

**MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL
225 EAST MAIN STREET
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MILLHEIM, PA 16854
(CENTRE COUNTY)**

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**REGULAR MEETING
March 10, 2009**

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, Tom Strebel, Lauralee Snyder, Sharon Heckman, Roy Rupert, Todd Wasson, and other interested citizens.

Absent: John R. Miller, III

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

CITIZENS INPUT:

President Auman opened bids submitted for the Mill Street Paving Project as follows:

Eastern Industries	\$46,642.00
Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.	\$43,570.30
HRI, Inc.	\$39,791.00
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co.	\$47,277.45

A motion was made by Kay Brown and seconded by Marlene Corl to accept HRI, Inc. as the apparent low bidder. The documents will be forwarded to PennDot for verification and approval. Motion carried.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT: None

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

A written report submitted by Glenn Ripka was reviewed and discussed.

HARB REPORT:

A sign application and two pictures of proposed signs submitted by S. Curtis Bierly, Jr. were reviewed and discussed. Either sign meet the sign requirements. The sign will be permanent with the lower portion being replaceable. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to accept the HARB recommendation and approve the sign application. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

A written report submitted by Lester Kerstetter was reviewed.

Roy Rupert was present and discussed his report with Council as follows:

- Panels are needed to cover a tank at the sewer plant to keep algae from growing. The price from Bieler Buildings for Thermacore Panels much like insulated garage door panels to cover the contact tank is \$184.00. Roy will put the old tank grates on top for a safe working surface. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Alan Ilgen to purchase the panels at a cost of \$184.00. Motion carried.
- Prices have been received from a company that services the University's microscopes. The cost for a new microscope is \$1,305 and a used one with a one-year warranty is \$695. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to purchase a used microscope at a cost of \$695 for use at the Sewer Plant. Motion carried.
- I&I (Inflow & Infiltration) is an issue. This creates a back up that causes the pumps to run all night.
- Roof proposals for the chlorinator building are as follows:
 - Dennis Gates, Gates Custom Carpentry - \$2,560
 - Stephen Fisher, Stormy Ridge Construction - \$2,270 for a metal roof and \$1,880 for a 30-year architectural shingle roof.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to accept the proposal from Stormy Ridge Construction for the metal roof at a cost of \$2,270 with the understanding that Roy Rupert will verify that the aluminum trim includes soffit and fascia and that the Borough won't pay the requested 50% down unless approved by the Solicitor who is out of town until March 16, 2009. Motion carried.

- The company that provided the radios for the Water Filtration Plant is out of business. Our radios are currently working well but if there is a problem in the future we may need to update to more modern radio equipment.

- The road used by trucks hauling sludge from the Sewer Plant wasn't wide enough. Todd Wasson and Lester Kerstetter will dig the road out and add stones to widen it. A few other places also need stone to eliminate a problem with mud.

Todd Wasson was present and discussed his report as follows:

- The Plum Alley Bridge has a hole completely through the bridge deck and the metal is rusted. The bridge has been barricaded but Todd thinks he can fix the hole to allow pedestrians and bicycles to continue to use it. The consensus of Council was to permanently close the bridge to vehicle traffic because vehicles can travel from Plum Street using Race Alley on the Rt. 45 side of the bridge and from Plum Street using West Street on the Penn Street side. Lester Kerstetter is eligible to submit a request for a Dirt & Gravel Road Project and improving this dirt portion of Race Alley may be an acceptable project. A "Bridge Closed" sign is to be posted at Rt. 45. Also two posts are to be sunk in the cartway on each side of the bridge with reflective signage. The Secretary was instructed to ask the Solicitor if an ordinance is necessary to close the bridge.
- Explained he had a short month in February because of family medical issues.
- The Mill Street Bridge is structurally sound but one brick needs raised two inches to get the inlet ready. Haines Township will grade the sides of Mill Street before HRI, Inc. begins the project.
- Spring brush cleanup is scheduled for the beginning of April.
- Freezing caused the paving to heave in front of the Ernie Auman residence on Center Street.
- Will check with Bradco about possibly renting a hotbox because cold-patch doesn't stay in place.

