

**MILLHEIM BOROUGH COUNCIL  
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(CENTRE COUNTY)**

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**BUDGET MEETING  
October 22, 2008**

Individual interviews with each of the four Borough employees were held beginning at 6:00 p.m. Following these interviews, the second budget meeting of the Millheim Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Linn Auman with the following persons in attendance: Linn Auman, Kay Brown, Marlene Corl, Alan Ilgen, Tom Strebel, Lauralee Snyder and Sharon Heckman

Absent: John R. Miller, III.

The salary decisions made for the 2009 budget are as follows:

Lester Kerstetter, Jr. - \$10.00/hr. or \$20,800/year  
Roy Rupert - \$0.62/hr. increase or \$44,345.60/year  
Sharon Heckman - \$0.50/hr. increase or \$30,721.60/year  
Todd Wasson - \$0.50/hr. increase or \$33,113.60/year

Benefits such as vacation and sick leave were discussed. The consensus of Council was to make no changes at this time. They also agreed that in the future a separate meeting to discuss only benefits should be held.

Daryl Schaefer provided a proposal from Significant Insurance that is about \$30 less/month than the cost of the Geisinger Insurance but when an actual application is submitted the actual cost could be increased. The consensus of Council was to continue with the Geisinger Insurance at a cost of \$365.85/month/policy.

The Water Fund Budget was discussed. With the payroll added the budgeted expenditures for 2009 are \$165,114.20. New remote sensors for the water meters have not yet been purchased for 2008. This should be done before the end of the year and a certificate of deposit should be purchased with any funds remaining in excess of the \$8,114.20 required to balance the 2009 budget. The only change to the water rates for 2009 is to increase the monthly late fee from \$10 to \$20 per month.

The Sewer Fund Budget was discussed. The Secretary explained that after speaking with Joe Geise of Doty & Hench the amount budgeted for 2009 insurance was decreased to \$7,000, which is the same cost as 2008. She explained that a decrease was expected for this year but because of the additional insurance coverage for the new sewer plant Mr. Geise recommended keeping this year's rate. This rate also includes insurance for the town clock. The cost for electricity was raised to \$12,000 because of the blowers, etc. The total proposed expenditures with the salaries included are \$367,272.20. The current sewer rates should cover the projected budget. The Secretary explained that the ending cash balance should be more than \$60,000 but she planned to put the remainder into a certificate of deposit. The consensus of the group was to use a beginning cash balance of \$65,413.20 to balance this budget instead of raising sewer rates. This decision was made so the new plant can be operated for an entire year and more accurate figures would be available for the 2010 budget process. Mrs. Heckman explained that Mr. Shrack will be reviewing the fuel surcharge and if the price of gas continues to drop this surcharge may be decreased.

The consensus of the group was to have someone from PennDot help Todd Wasson evaluate and determine the ranking for street paving projects within the Borough.

The General Fund Budget was discussed and the salary information was included. Total estimated revenue for 2009 is \$118,985.00. Improvements to the Borough Building were discussed. The proposal from Spring Lake Vinyl to replace the windows for the Borough Office is \$2620 unless the top section of the windows is opaque glass then the cost would be \$2800 for the Borough Office windows and the Code Enforcement Office windows would be \$3,870 or a total for both offices would be \$6,670.00. Asbestos abatement for the boiler would be \$2,437. The consensus of the group was to budget for the replacement of windows in both the Borough Office and the Code Enforcement Office to help with the heating costs and to do the asbestos abatement of the furnace. Alan Ilgen said the other improvement needed would be the stairs down to the Council Room and Gymnasium. The consensus of the group was to wait until the library completes their work. The decision was made to cover the windows in the Council room and the two vacant rooms upstairs with plastic for the winter as a temporary solution to help with heating of the room. The problem of the water coming into the room at the lower level was discussed. The outside door is to be sealed completely with waterproof caulking to prevent further leaking until a future use for the room is determined. The purchase of safety equipment and shirts for the Borough employees was discussed and the group decided to look into this.

Requests for donations were discussed. After discussion, the consensus of the group was to donate \$250 to each of the following:

Centre Home Health Care

Home Nursing Agency out of Altoona

Penns Valley Park & Rec for the Pool

Aaronsburg Library.

Barry Styers submitted a proposal to continue mowing and snow removal for Union Cemetery. His proposal is \$1,400 unless gas goes over \$4.00/gallon at which point he would request a one-time fuel charge of \$150 bringing his total contract price to \$1,550. Council agreed to this proposal. Replacement lids for the trash containers for downtown were discussed. The consensus of the group was to purchase plastic lids instead of metal lids because the metal lids are too expensive. Todd Wasson is looking for a price for a straight plow and money was budgeted for this purchase. Alan Ilgen agreed to talk to the Lutheran Church about the storm water issue at their parking lot. All Borough sidewalks have been completed except Linn Alley. The total proposed General Fund Budget for 2009 is \$157,592.40, which requires a beginning cash balance of \$38,607.40 and the remaining balance is to be invested in a certificate of deposit. The Secretary was told to order the windows immediately. The Secretary reported that the insurance agent suggested that for budget purposes \$600 should be used as the approximate increase for insurance for the proposed library improvements. The Secretary was told to wait to codify the ordinances until the amendment to the sidewalk ordinance and an amendment prohibiting bicycle riding on sidewalks are completed.

The Council unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Motion carried.

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Sharon A. Heckman, Secretary-Treasurer