

February 11, 2020
MILLERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The MILLERSVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 in the Millersville Borough Public Meeting Room located at 100 Municipal Drive, Millersville, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Carrie Smith followed by the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence was then observed. She thanked everyone for coming out to tonight's meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Carrie L. Smith
Lauren E. Hauck
Linda L. Bellile
Brooke G. Magni

David T. Aichele, Mayor
Dianne M. Bates
Mary Ann Gerber
Daniel P. Ostrowski

OTHERS PRESENT

John D. Rochat, Borough Manager & Millersville Borough Chief of Police
Jessie L. Ebersole, Millersville Borough Finance Officer
Lucas Charles, Penn Manor High School Student Advisor
Elaine Jones, LNP
Ed Hersh, 72 Blue Rock Road, Millersville
Grace Salm, 116 Village Green Lane, Quaker Hills

CITIZENS' REQUESTS OR CONCERNS

None

MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes for the January 28, 2020 Council Meetings was made by Ms. Bates and seconded by Ms. Bellile. Chief Rochat noted that Lt. Margevich's name was missing from the 'Others Present' list. With no further discussions the approval of the minutes with the noted correction passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ostrowski made a motion to accept the resignation of Council member Dianne Bates effective at 11:59 p.m. tonight. President Smith seconded the motion. With no discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote, with Ms. Bates abstaining.

President Smith asked Ms. Bates if she wanted to address Council. Ms. Bates stated for those that are unaware of the reason for her resignation, it is due to her new job as Data Director for the Pennsylvania Democratic Party. She explained that it is not required by law to resign due to a conflict of interest, however she did not want to give the wrong impression. She continued to state that this is a very bittersweet resignation and she has extremely enjoyed her two years

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serving the family of Millersville. Mrs. Gerber on behalf of herself and colleagues, wished her well.

Mayor Aichele took the floor to present a certificate of appreciation of public service for Ms. Dianne Bates. The certificate stated the community has benefited by her services and expressed gratitude for her valued service to the community.

President Smith stated per Borough Code that Council has 30 days to fill the vacancy on Council. Once the 30 days are up, it goes to the Vacancy Board which has another 15 days and once that is up, it goes to the court of common pleas and a judge will make the appointment. She went on to explain the process for accepting nominations, closing the nominations, and taking a vote. President Smith then opened discussions on ideas and opinions on how Council would continue and ultimately fill the seat. Mrs. Magni voiced her concern on the way they are intending to fill the vacancy. She stated that if Council were to simply appoint someone, then they haven't given enough of the Borough an opportunity to say they wanted the opportunity to interview for the position. She proposed that they open up the next meeting for anyone that wanted to apply, be interviewed at Council, and take a vote from there. President Smith asked how they would advertise this. Mrs. Magni recommended putting it on the Borough's website and Facebook with a request to submit a resume and/or a letter of interest. Mrs. Gerber agreed with transparency by some sort of notification on the Borough's website and Facebook page. She thought it would be manageable for them to talk with Council for a few minutes and then seek for a nomination. Ms. Bates stated that Council would need to be diligent in the timeline and being able to fit this process within the time restraint put upon them by Borough Code. President Smith mentioned that she is wary of receiving and appointing an applicant without some sort of vetting. Mr. Ostrowski in his experience noted that you learn little about an individual from a resume and that one of the legal responsibilities of an elected Councilman is to fill a vacancy. Council has at their discretion, the right to appoint. He stated he agrees with transparency but would trust this Council to do a good job bringing forward a potential replacement. Mrs. Gerber stated the call is the President of Council. It is a procedural matter. After a few more discussions with the members of the audience, President Smith announced that they will continue to seek nominations to fill the vacancy as they have in the past. She stated they have an interested candidate but at the same time sees nothing wrong with each of Council spreading the word and encouraging others.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT

Chief Rochat mentioned the upcoming Lancaster County Boroughs' Association meeting will be held on February 26, 2020. Mrs. Gerber made a motion to pre-approve payment for that event for any Council member, the Mayor, or the Chief as Borough Manager that would like to attend. Mr. Ostrowski seconded the motion. With no further discussions the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

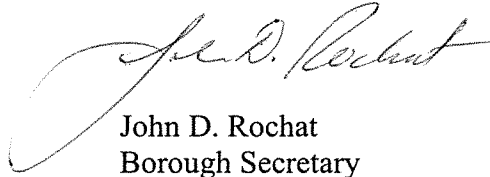
None

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Ostrowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m., seconded by Ms. Bates.

Respectfully submitted,



John D. Rochat
Borough Secretary

JDR/jle