

February 23, 2010
MILLERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The MILLERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 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 the Council Vice President, Michael C. Kirkham, followed by the pledge to the flag. A moment of silence was then observed.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Scott A. Bailey (late arrival)
Michael C. Kirkham
Jack W. Gardner
J. Philip Gerber

Richard M. Moriarty, Mayor
Philip A. Lastowski
Linda J. Deal (late arrival)
Lucinda L. Ridley

OTHERS PRESENT

Edward J. Arnold, Borough Manager
John D. Rochat, Millersville Borough Chief of Police
Jessie Ebersole, Millersville Borough Staff
Michael J. Weidinger, Planning Commission Chairman
Edward R. Saylor, Planning Commission Vice Chairman
Gary G. Hess, Planning Commission Secretary
Steven A. DiGuseppe, Millersville University
James Buescher, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal / New Era
Geoff Beers, 30 Hemlock Dr., Lancaster – Student Lodging Inc.
Teresa Hummel, 101 Country Walk Dr., Wrightsville – Student Lodging Inc.
Jerry & Carrol Ehrhart, Plan B – Highfield Farm
Mark Stanley, Hartman, Underhill, Brubaker – Highfield Farm
Kaila Repman, 24 University Dr., Student Senate/Millersville University
J. Scholtes, 41 Shenks Lane, Millersville – Student Lodging Inc.

MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes for January 26, 2010 Council meeting was made by Mr. Gardner and seconded by Mr. Gerber. With one mention that Mr. Kirkham will be able to attend the public meeting on March 4th, the motion passed by an unanimous voice vote with Mr. Lastowski and Mr. Kirkham abstaining because they were not present at the meeting.

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CITIZEN'S REQUESTS OR CONCERNS

Mr. Geoff Beers from Student Lodging presented a project that was created from a citizen's concern on the amount of trash that is put out at the end of the year. After much consideration and planning they are proposing a Community Yard Sale. This event is not just for the students but for the citizens as well. The Community Yard Sale is to be held Saturday, April 24, 2010 from 9 AM to Noon. Three goals of this project are to reduce waste, enhance student relations for a common cause, and to raise funds for the student senate. Food donations will be collected for the Water Street Rescue Mission as a canned item is required to destroy documents through the ShredIt program. Goodwill will be available during the entire event, taking items they deem of value for resale. Other items left behind will be gathered up by Student Senate and Student Lodging staff. Mayor Moriarty supports this project and encouraged local involvement. He advised reaching out to at least two local groups; the Millersville Area Business Association and the local Churches, especially the Church on West Frederick Street (Grace United Methodist) that has the thrift shop. Mr. Lastowski, seconded by Ms. Ridley, made a motion for Millersville Borough Council to support the event of Student Lodging Sustainability Project, a Community Yard Sale to be held Saturday, April 24, 2010. The motion passed with an unanimous voice vote.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OR BOARDS

Mr. Lastowski mentioned Thursday, March 4th, the Emergency Services Task Force will present its 'Findings and Recommendations' report to a joint municipality meeting of Millersville Borough and Manor Township here at the Borough Office at 7 PM.

Mr. Gerber noted from the recent Historic Commission meeting that they are in opposition of the proposed replacement ordinance. Further discussions will continue at the Planning and Betterment meeting on March 10th.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Moriarty summarized the monthly police report stating it showed a lower than average number across all the categories with one exception, that being the clearance rate.

Mayor stated he had not intended to declare a state of emergency for the recent snow storm due to the parking issues that could occur in the Borough. However, after he learned of the potential positive ramifications from the State and more importantly for the safety of the Citizens, he made a declaration of disaster emergency which stated "Whereas on or about February 9, 2010 a major snowfall event has caused or threatens to cause injury, damage, and suffering to the persons and property of Millersville Borough." The complete declaration was verbally enacted by the Mayor and Borough Council on February 10th, at 4:09 PM. Tonight he asked Council to pass the Resolution ratifying the declaration of disaster emergency. Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Lastowski, made such a motion. With no further discussions the motion passed with an unanimous voice vote.

The Mayor announced that today the Borough received the check for \$500,000 from the RACP (Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program) grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Municipal Building project.

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MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY REPORT

Mr. Steven DiGuiseppe announced the 2008-2009 President's Report and 2010 Community Impact Report has been released. He also announced a ground breaking ceremony for the Visual and Performing Arts Center will be held March 30th. This project is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2011. The May Commencement weekend is coming up. Due to the anticipated large commencement on May 7th starting at 6:30 PM in Pucillo Gym will be for Master's degree and/or post bachelor's teacher certification and on May 8th starting at 10:00 AM at Biemesderfer Stadium will be the Baccalaureate commencement. Mr. DiGuiseppe stated Amanda Slagle has resigned her position as Millersville Borough's Student Advisor due to a conflict with her work schedule.

WASTEWATER COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Gardner announced there were no actions to bring forward.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Lastowski made note that there was no Finance Committee meeting. However he announced the Borough had received the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for the year ending 2008 Audit Report which indicated the Borough has met all the government auditing requirements and standards.

