

**-MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL
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(CENTRE COUNTY)**

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**REGULAR MEETING
November 9, 2010**

President Linn Auman called the regular meeting of the Millheim Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following persons in attendance: Linn Auman, Kay Brown, Marlene Corl, Lauralee Snyder, Tom Strebel, John R. Miller, III, Sharon Heckman, Glenn Ripka, Todd Wasson, Doug Bierly, Chuck Jenkins, Amy Niewinski, Carl Rote, Barb Shaffer, Dean Smith and Mary Watson.

Absent: Alan Ilgen

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

CITIZENS INPUT:

Chuck Jenkins presented information on ways that the Manufacturer & Business Association might be able to help the Borough save money after the deregulation of electricity rate caps on January 1, 2011. He explained that Allegheny Power started raising rates a little at a time over the last three years so the rates may be going down slightly on January 1, 2011 but that there will be a new price every quarter. Mr. Jenkins explained that many members of the Manufacturer & Business Association are manufacturers but of the more than 4,700 members many are townships, boroughs and cities. These groups usually join for insurance. He explained that some of the advantages available to members are: discounted health insurance; one free 15-20 minute phone call each year to an attorney; discounted training brought to State College and the Employers Energy Alliance. Mr. Jenkins explained that if you purchase electricity through Manufacturer & Business Association the following apply:

- There is no time limit for membership or penalty to leave the group.
- They buy electricity low and sell low. Members pay what the electricity costs the Association plus .0012¢/kw.
- A load profile would be done showing how and when the Borough uses electricity. Then it is purchased a day ahead specific to the Borough. Nights and weekend electricity is cheaper than day time hours.

Currently members buying from Retail Aggregators are saving 10-12% but the Association members are saving 20-22%. Mr. Jenkins explained that they would do a free analysis for the Borough to see what our savings would be and after the analysis is completed the Borough could decide if there was an interest in joining the group. To proceed with the free analysis which takes six to eight weeks, Mr. Jenkins would need a copy of the Borough's electricity bills and a signed authorization form. A membership to the Manufacturer & Business Association would cost the Borough \$215. New York is the only other state that has this type of group.

Mary Watson of Pennsylvania Furnace explained that there are plans to build a family memorial for people who lost their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq. They are looking for a site and donations to build the memorial. She explained that this memorial would be good for business wherever it is located.

Amy Niewinski, the current Haines Twp. library board representative to the Centre County Library Board spoke briefly on the 2011 library budget. She explained that since 2008 the library has lost \$100,000 due to subsidy cuts.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

A written report submitted by Glenn Ripka was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Ripka reported on the following:

- The Dollar General Store representative is looking into the property across from the Hardware but this type of store would not be permitted with our current zoning for that area.
- He looked into the 4-wheeler problem but the only way to stop them is put fencing around the water plant area. The Borough is legal with postings but the 4-wheelers are going in through Larry Shreckengast's property. The consensus was not to get into the expense of fencing that large an area at this time.
- The company working on the construction for the geothermal project, Temp-A-Sure, has opened an exposed space in his office to save breaking through walls.
- A load of siding was delivered this morning for the Elk Creek Café project.

HARB REPORT: None

EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

A written report submitted by Roy Rupert was reviewed. Todd Wasson was asked about the large difference between the water treated at the Water Plant and the amount processed through the Sewer Plant. He reported on the problems created because of the rain event and explained that some of the water processed by the Sewer Plant was I&I because the camera was used. Mr. Wasson explained that some of the I&I problems were found and corrected.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: None

OLD ACTION:

1. The Solicitor reported that he is working on the Race Alley Sewer Easement.
2. Until the library is ready to renovate the gymnasium, the space is to be used to store some equipment out of the weather like the Leaf Vac and the bucket truck.
3. The Secretary reported that she was unable to contact Todd Smith of the ELA Group so she hasn't been able to get information on the playground equipment. President Auman will call Mr. Smith.
4. The geothermal project may need to have a revision to one of the milestones because we are waiting for the well drillers.
5. A motion was made by Kay Brown and seconded by Tom Strebel to approve for submission to the Centre County Planning Office for payment, the invoice for work done to date on the HAMA/Millheim Borough Waterline Project Feasibility Study by Nittany Engineering & Associates as presented in the amount of \$1,836.25. Motion carried.
6. A motion was made by Kay Brown and seconded by Tom Strebel to pay the invoice presented by Envinity, Inc. in the amount of \$2,325. Motion carried.

NEW ACTION:

1. The 2011 tentative budget was discussed. The Secretary presented a proposal received from Stanley C. Bierly to replace the existing fluorescent lights in the library's rooms, the Code Enforcement Office and the upstairs hallway with new energy efficient fluorescent lights. After some discussion, a motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Kay Brown to accept the proposal submitted by Stanley C. Bierly as presented to replace the existing fluorescent lights in the library's two rooms, the Code Enforcement Office and the upstairs hall with energy efficient T8 2'x4' track lights as presented. Motion carried. The option of Parabolic Fixtures is to be investigated. The Penns Valley Code Enforcement Agency has a meeting scheduled for December 8. Marlene Corl will discuss with the Agency Board the possibility of adding a 60¢ per hour increase for Glenn Ripka to their budget so he can receive the increase Borough Council approved for all Borough employees. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to adopt the Millheim Borough Tentative Budget for 2011 as presented. Motion carried. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to increase the Water Flat Fee from \$15/month to \$20/month beginning in 2011 as included in the tentative budget. Motion carried.
2. The Solicitor reviewed the changes to the existing zoning ordinance and official map. A motion was made by Marlene Corl and seconded by Tom Strebel to adopt Ordinance #242 amending the zoning ordinance and the official map. Motion carried.
3. Possible methods of selling old/unused items that have accumulated over the years in the Borough Building were discussed. The Solicitor explained that the Borough could piggy back the auction for these items (if the estimated worth is \$1,000 or more) with the old Mill property auction. Mayor Snyder explained that the Regional Planning Commission is requesting each municipality make a list of available equipment so everyone knows what equipment might be available locally if needed. The consensus was that this is a good idea for municipalities to share equipment. The Secretary explained that she was asked about the possibility of donating the old sliding board to the Pool if we aren't going to move it when the improvements are made to the Borough playground area. The Solicitor said the Borough could donate this equipment to the Pool.
4. Anyone with items for the December Newsletter should get the information to Alan Ilgen the first week of December.

COMMITTEE/MAYOR REPORTS: None

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to approve the minutes of the October 2010 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to accept the October budget report as presented. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

A written report submitted by the Secretary was reviewed. Mrs. Heckman reported that the Borough will be receiving a refund from Selective Insurance for the 2007-2008 policy period in the amount of \$151.29. She also reported that there will be a "Scouting for Food" campaign for the Boy Scouts beginning at 9 a.m. on November 13, 2010.

The consensus of the group was that the Secretary is to complete the necessary paperwork for the free electricity analysis from the Manufacturer & Business Association.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer