

**MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL
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(CENTRE COUNTY)**

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**REGULAR MEETING
March 11, 2008**

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, J. Alan Ilgen, Tom Strebel, Lauralee Snyder, Sharon Heckman, John R. Miller, III, Curt Bierly, John Dubosky, Leo Evans, Betsy Forsythe, Mayor of Hartleton, Carl Rote, Todd Smith, Karen Weiss, Richard Winebold, Chief Donald Zerbe and other interested citizens.

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

CITIZENS INPUT:

1. Chief Donald Zerbe of the Hartleton Police Force discussed two proposals for providing police services for Millheim Borough. These proposals were prepared as a result of his discussions with Richard Winebold representing the Downtown Business Association. One proposal outlined costs and responsibilities through an intermunicipal agreement with Hartleton to provide services of their department and the other proposal outlined costs and responsibilities for Millheim Borough to hire Donald Zerbe as police chief and establish its own Borough Police Department. Both proposals would require Millheim to purchase radios at an approximate cost of \$1,600. The Borough would also be responsible for providing office space, office furniture and supplies, and a computer with internet access. An additional requirement would be to compensate any off-duty officer for a minimum of three hours for court duty even if the hearing took less time. Chief Zerbe explained that the State Police cannot enforce Borough Ordinances but he can. He also explained that the part-time officers used would try to accommodate their hours when the Borough needs them but this scheduling would be handled between the Mayor and Chief Zerbe. Chief Zerbe explained that his department has been asked to provide services to another municipality but after the municipal representatives spoke with the State Police they decided to stay with the State Police services. He explained that the State Police are required to provide service when the local officers are not on duty but what typically happens is that any non-emergency calls are held until the local officer comes on duty and the call is turned over to them. Chief Zerbe explained that there should be a six-month trial commitment with thirty-day (30) notice required by either party to terminate the contract. Prior to any decision being made, the Rockview State Police will be invited to the April 8 meeting to discuss the services they provide to the Borough.
2. Todd Smith of the ELA Group discussed Phase I of the ball field/playground project. He explained that because the application deadline for the grant is April 25, 2008 a draft copy and estimates will be brought to the April 8 Council meeting for discussion. A Resolution to be included in this application packet must be adopted at the April 8 meeting and a signature sheet must also be signed by the President. Mr. Smith discussed his understanding of items to be included in Phase I. This will include: Ball Field A rehab that shifted the field closer to the other field to increase the size of Ball Field A to meet future Little League requirements of 250 ft. This shift resulted in the loss of one parking space and one tree at the rear of the ball field. The existing press box is to be utilized and moved as part of this project. Mr. Smith cautioned that this is a very aggressive plan and the amount requested on this application should be reasonable because this is a matching grant and DCNR wants a viable project. The suggestion was made to approach the Coca-Cola Company for a donation to replace the existing scoreboard. Phase I should also include the proposed stone parking lot, paving down the hill by the Borough Building for the handicap spots, modifying the driveway entrance to Rt. 45 and adding one pavilion with a mulch area underneath. This phase would also include moving/constructing the playground with mulch, fencing, retaining wall and playground equipment. The suggestion was made to approach Play World for a donation for the equipment. The Little League representative should be at the April 8 meeting for input into the discussion.
3. John Dubosky, Betsy Forsythe, Don Albertson, and Carrie VanPelt representing the Aaronsburg Library, explained that a firm decision has been made and the group is ready to begin the process to relocate the library to the Millheim Borough Building. They hope to be relocated within two years. Al Ilgen will contact Mr. Dubosky to establish a meeting date to continue the discussions previously handled with Monte Shreckengast.
4. Curt Bierly presented information on some alternate heat sources for the Borough Building. He recommended radiant in-floor heating for the gymnasium area that would be a Styrofoam base and coils then covered with concrete. This process could be put over what is currently there. Mr. Bierly explained that a geothermal system won't heat the area in the coldest weather so he recommends a gas boiler backup. This could be an independent bill and could include the carpeted room as well. He recommended a second heating system for the upstairs office areas and using the duct work that is currently in place. Mr. Bierly explained that having thermostats in the individual rooms and zoning individually would be more expensive and less efficient.
5. Leo Evans presented a water sample from his home. He reminded Council that in 2004 he received a letter from the Borough that promised this line would be flushed on a regular basis because of the problem that exists. He explained this flushing is not being done. After some discussion, the Secretary was instructed to mark the board calendar in her office notifying Todd Wasson that on the second Tuesday of each month he is to blow off the line for Mr. Evans. A log is to be established that documents the day/time and evaluation of what was flushed. A sample is also to be taken each month for Council to see. The consensus of the group was that when Mr. Corman builds his house his line should be looped with Mr. Evans' line to eliminate two dead end lines.

6. Karen Weiss of Nittany Engineering & Associates was present to update Council on the sewer project. She presented Pay Application #4 from HRI, Inc. and explained that it is for concrete and mobilization. She explained that they are spreading the mobilization costs out. Ms. Weiss explained that the tank still needs poured and two pads for the equipment container will be poured when the piping is completed. A site-grading plan has been done to channel water away and the storm water engineers will look at it again in light of the recent flooding. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to approve Pay Application #4 from HRI, Inc. in the amount of \$130,647.60. Motion carried.

Ms. Weiss then explained that Change Order #2 on deductions of the cost savings valuation of \$62,875 was provided to HRI, Inc. and they were agreeable. She also explained that they are working with the electrical contractor on \$3,000 that will be used for some upgrades. After some discussion, a motion was made by Kay Brown and seconded by Tom Strebel to accept Change Order #2 deducting \$62,875. Motion carried.