PLANNING AND BETTERMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Gerber made a motion to grant the extension of time for the Highfield Farm preliminary plan to February 26, 2010. Mr. Kirkham seconded the motion. With no discussions the motion passed by a majority voice vote, with Mr. Gardner opposed.

Carrol Ehrhart introduced herself to the two new Council members, Ms. Ridley and Mr. Gerber. Per Mr. Gerber's request she gave further explanation to the maintenance of the streets and the "bump-outs". As it states on the preliminary plan the Borough would have a uniform right-of-way for the three streets that will be proposed for dedication. The Homeowner Association will be responsible for the maintenance of the area that is "cut-back" or otherwise refer to as the "bump-outs". Ms. Ehrhart gave a quick presentation to bring Council up-to-speed with what was recently discussion with the Planning Commission. Further details were made on the mid-block crossings and the acceptance from PennDOT. Mr. Stanley stated PennDOT regulations do not prohibit but rather simply do not encourage them. Other items discussed were the eight shade trees designated for in front of the wall will be switched to eleven smaller ornamental type trees (the exact types yet to be decided), the twenty-two handicap ramps, the placement of curb and sidewalks on Cottage Avenue, the Border Run culvert with a proposed five foot-four rail fence for pedestrian safety, the phasing sequence for construction on Cottage Avenue to be done between June 15th and August 15th, the joint use of driveways, the dedication of the three main streets but not the emergency access drive and the two modification requests, both of which the Planning Commission has approved. The first modification is to allow a plan scale of 1"=30' instead of the required 1"= 20', 1"=50' or 1"=100' and the second, to allow the use of smooth line corrugated plastic pipe under the traveled cartway instead of the required reinforced concrete pipe.

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STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Kirkham discussed preliminary costs gathered upon request for the recent snow storm. Mr. Kirkham thanked all staff; Streets department, WasteWater Department and even the Police Department for their excellent work they did on clearing the streets, despite the breakdowns on Street's equipment.

Mr. Kirkham reflected on the presentation of the improvement options for the intersection of West Frederick and Duke Streets that was given by the Borough Engineer, RAV, at the Street Committee meeting. Two options were reviewed. The first option was the installation of traffic signals at each of the intersection points. This option projected the traffic flow to be insufficient within five years and shown not much improvement over the existing stop signs. The second option was for a "round-about" system at the intersection. However the Borough would have to acquire, possibly through eminent domain, property from three or four owners. Ultimately the second option will be much more expensive but the outcome would be far more beneficial in the long run, especially with the anticipated project for the Funk's property. Mr. Arnold recommended that we would look for additional funding sources for the improvement project, such as from PennDOT, Manor Township, the Developer of the Funk property, and the County through the Transportation grant. Council agreed to invite the immediate property owners to the Streets Committee meeting to be held on April 8th.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Ms. Ridley announced there were no actions taken from their meeting. She mentioned she would be meeting with Dr. Breaux to discuss the MU Student representative. Mr. Bailey discussed expanding the involvement of students to the Penn Manor High School. He asked for Council's support before having Personnel more forward with this. Mr. Kirkham voiced his support. Ms. Ridley agreed to speak directly with Penn Manor High School.

SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. Deal made a motion to support the application for the PLCB (Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board) grant for the 2010-2011 year. Chief Roachat stated the Borough has taken advantage of this grant in the past and the matching funds have already been put in the budget for 2010. Mr. Gerber seconded the motion. With no further discussions the motion passed with an unanimous voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Bailey brought forth a concerned he had heard from a couple of citizens of the Borough. The concern that was voiced was the number of Council members that currently sit on another Commission or Board. Mr. Bailey asked for an opinion of Council or a discussion on whether or not Council feels this is a good thing. Mr. Gerber voiced his opinion that it is really tough to get people to sit on Boards but believes a Council person should consider stepping down if another citizen is qualified. This will allow more people to get involved with the community. Mr. Lastowski recalled he had several people who showed interest but they were never called.

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Mr. Lastowski believes Council members could attend those meetings but not necessarily have to serve on the Board or Commission. Ms. Ridley believes the individuals should not be un-seated until the end of their term and that future terms should be re-evaluated. Mr. Bailey recommended this issue be discussed further and revisited at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Arnold reported on the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau meetings. The Board consists of 33 members (17 members from the school districts and 16 members from municipalities). He senses they are on the right track by creating an eight member management committee and a new committee to make necessary changes to the by-laws and to the personnel issues that need worked out.

Mr. Arnold mentioned again the joint municipal meeting with Manor Township being held Thursday, March 4th at 7 PM here in the Millersville Borough public meeting room. Also mentioned is the 2010 Census coming in March. The last U.S. Census was taken ten years ago with our figure from that Census being 7,774. Mr. Arnold agreed to follow-up on a concern voiced on the counting of the Millersville University Students living in the dorms as well as in the Borough.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gerber made a motion seconded by Mr. Gardner, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Arnold
Borough Manager

EJA/jle