

Milford Borough Council Meeting Minutes 3/16/2021

On Tuesday March 16, 2021 at 6:00 pm, the Milford Borough Council met via zoom for a regular council meeting. In attendance were Mayor Sean Strub, Council President Frank Tarquinio, Vice President Adriane Wendell, Council members Joseph Dooley, Peter Cooney, Rob Ciervo, Treasurer Greg Myer, Solicitor Anthony Magnotta, and Borough Secretary Laurie DiGeso. The meeting was advertised and open to the public. Frank Tarquinio left the meeting at 7:12 pm to attend a meeting at Dingman Township.

President Frank Tarquinio called the meeting to order at 6:00pm followed by roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Conditional Use Hearing: 101 Elizabeth Street- Billy Shi- Two family dwelling. Advertised in Pike County Dispatch 3/11 edition and minutes taken by stenographer Tara Wilson. Bob DiLorenzo present on behalf of the applicant.

Motion to close hearing conditional use hearing by Wendell/Dooley AIF

Motion to open hearing for Parking Ordinance Amendment by Wendell/Dooley AIF

Motion to close public hearing by Ciervo/Wendell AIF

Motion to Adopt Agenda with addition of voting on conditional use and ordinance amendment by Wendell/Ciervo. AIF

Motion to approve project on 101 Elizabeth Street to develop a two-family dwelling by Dooley/Ciervo AIF.

Motion to approve Parking Ordinance amendment by Wendell/ Dooley. AIF.

Motion to approve minutes from 2/8, 2/16, 2/18 by Dooley/Wendell AIF.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: Deb Stevens- agenda needs to be posted ahead of meeting so people can see it.

Treasurer's report: Greg Myer- On March 10 we received a check from the tax collector for \$101,168, around \$87,000 to be put toward the General Fund. Today we received a check for \$36,400, around \$31,500 will go to general Fund. RE Transfer tax collected this month is \$8756.00. \$959 over the budget for this year.

Dooley- how are we doing on snow removal labor this year? Myer- we may need to recode the timesheets to reflect when snow removal is done.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Dooley/Wendell AIF.

Shade Tree Commission: Dale Thatcher- Payments are coming in slowly. Do we want to consider doing something else to get the money coming in? \$9,000 billed, only \$2,000 paid. 14 trees will be received

through a grant in April. May 8th will be declared Arbor Day in Milford. Will purchase about a dozen burlap trees to be planted. 33 trees removed around the Borough, stump grinding to begin again next month.

Zoning: Shawn Bolles- there has been 1 addition, 1 pending change of use, 1 ARB violation 2 complaints being worked on.

Sewage: One re-use application and working on 1 complaint.

Special Events:

- a. Banner at Cherry Alley for CDD- Grub Grab- dates 3/25, 4/19, 5/9. **Motion to approve by Ciervo/Wendell AIF**
- b. Bill Kiger Community Clean Up Day 4/24/21- **Motion to approve special event by Dooley/Wendell AIF.**
- c. Pocono Fox Trot 5k run to benefit Parkinson's Disease Group 6/19/21- **Motion to approve by Wendell/Dooley AIF.**
- d. Walt Edwards Memorial Concert in Ann Street Park- 7/11/21-**Motion to approve by Ciervo/Dooley AIF.**

Deb Stevens asked if the start up time could be 8am? This has been the practice in the past due to noise ordinance. Council agreed to ask for 8 am start.

Purge Documents: Tarquinio- about 5 years ago we voted to follow state guidelines to purge documents every 7 years. Magnotta- Secretary needs to propose a resolution to purge documents. DiLorenzo- does that include zoning/sewage files? DiGeso- no, just looking to purge old invoices, etc. No permits.

Ambulance Mutual Aid: Discussion of paying a fee for service calls of ambulance from other municipalities. Early stages of discussion and another meeting is set next month for further discussion.

Street Cleaning: Matamoras has acquired a street cleaner from Port Jervis. It needs some repairs, they want to know if we want to split the cost and share the machine with them. Cost would be about \$4500 split between the two Boroughs. Streets have not been cleaned in a while and this would allow drain cleaning also. We do not have a concrete proposal yet but the Council should definitely consider it.

Leaf Removal Equipment: Matamoras Borough would like to apply for a joint grant with Milford Borough to have a leaf machine that could fit down the alleys which would allow us to also remove leaves from the alleys. Currently the truck we have cannot fit down the alleys. Bolles- this is a one-man operation. Works really well. Tarquinio- I believe this is something we should consider.

Insurance Coverage for volunteers: Magnotta- PSAB has different facets that they want Boroughs to understand. All volunteers are not covered under general liability. Only employees or appointed

persons. It is suggested that non profit groups to get their own insurance or try to have each individual sign an activity consent form holding the Borough harmless. Recommend the Borough considers doing this in the future. Borough Secretary to check with insurance company to see if appointees of the Borough are covered while doing work for the Borough.

West Harford Street Project: Tarquinio- because this is a multi-modal grant, the state is requiring that we have a line of credit to cover at least 1/4 of the project cost. Myer- Dime Bank to grant the letter of credit. It is outlined by the DOT. It is approximately \$123,000. Annual fee of 1%. Tarquinio- MEC agreed to cover the cost for the first year to include legal cost. Magnotta- Commitment letter from Dime Bank requires collateral to be set by Borough. We need to adopt an ordinance. Need to advertise the ordinance and adopt at a special meeting.

Traffic Study: Study is planned to start in May. When we have details, we will publish them.

Milford Water Development: Development/zoning change meeting for Route 6 and 84 in Dingman Township tonight. Milford Water Authority will be present at the meeting to discuss source water protection and the Borough fully supports them.

Park Planning Grants: Pike County Planning Committee was able to do a study with the people who would issue a grant like this and they suggested doing a small grant for a park with a small plan and develop it from there. Will pursue looking into small grants.

Ball Park: Requests from the league read by Tarquinio. Requested a designated smoking area, music on opening and closing ceremonies. Agreed to paint dug outs with same historic colors, clean up after games, play music in line with noise ordinance. Requested to play T-ball in the Ann Street park again. Dooley- there should be no smoking in our parks, especially around kids. The league should clean up streets by the ball park. Ciervo- music they play is within the noise ordinance. Sundays 11 am or later. Sign revenue was agreed to be split with the Borough. Have only received it once in recent years. Will remind them of that this year. Police agreed they will enforce parking issues this year. League commissioner will enforce as well. Ann Street allowed with same rules.

Mayor's Report: VIP training in April for all officers. New officer doing well with training. Chief McCormack is organizing Easter Bunny Drop again this year. De-escalation training getting started. Color guard being put together. Auxiliary Police being discussed. Cooney- are we planning anything for Memorial Day? Parade? Mayor Strub- will connect with Connie from the American Legion to discuss.

Property Maintenance Ordinance: Wendell- ordinance consideration for property maintenance. To incorporate the international property maintenance code. This will give us the means to identify when there is an issue for residents. Will allow us to enforce code. We will review and discuss at the Borough workshop. **Motion to approve to advertise ordinance for property maintenance hearing for April meeting at 5:45 by Dooley/Ciervo. AIF.** Tim Haar asked how the SEO is incorporated in this ordinance. Wendell- it allows for septic issues to be looked into.

Finance: Dooley- Covid 19 Relief package just passed \$10.8 million. \$97,000 for Milford Borough. This can be used for covid relief expenses and to make investments in water, sewer and broad band infrastructure. Not to be used to reduce taxes. We asked a finance committee member to do a five-year analysis to see where the borough will be financially.

Borough Property: Cooney- Mike Maruszewski is doing a study on the floor, roof and cupola and will get back to us. Wendell- may be some grant money available through the museum commission because this is a historic building. Upstairs in the Borough Hall was looked at by a company to see about restoring and cleaning. He will get back to us with estimates soon.

Streets and Lights: Ciervo- alternate side of the street parking during snow could be something we could look at to make snow removal easier. Will discuss with the street department further. Some cold patching has been done and will continue and line painting will resume when weather gets warmer. 51 more lights need to be replaced and they will all be LED. Waiting on price for the rest.

Technology: Wendell- computers in the process of being upgraded with new phones.

Appointments/Resignation: Letters of resignation from Luke Turano and Susan Lyddon. **Motion to accept both letters by Ciervo/Dooley. AIF.** We have 30 days to appoint new members. Request that anyone who is interested, to submit a letter to the Borough Secretary as soon as possible. Will appoint at the special meeting on 3/30//21.

Correspondence: Letter read by Borough Secretary from Pike County Commissioner's office in support of bipartisan letter regarding mass vaccination sites from US Congress.

Public Comment: George Borecky- if there is no smoking at the ball field, they will just go smoke somewhere else. Masks should be mentioned as well. 24 advertisement signs are too many to have at the ball field.

John Spina- selling of property behind Buist road-they are looking to combine two parcels in Milford Township. Why does this concern the Borough? The answer is traffic and quality of life.

John Souza-Just checking in on Cherry Alley. Dooley- we may end up repaving the alley so there is a "scoop" down the center. Wendell- can we do this ourselves? Ciervo- yes if we use money from the Borough budget. Not if we use liquid fuels.

Annette Haar- The baseball league agreed to no ball games on Sunday in the past. Also, garbage was always a problem. They used to have a dumpster that was picked up. The bathroom was monitored by the league as well.

Motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss a personnel issue by Ciervo/Dooley. AIF.

Adjourned from Executive session by motion of Ciervo/Dooley.AIF

Motion to Adjourn at 8:15 PM by Ciervo/Dooley. AIF