Ms. Weiss reported that the project is on schedule and the E&S site inspection was done and found acceptable. She also reported on a problem at the outfall in Elk Creek. A large rock was stuck in front of the flap. She suggests that Roy Rupert needs to check this outflow area for obstructions even after the new plant is completed as there will be no change to this area. Progress meetings will be held March 19 and April 2. The Secretary reported on the flooding issues and concerns reported by Omar King.

Ms. Weiss reported that the Chapter 94 report will be finalized this week. There are no overloads and the system is in good shape.

7. Rick Bair of Parente Randolph reviewed the 2007 Audit with Council. He explained that the Borough is in a very strong position. Al Ilgen asked about the findings in the back of the report. Mr. Bair explained this deficiency is one that all Boroughs face because they do not have three or four people doing separate jobs but have one person doing everything. He further explained that nothing needs changed but Council needs to be aware of this. A motion was made by Marlene Corl and seconded by Tom Strebel to accept the 2007 Audit as presented. Motion carried.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

A written report submitted by Glenn Ripka was reviewed. The Solicitor will check on the status of the Michael Race sign hearing. A proposed building permit for Clayton Braucht was discussed. The Solicitor explained that the Borough can't require Mr. Braucht to connect to the public water system unless his property abuts with a street that has a waterline in it. Kay Brown raised concerns about alleys within the Borough with things parked in the right-of-way. Mr. Ripka is to send letters to Mark Weaver and David Sheats about vehicles in the right-of-way at their properties and Mrs. Brown is to receive a copy as Streets and Alley Chairperson.

HARB REPORT:

A letter written by the Chairperson, Lee Thompson, was read by President Auman clarifying their recommendation on the neon open sign for Lisa Martin's Beauty Salon. The recommendation of the HARB is that they are not in favor of a neon sign in the historic district because of the residential houses across the street and that Mrs. Martin has other options available such as lighting the existing sign outside her business and that the inside establishment lights being on indicate that the business is open. Council discussed that this area is zoned and has always been considered the central business district and that the same situation applies at the Millheim Hotel. Carl Rote asked Council what problem is caused by the neon signs. After some discussion, a motion was made by Al Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to reject the HARB recommendation and to allow the neon sign for Lisa Martin's Beauty Salon because the business is located in the central business district. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS TO COUNCIL:

President Auman asked about the status of the sidewalk repairs on North Street. No definite information is available at this time.

Al Ilgen reported that he met with Arlen Kauffman about a proposal to repair the front steps. The side door leaked and the suggestion was made that another door could be made to exit through the gymnasium area when the library is remodeling this area.

EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

Written reports submitted by Lester Kerstetter, Roy Rupert and Todd Wasson were reviewed and discussed. Permission was given to get prices to remove the dead tree at the Raw Water Pump Station on North Street as requested by Roy Rupert.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:

A Master Road Map has been forwarded to Robert Jacobs at the Centre County Planning Office for his review and comments.

NEW ACTION:

1. President Auman explained about some of the unnecessary and/or duplicate items in the Artifacts Room. Some of the items are antiques but have nothing to do with Millheim. The Solicitor suggested getting an estimate from Jim Smith the Auctioneer after everything is sorted through and perhaps a public auction may be needed.
2. A "workshop" meeting with the businessman's association pertaining to a town brochure was discussed. Al Ilgen suggested they start with the Centre County Visitor's Center for possible samples. The consensus was to let the businessmen work on this.
3. A motion was made by Al Ilgen and seconded by Tom Strebel to adopt Ordinance #234, as advertised by the Solicitor, Repealing Ordinance #226 which provided for adequate park, and providing for a Fee In Lieu of providing such open space. Motion carried.

4. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Kay Brown to exonerate Tammy Myers, Tax Collector, from collection of delinquent Per Capita Taxes and to submit the list to J.P. Harris, Delinquent Tax Collector, for collection with the only change being the addition of Michael Shirk to the delinquent list for collection because he has moved back into the area. Motion carried.
5. A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to approve payment to Nittany Engineering & Associates for their invoices submitted in the amount of \$3,915.13. Motion carried.
6. A motion was made by Marlene Corl and seconded by Tom Strebel to approve at an hourly rate not to exceed \$10,000 for Infratech locating and repairing I&I problem areas. Motion carried.
7. A minor subdivision plan for Mark Byler lands was reviewed and discussed. PennDot would need to give permission for a highway occupancy permit. After some discussion, the consensus of the group was to make "No Comments" to Centre County.
8. The Secretary explained that Richard Winebold would like to replace two broken window panes in the clock tower and fix the screen at the top of the tower. He thinks the cold coming in the broken windows may be why the clock is not working. The Solicitor advised that because this is part of the church building he needs to talk to someone from St. Luke's United Methodist Church for their permission.

OLD ACTION:

1. The status of the sidewalks downtown was discussed and the Secretary explained they are waiting for Curt Bierly to get the map completed.
2. The Secretary explained that SEDA-Cog in Lewisburg has partnered with PennDot to assist small municipalities to make an LED Traffic Signal Conversion. They will do a bulk purchase of equipment for anyone that wants to participate. These lights are much more energy efficient. The consensus of the group was for the Secretary to call Ms. Epler about costs rather than going to the meeting. They also agreed that it makes sense to do the conversion at the reduced rate if possible.

COMMITTEES/MAYORS' REPORT: None

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Marlene Corl to approve the February 12, 2008 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Strebel and seconded by Al Ilgen to approve the February 2008 budget report as presented. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

A written report submitted was reviewed. The Secretary showed pictures taken with the new surveillance camera and she is gathering information to determine if better software would produce better pictures.

Carl Rote reported on a very deep hole that has opened up on the property previously owned by Don Boob. The current property owner has placed a tire around the hole. The Secretary was instructed to have Todd Wasson take a look at this.

A motion was made by Kay Brown and seconded by Marlene Corl to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer