

**MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL
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(CENTRE COUNTY)**

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**REGULAR MEETING
October 12, 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, Alan Ilgen, Lauralee Snyder, Tom Strebel, John R. Miller, III, Sharon Heckman, Glenn Ripka, Jason Grottini, Gary Gyekis, Mark Engle, Nick Engle, Matt Roush, Caleb Norton, Zack Engle, Eric Long, Eric Bloom, and Carl Rote.

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

CITIZENS INPUT:

Mark Engle introduced six scouts attending the meeting as part of their Citizenship Badge.

Jason Grottini reported that four bids were received for the geothermal project with the base bids as follows:

McClure Company, - \$265,364; Allied Mechanical & Electrical, Inc. - \$189,000, Stanley C. Bierly - \$142,350 and the low bid from Spotts Brothers of \$127,575.

After checking references, Mr. Grottini is recommending the base equipment/work and the six proposed options for the geothermal project is awarded to Spotts Brothers for a total bid award of \$157,225. Some concerns were raised about follow up with problems after installation because Spotts Brothers are two hours away. Mr. Grottini explained that he will ask for a rebid to stud out and dry wall the mechanical room area because of a misunderstanding when he wrote the bid specifications to pressure wash and paint this area. He thinks this change should remain within budget. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to accept the bid submitted by Spotts Brothers in the total amount of \$157,225. Motion carried.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

A written report submitted by Glenn Ripka was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Ripka reported that the wrecked car in the municipal parking lot was moved six days after the notice to remove was given.

An application and picture received from the Elk Creek Café for the proposed use of the sign on the Alan Ilgen property was discussed. This sign is permitted to Mr. Ilgen by PennDot. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl. Motion carried with Alan Ilgen abstaining from the vote.

HARB REPORT:

Mr. Ripka explained that the brick front of the Elk Creek Café is bowed out and the bricks are ready to fall down. He explained that for safety issues these bricks must be taken down quickly. Gary Gyekis is requesting permission to replace the bricks with 8-inch wood lap siding. He explained that this request is based on the cost factor and conformity. He also explained that there is a freeze/thaw factor involved on this wall. Mr. Gyekis explained that the 8-inch lap siding can be an attractive addition and the building will be better insulated, more structurally sound and appropriate for the historic district. He has people scheduled to begin the removal of the bricks on Monday. Concerns about setting a precedent by allowing the removal of the bricks were discussed. The consensus of the group was that these issues should be handled and decided on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Ripka explained that a decision to allow this would set a precedent that the least that can be done is 8-inch wood lap siding with no vinyl allowed for the downtown area. A motion was made by Kay Brown and seconded by Tom Strebel to accept the request to replace the bricks on the Elk Creek Café with 8-inch wood lap siding as presented. Motion carried.

Tom Strebel raised a question about paving the entrance to Fox Alley and Mr. Ripka explained that this is PennDot's right-of-way.

Kay Brown raised a question about a permit for a portable shed placed on Locust Street that doesn't appear on the report presented by Mr. Ripka. The set-back limits were discussed because this shed is out toward the street further than the house. Mr. Ripka explained that when the zoning ordinance was passed the set-back limits became more lenient. She also raised a question because no time sheet is available for Todd Wasson. The Secretary explained that Mr. Wasson said it was completed but to date she hasn't received it.

The Secretary explained that leaf collection and Trick-or-Treat announcements are on the Millheim Cable Company Channel 2.

EMPLOYEE REPORTS: None

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: None

OLD ACTION:

1. To date neither Lynn McCool nor David Dreese have contacted anyone about signing the Sewer Easement Agreement. The Solicitor is to start condemnation proceedings against them. The Solicitor explained that an appraisal could be done or the Borough could offer \$4/lineal foot for the length across the rear of the properties. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel for the Solicitor to offer in condemnation proceedings to Lynn McCool and David Dreese \$4/lineal foot. Motion carried.
2. Alan Ilgen explained that since the library is renting the rooms in the Borough building, the fund raiser to renovate the gym area may not take place as quickly as previously planned.
3. The DCNR upgrade to the playground was discussed. The Secretary explained that Play World is having a sale on some playground equipment until the end of November. Council agreed that the equipment could be purchased now and stored in the gymnasium until the other work is completed and it can be installed.
4. No further information is available at this time on the waterline project.
5. The problem with 4-wheelers in town was discussed. The Solicitor explained that if they are being ridden on public right-of-ways this is a Vehicle Code violation and this is enforced by the State Police not the Borough. The Borough has "No Unauthorized Vehicles" signs posted at the water plant so they can be reported for trespassing. The Secretary reported that a complaint from a resident was forwarded to the State Police because the 4-wheelers are being ridden past midnight. Council instructed the Secretary to file a complaint with the State Police the next time this happens.

Todd Wasson entered the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

NEW ACTION:

1. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Kay Brown to accept the Professional Services Proposal/Agreement No. 10-888-65 REV for the Millheim Borough and HAMA Water Systems Interconnect Project Interconnection Feasibility Study and Stag Grant Systems Improvements Report/Plans as presented by Nittany Engineering & Assoc. in the amount of \$13,500 with the following two changes as recommended by Centre County Planning Office:
 1. The fixed fee of \$13,500 is to include all reimbursable expenses; and
 2. Millheim Borough is to receive four (4) hard copies of the document at no additional charge with an Executive Summary included in the report. Motion carried.
2. President Auman reported on a ponding problem behind the P.V. Meat Market between the intersection and the storm grate. Todd Wasson is to look into this problem the next time it rains.
3. Mr. Wasson is to do an inventory of equipment and tools before the Budget Meeting on October 20, 2010.
4. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Kay Brown to adopt Resolution #2010-03 so Millheim Borough is included in the Centre County 2010 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried.
5. The Penns Valley Code Enforcement Agency agreed to pay one-half the cost for Amy Niewinski to clean the common areas of the Borough building. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Alan Ilgen to hire Amy Niewinski as a contracted employee at \$10/hr. for two hours every other week to clean the common areas of the Borough Building and share this cost with the Penns Valley Code Enforcement Agency. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE/MAYOR REPORTS: None

A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to approve the minutes of the September 2010 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Borough's cost for Health Insurance was discussed. The Secretary reported that Geisinger is raising the rate for 2011 by 50%. Daryl Schafer has a preliminary quote from Health America that is slightly less than the current per policy rate with Geisinger but this could increase when the enrollment forms are submitted for review. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to change the Borough policy to Health America if the rate is the lowest cost available. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to approve payment of \$13.95/person for the Secretary and Kay Brown to attend the Centre-Clearfield County Borough's Association Fall Dinner/Meeting on October 28, 2010. Motion carried.

The consensus of Council was not to have the ELA group do a presentation as they do not have water/sewer engineers.

A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Motion carried.