Rick Bair entered the meeting at 7:45 p.m. and presented the 2008 Audited Financial Statements. He explained the negative number of invested capital assets is because the old sewer plant was removed and the new plant was added but the Borough still has debt from the old plant. The sewer fund has a large decrease because of undepreciated costs of the old plant causing an anomaly this year. Mr. Bair explained that the Earned Income Tax Collector Audit was included. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to accept the 2008 Audited Financial Statements as presented. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: None

NEW ACTION:

A letter received from the Walker Township Supervisors was discussed. They are requesting a donation of some concrete blocks to be used to build Little League team dugouts. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Marlene Corl to approve the request and let them take what blocks they need with the understanding that Marion-Walker Little League will be responsible for transporting the blocks. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Kay Brown to exonerate Tammy Myers, Tax Collector from collection of the 2008 delinquent Per Capita Taxes per the two lists submitted and forward the list of sixty-two names in the amount of \$341.00 to J.P. Harris Associates, Delinquent Tax Collector, for collection. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to adopt, as prepared and advertised by the Solicitor, the new Ordinance #237 that sets forth minimum requirements for new construction and development within areas of the Borough which are subject to flooding and establishing penalties for any persons who fail, or refuse to comply with the requirements of this ordinance. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Alan Ilgen to authorize the Solicitor to advertise the Official Map Ordinance as presented for adoption at the April 14, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Kay Brown to adopt Resolution #2009-4, which is required to be submitted with the current DCNR grant application for the ball field updates. Motion carried.

OLD ACTION:

The Secretary explained that the Solicitor must have action from Council on two items concerning the March 18, 2009 Judicial Sale of the George Friend properties. First, does Council want to bid on the Heartbreakers Building because owning the building could create a difficult situation with regard to maintenance and upkeep of the property? Council unanimously agreed that bidding on the property is the only way to guarantee that the Municipal Lien against the property is protected. The second item is to give the Secretary authorization to write checks the day of the sale if the Borough is the successful bidder on these properties. A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to authorize the Secretary to write one or two checks as necessary for the Judicial Sale. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to appoint Kurt Breon, Dennis Gates and Phil Yanak as members of the Millheim Borough Zoning Hearing Board. Motion carried.

To date no one has agreed to serve as the representative to the Ambulance Association Board.

The full-time employment of Glenn Ripka was discussed. Miles and Penn Township have agreed to the proposed arrangement and Gregg Township seems to agree but they will make a decision at their meeting on Thursday night. This full-time employment would allow him to go around the Borough to write parking tickets, look for violations and generate work schedules for the employees. In response to a question raised by Carl Rote, Council explained that this is a way to lower some of the costs to the Code Enforcement Agency for this year because there are so few building projects. Until the economy gets better the Borough and the other municipalities would need to put money into the Agency to keep it going because all the municipalities have too much invested to let it fail. The arrangement will be reviewed at budget time. A motion was made by Marlene Corl and seconded by Tom Strebel to hire Glenn Ripka as a full-time forty hour/week employee beginning April 1, 2009, as outlined in the document presented, contingent on Gregg Township's approval. Motion carried.

The downtown sidewalks were discussed. To date no further information is available from Mr. Reed, Dept. of Agriculture or PennDot. Sheesley's Concrete gave Curt Bierly a price of \$11.25/sq. ft. for the stamped concrete. Cyndy Engle was to get prices from contractors and forward them to Mr. Bierly. Mayor Snyder recommended that letters should be mailed by April 1 to property owners telling them what portions of their sidewalks need repaired or replaced letting them know that October 31, 2009 has been established as the deadline for work on the downtown sidewalks to be completed. Consensus of Council was to have Glenn Ripka inspect the sidewalks throughout the Borough to determine which ones need repaired or replaced. He is to begin with the Downtown Business District.

COMMITTEE/MAYOR REPORTS:

Kay Brown reported that the sinkhole area on Locust Street is sinking again. Mr. Ripka is to get pictures and the Solicitor is to do a letter to Mr. & Mrs. James Mills explaining that this is their responsibility. The Borough made the repair the last time because the Borough's alley was in jeopardy and for liability issues the problem needed to be corrected quickly.

Alan Ilgen reported that John Dubosky of the Aaronsburg Library Board has one more board meeting with Centre County Library and all Centre County board members are in agreement to renovate the gym area downstairs. Then they will start a Capital Campaign to raise funds. A decision needs to be made on the heating system to be used.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Alan Ilgen to approve the February 10 and February 24, 2009 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alan Ilgen and seconded by Kay Brown to approve the February 2009 budget report as presented. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

A written report submitted by the Secretary was reviewed and the following was decided:

1. The letter received from Schrack's Valley Service, Inc. was discussed. The consensus of Council was that Mr. Schrack knew what he was bidding on and his price offered in this letter was reviewed and the determination was made that it didn't offer significant savings so the decision stands to have Robinson's haul the sludge from the sewer plant.
2. Arrangements will be made for Glenn Ripka to make sure the Council Room has the heat and lights on for the Neighborhood Crime Watch Meeting to be held on March 25, 2009 because the Secretary will be in Hershey at the Borough's Association Conference.
3. Karen Weiss of Nittany Engineering called and reported that the Chapter 94 report should be completed this week.

A motion was made by Al Ilgen and seconded by Marlene Corl to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer