

November 26, 2013
MILLERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The MILLERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING was held on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 in the Millersville Borough Public Meeting Room located at 100 Municipal Drive, Millersville, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President, Michael C. Kirkham followed by the pledge to the flag. A moment of silence was then observed.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michael C. Kirkham
Philip A. Lastowski
Linda J. Deal (absent)
J. Philip Gerber

Richard M. Moriarty, Mayor
Thomas R. Keller
Lynn M. Miller
James A. Stager

OTHERS PRESENT

Edward J. Arnold, Millersville Borough Manager
John D. Rochat, Millersville Borough Chief of Police
Jessie L. Ebersole, Millersville Borough Staff
Harold "Skip" Rhodes, Park Commission
Steven A. DiGuiseppe, Millersville University
Nathan Rosenberg, Penn Manor School
Elaine J. Jones, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal / New Era
David Aichele, 127 Landis Ave., Millersville
Mike and Lindsey Gerner, 36 W. Charlotte St., Millersville
Ray and Grace Gerner
Douglas Warner, 109 Norlawn Circle, Lancaster
Tracy Bemederfer, 3620 Horizon Dr., Lancaster
Eileen Grumbine, 325 E. Main Street, Leola
Scott Bailey, 61 W. Frederick St., Millersville
Dean Kroesen, 19 Quarry Dr., Millersville
Marvin Murphy, 86 Wabank Rd., Millersville
Sam Bigler, 17 Wabank Rd., Millersville
Geoff Beers, Student Services Inc.
Thomas Godfrey, Dawood Engineer, Student Services Inc.
Bob Sempsey, Student Services Inc.

MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes for the October 22, 2013 Council Meeting was made by Mr. Lastowski and seconded by Mr. Gerber. With no discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

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CITIZEN'S REQUESTS OR CONCERNS

Before opening for Citizen's concerns, President Kirkham read a prepared West Charlotte Street Water/Sewer incident report. The report stated that the Borough's insurance company, after investigating and reviewing the homeowner's damage claims, found that the Borough was not liable for the damages incurred. The City of Lancaster also responded in the same manner. The report further noted the Borough Code sets forth the purposes for which the Borough can spend public money and that there is no authorization for spending public funds to repair damages to private property caused by the failure of a water line that the Borough does not own.

Mayor Moriarty said that we cannot do what they want us to do but is trying to find other avenues to assist. He has received a notice that the local Churches have responded with compassion and are willing to take contributions.

Mr. Gerner stated that Council's action is disheartening and that the incident was handled poorly. He further stated that three elected officials had said things that should not have been said. He wants the Borough and those elected officials to learn from their mistakes.

Mrs. Gerner still has unanswered questions, such as whether the Borough has an SOP (standard operating procedures) and if so, were the procedures followed. She has also requested a chain of events for the incident. President Kirkham requested her multiple questions to be addressed in an email to Mr. Arnold and that he will follow up with answers. Mrs. Gerner commented that it is a sad day, especially when she is teaching her children to take responsibility for their actions.

Skip Rhodes, President of the Millersville Lions Club announced they have set up an account to collect funds to help those with sewer and/or water damage on West Charlotte Street. He welcomed any citizen that wanted to contribute to make checks payable to "Friends of West Charlotte Street, C/O Millersville Lion Club, PO Box 25, Millersville, PA. He further stated they will distribute all money collected at the end of January. Mr. Keller thanked Skip and the Lion's Club for setting up this account because he believes a lot of people want to help.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OR BOARDS

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Moriarty reported that the monthly police report is an average month with 279 Calls for Service. He mentioned his participation in the Lazareth sentencing. He was sentenced for 33 to 66 years. Chief Rochat stated it was a trying time for the citizens and that it will be a lengthy process to return all the merchandise collected.

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY REPORT

Mr. DiGuiseppe announced PASSHE unveiled the State System's new multi-university electronic admissions application. The new online tool allows potential students to apply to any Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education University or to multiple Universities with ease. He also announced Dr. Gary Zoppetti, a computer science professor, and Albert Peterlin, President of the environmental consulting firm Errex Inc. have been working together with MU students to develop a weather sensory device that could be in every car on the market in just a few years.

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Upcoming fall commencement exercises will be on Sunday, December 15th at 2 PM in Pucillo Gymnasium.

Mr. DiGuiseppe announced the Millersville Business Association will celebrate the annual lighting of the Christmas tree on the first Friday in December, December 6th, starting at 7 PM at the corner of Leaman Avenue and Manor Avenue.

PENN MANOR SCHOOL REPORT

Mr. Nate Rosenberg reported on various items of interest from the High School including the dinner and a show for senior citizens as being a big success. About 400 Penn Manor senior citizens enjoyed a tasty meal of chicken pot pie and a performance of the fall play entitled, "The Foreigner". The turnout was the biggest in the history of this free event, which is held each fall for district senior citizens in the high school cafeteria and auditorium. He reported on the recognition given to two school board members for completing their service on the board. Amber Green served three years, resigning from the board to pursue a seat on the Manor Township Board of Supervisors. She was elected to the post on November 5th. Franklin Hoke served on the school board since 2007 and also served on the school district's ag advisory committee during his tenure. The two new board members are Joseph Fullerton and David Paitsel. Also mentioned was senior Toby Holsinger for having her book entitled "This I Know...Devotions for Teens" published.

PLANNING AND BETTERMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Gerber recommended holding the motion to advertise the amendment to the rental ordinance until the December council meeting.

Mr. Gerber introduced Geoff Beers and Tom Godfrey from Student Services Inc. to explain the final plan for the Student Housing Replacement Phase 2. This project involves the demolition of the existing 250 bed dormitory, Diehm Hall, which will be replaced with two new residence halls having 488 beds and the adjacent parking lot is being reconfigured for approximately 40 more parking spaces. Mr. Gerber made a motion to approve the Student Housing Replacement Phase 2 plan with the satisfaction of all comments as stated in the Borough's Engineer letter dated November 4, 2013. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lastowski. With no further discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Gerber made a motion to waive the financial requirement for the proposed phase 2 improvements. Mr. Lastowski seconded the motion. With no discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to accept the September, 2013 Financial Reports as presented to the committee by Borough Manager, Edward Arnold. With no discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

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Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to approve a General Capital Fund budget adjustment in the amount of \$33,000 to fund the Millersville Veterans Memorial project. With no discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to adopt the 2014 budgets. Mr. Lastowski thanked everyone involved. With no further discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to adopt the 2014 General Purpose Tax Millage Ordinance setting the rate at 5.45 mills. He noted this is the third year holding the rate at 5.45 mills. Mr. Arnold announced we have dropped to the fifth highest tax millage rate in Lancaster County. Elizabethtown Borough has just passed their 2014 budget with a millage rate higher than ours. With no further discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCE BOOK
ORDINANCE NO. 2013-4

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to approve refunding a zoning appeal application fee of \$600 to Manor Real Estate Associates. Mr. Arnold explained that they had withdrawn the application before setting a hearing date. With no discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

WASTE WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

None

STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Stager made a motion out of committee to adopt the amendment to the Streets and Sidewalk ordinance to revise designations of streets which must have sidewalk and/or curbs. The new language in this ordinance avoids the need for future amendments when new streets are constructed in the Borough. Mr. Stager mentioned that further committee meeting discussions will take place early next year on the implementation. With no further discussion the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCE BOOK
ORDINANCE NO. 2013-5

Mr. Stager made a motion to adopt the Resolution with the County and PennDOT for the six traffic signals in the borough and authorize Mr. Arnold to sign the application for traffic signal approval on behalf of the municipality. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. Mr. Arnold explained the application is for a Countywide signalization monitoring of data for improving synchronization between all the lights. An outside vendor will install new equipment at no cost to the borough. With no further discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

RESOLUTION BOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-14

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SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. Miller made a motion to allow Chief Rochat to enter into an agreement with the Lancaster County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) for the services of boarding and housing stray dogs for a two year period at a cost of \$200 per dog. Mr. Gerber seconded the motion. With no discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Stager in the absence of Mrs. Deal made a motion to approve a resolution to reappoint Mrs. Vickie Usciak to the Zoning Hearing Board for a five year term ending December 31, 2018. Mr. Gerber seconded the motion. With no discussion the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

RESOLUTION BOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-15

Mr. Stager in the absence of Mrs. Deal made a motion to approve a resolution to reappoint Mr. Harold "Skip" Rhodes, Jr. to the Park Commission for a three year term ending December 31, 2016. Mr. Gerber seconded the motion. With no discussion the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

RESOLUTION BOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-16

Mr. Stager in the absence of Mrs. Deal made a motion to approve a resolution to reappoint Mr. Pete Rios to the Historic Commission for a five year term ending December 31, 2018. Mr. Gerber seconded the motion. With no discussion the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

RESOLUTION BOOK
RESOLUTION NO. 2013-17

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Kirkham reminded Council that next month's meeting will be held the second Tuesday of the month, December 10th and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Arnold mentioned an upcoming training session for newly elected officials that will be held January 17th and 18th at the Eden Resort in Lancaster. Any elected official is welcome to attend and the borough will pay the cost to attend.

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Mr. Arnold stated the Council re-organizational meeting will take place on Monday, January 6, 2014 starting at 7 PM. President Kirkham is working on setting up the standing committee members list in the event he is re-elected as President.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gerber made a motion seconded by Mr. Lastowski, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward J. Arnold
Borough Secretary

EJA/jle