

September 27, 2011
MILLERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The MILLERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING was held on Tuesday, September 27, 2011 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 President, Scott A. Bailey, followed by the pledge to the flag. A moment of silence was then observed.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Scott A. Bailey
Michael C. Kirkham
Jack W. Gardner
J. Philip Gerber

Richard M. Moriarty, Mayor
Philip A. Lastowski
Linda J. Deal
Marilyn W. Sachs

OTHERS PRESENT

Edward J. Arnold, Millersville Borough Manager
John D. Rochat, Millersville Borough Chief of Police
Jessie L. Ebersole, Millersville Borough Staff
Edward R. Saylor, Planning Commission Vice Chairman
Sgt. Howard Bowman, Millersville Borough Police
Officer Michael Schaeffer, Millersville Borough Police
Duane E. Hagelgans, Fire Commissioner, Blue Rock Regional Fire District
Steven A. DiGuissepe, Millersville University
Kaitlyn Rodgers, Millersville University Student Advisor
Mayor J. Richard Gray, City of Lancaster
Robert C. Shoemaker, President, The Lancaster Alliance
Elaine Jones, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal / New Era
Robert Slabinski, Student Lodging Inc.
Geoff Beers, Student Lodging Inc.
Jhanice Rajah, Diehm Hall, Millersville University
James Kirk, 436 Herr Ave., Millersville
Robert & Karen Napier, 341 Manor Ave, Millersville

MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes for August 23, 2011 Council Meeting was made by Mr. Kirkham and seconded by Mr. Gerber. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Moriarty introduced Mayor Gray from the City of Lancaster and Bob Shoemaker, President of the Lancaster Alliance and thanked them for accepting his invitation. Their presentation was on the "Prosper or Perish – Financing Local Government Services in Pennsylvania" report. The City of Lancaster's Municipal Finance Task Force states "Unless action is taken to reform the system used to finance the City services, those services will go into sharp decline. It is truly a 'prosper or perish' choice." They recommend a "New Deck", which states specific and immediate action that must be taken to implement reforms that will stabilize the financial future of our local municipalities. Such as:

- The public safety contract arbitration system must be reformed to return balance and to establish reasonable standards upon which awards are based.
- Management and bargaining units must engage in meaningful discussions of how health care and pension benefit levels can be adjusted to accommodate today's financial realities.
- Fragmented government at the local level must give way to inter-municipal shared services.
- Property tax reform must happen. Property owners cannot be burdened with disproportionate responsibility for funding public safety, public education, public works and County government services. Property taxes cannot sustain the cost of providing these services.
- Revenue sharing must be established as a way for consumers of services to assume a fair share of the cost of those services.
- Replace barriers with incentives for investing in community and economic development projects in older cities.

Mayor Gray discussed policy recommendations and requests a 'Calls to Action' on the following: Pennsylvania Act 111 and Act 511 reform, pension reform, regulatory, grant and fee-related reform such as prevailing wage and historic tax credits and property tax reform. Mayor Gray thanked Borough Council for the invitation and support.

CITIZEN'S REQUESTS OR CONCERNS

Mr. Jim Kirk from 436 Herr Avenue requested feedback from Chief Rochat on the vehicular speeding on his street. Details will be presented (below) in the Mayor's Report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OR BOARDS

Mr. Lastowski reported on the Blue Rock Regional Fire Commission meeting held on Thursday, September 1st. The operating agreement between the Blue Rock Regional Fire District and the Blue Rock Fire Rescue is still under review by both parties. The Fire Commissioner is working on consolidation of expenses, standardizing equipment and the installation of new signage on the fire stations.

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MAYOR'S REPORT – CONTINUED

Mayor Moriarty reported on the damage sustained due to Tropical Storm Lee. Although the Borough was very fortunate in comparison to neighboring municipalities; our Waste Water Treatment Plant and pumping station suffered damage and was inoperable for a period of time. At that time the Mayor declared a state of emergency, primarily for monetary purposes. Mr. Arnold stated repairs and replacements may be in the range of \$35,000. Under the direction of Les McMullen, Superintendent, steps were taken to reduce damage. Mayor Moriarty thanked Les and his staff for their efforts to safe guard our community. Mr. Kirkham, seconded by Mr. Gardner made a motion ratifying the Mayor's action to declare a disaster emergency on September 8th. The motion passed with a 6 to 1 voice vote, with Mr. Gerber opposed.

Mayor briefly discussed the decision of LEMSA to reposition the advance life support unit out of Millersville and dropping to a one-shift.

Mayor's comments on the police report were again high for 'Calls for Service', as well as other categories. Chief Rochat provided details on the action taken over the past month to address the concern of speeding on Herr Avenue. He showed the results of a speed study conducted from 9/13 to 9/20. On the Northbound, 6512 vehicles were counted, of those 6027 vehicles were at or below enforceable speed. On the Southbound, 5582 vehicles were counted with 5144 of those being at or below enforceable speeds. Mr. Kirk voiced his disappointment with the positioning of strips and cruisers, resulting in low counts for the study. This, in his opinion has a low effectiveness and in the end the result remains unchanged.

Chief Rochat mentioned the 2011 Secure our School grant for Penn Manor School District has been approved for \$400,000. He stated this is a 50/50 matching grant for a state of the art camera system to be used at and around the High School.

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY REPORT

Mr. DiGuseppe announced Millersville University has again made the annual college ranking issue of U.S. News & World Report ranking 82 in the category of Best Regional Universities in the North Region. The University, Student Affairs and Student Services hosted several events to celebrate the grand opening of the Student Memorial Center including the dedication of the Slabinski Atrium and Clock Tower. Mr. DiGuseppe also announced fall break is October 7-11th and homecoming weekend is October 28-30th.

MILLERSVILLE 250th REPORT

Mr. DiGuseppe stated community night at the Barnstormers game went well with over 350 in attendance. The next Millersville 250th events are the Millersville's Got Talent tryouts to be held on October 16th in Pucillo Gym, with the first open show to be November 6th. The Harvest Door Contest, with judging to done on October 27th. The Millersville Community Parade will be held on October 29th and has the potential to be the largest to date. The Pictorial Postmark Day will also be on October 29th at the Student Memorial Center lobby. The Pipe Organ Walk will be October 30th. A busy month of events! Mr. DiGuseppe announced the closing event will be Sunday, November 27th at the Turkey Hill Experience in Columbia and will include tours, cake and a special 250th new ice cream flavor to be showcased.

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WASTE WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

None

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to approve the August, 2011 Financial Reports. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to approve the 2012 Blue Rock Regional Fire District budget (with a total operating and capital expense amount of \$996,720). With no specific questions on the budget the motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to approve the 2012 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Non Uniform Pension plan in the amount of \$125,357. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to approve the 2012 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police Pension plan in the amount of \$108,159. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to approve the annual mailing of the payment in lieu of property taxes letter requesting a contribution from the tax exempt property owners within the borough. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Lastowski made a motion out of committee to approve the installation of a fiber optic communication cable by the Zayo Group along the Borough's right of way on Colonial Avenue. This connection runs from Bentley Lane to the communications terminal at the Borough's water tower. In addition to this installation, it was agreed that another line will be run to the pavilion in the Freedom Memorial Park at no charge. Mr. Arnold provided additional details of the installation. With no further discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

PLANNING AND BETTERMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Gerber made a motion to allow the electronic distribution of the Millersville Matters newsletter with the allowance for citizens to continue to receive the newsletter in hard copy by request. Mr. Lastowski seconded the motion. This year's newsletter will be mailed with notification of this change to the citizenry. It was discussed that the Recycle newsletter will continue to be mailed annually to meet the requirements of the grant. With no further discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Gerber announced Student Lodging Inc. has purchased the land behind the Grace Methodist Church on West Frederick Street and are requesting a rezoning of approximately 14.5 acres from R-1 Low Density Residential District to R-1A Residential/University District. Mr. Gerber made a motion to have the Borough Planning Commission review and make a recommendation on the rezoning request by Student Lodging Inc. Mr. Kirkham seconded the motion. With no further discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Gerber made a motion to have the Lancaster County Planning Commission review and comment on the rezoning request by Student Lodging Inc. Mr. Kirkham seconded the motion. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Gerber made a motion to authorize borough counsel to prepare the necessary ordinance to amend the Zoning map which will be transmitted along with the rezoning request to the Borough's Planning Commission, the Lancaster County Planning Commission and the

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Lancaster Inter-Municipal Committee. Mr. Kirkham seconded the motion. Mr. Slabinski agreed to reimburse any costs incurred by the Borough for this matter. With no further discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

STREET COMMITTEE

Mrs. Sachs made a motion out of committee to allow the use of public streets for the block party on Spring Drive from Valley Road to East Charlotte Street on October 30, 2011 from 1:00-4:00 PM. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mrs. Sachs made a motion out of committee to allow the use of public streets for the block party on Manor Avenue from Brook View to Valley View on September 18, 2011 from 5:00-7:00 PM. The Street Committee has requested that next year the hours be moved earlier for more daylight and therefore safer for the public. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mrs. Sachs made a motion out of committee to allow the use of public streets for the annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24 between 8:30–10:30 AM. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mrs. Sachs made a motion out of committee to award the Snow Removal Contract to Your Estate Services Inc. in the amount of \$102 per hour. Mr. Arnold provided the requested explanation for the substantial increase as provided by the Street Superintendent Mr. Boxleitner's communication directly with the bidder. It was stated that the increase is due to equipment breakdowns from past services provided in the borough. With no further discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Mrs. Sachs made a motion out of committee to adopt the ordinance to amend the code of ordinances to revise the parking regulations on Murrycross Way, Stonegate Court and Windgate Court. With no discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCE BOOK
ORDINANCE 2011-4

SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. Deal provided an update on the rental ordinance changes in process and noted the landlord issues continue to be a topic of discussion. Mrs. Deal thanked the Mayor for his contacts with other Colleges/Universities communities.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Sachs announced another meeting was held and negotiations continue with the AFSCME union with little progress being made.

Mrs. Sachs made a motion out of committee to direct the Civil Service Commission to fill the vacant Sergeant position from within. Mr. Bailey asked how this will impact the productivity of the Officers. Chief Roachat explained this will not increase productivity but will increase supervision. With no further discussions the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

None

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Arnold announced the contractor moved out before the completion of the Glen Oaks Drive project due to the utility company not having the lines moved from the pole. They anticipate being back approximately October 12th.

Mr. Arnold continued his status report on the progress of West Frederick Street Infrastructure project stating the curb installation should start on the north side of the street on Friday. We anticipate having the street opened by the end of October.

Mr. Arnold stated money is being made available from PEMA for the flood damage caused by Tropical Storm Lee. Details will be forthcoming.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kirkham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gerber to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 PM. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward J. Arnold
Borough Secretary

EJA/jle