side of Rt. 45.
5. He asked what fine Mr. McCool paid because of the obstruction on the sidewalk. It was explained that this is determined by the Magistrate once a hearing is held. Mr. Rote also reported that the new sidewalk is cracked because there are no expansion joints.
6. He asked what is being done about the condition of Mr. McCool's porch and he was told Mr. Ripka has sent a letter.

A motion was made by Kay Brown and seconded by Marlene Corl to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer