

MILFORD BOROUGH – MEETING MINUTES 4/21/25

The Milford Borough Council met April 21, 2025, at 7PM in the Borough Hall located at 109 W. Catharine Street for a regular council meeting. This meeting was advertised and open to the public. Present were Council President Joseph Dooley, Vice President Maria Farrell, Council Members George Lutfy, Peter Cooney, Doug Manion, Sharmie Ford and Richard Provenzano. Also present were Solicitor Jason Ohliger, Mayor Douglas Jacobs and Secretary/Treasurer Francesca Lombardo. The meeting was called to order followed by a roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adopt Minutes: 3/17/25, 4/7/25. Motion to approve by Lutfy/Provenzano, AIF.

Adopt Agenda: Motion to adopt agenda with the addition of # 12f and #12g and removal of agenda item # 5 by Farrell/Lutfy, AIF.

Public Comment: Connie Nichols asked if the change in the garbage service will affect yard waste pickup. President Dooley stated that this will not impact the yard waste pickup.

Public Hearings:

- a. Luhrs Land Development Extension. **Motion to extend to May by Farrell/Lutfy, AIF.**
- b. Ordinance # 497 - Chapter # 115 – changes to Outdoor Burning part of Ordinance. **Motion to open the hearing by Lutfy/Manion, AIF. Motion to adopt Ordinance # 497 by Lutfy/Cooney, AIF. Motion to close the hearing by Lutfy/Farrell, AIF.**
- c. Ordinance # 498 - Chapter # 88 – adding Skill Games as an amusement device requiring licensure. **Motion to open the hearing by Lutfy/Provenzano, AIF. Motion to adopt Ordinance # 498 by Lutfy/Farrell, AIF. Motion to close hearing by Farrell/Ford, AIF.**
- d. Ordinance # 499 - Chapter # 260 – adding an interpretation for sidewalk maintenance. **Motion to open the hearing by Ford/Farrell, AIF. Motion to approve Ordinance # 499 by Cooney/Lutfy, AIF. Motion to close hearing by Lutfy/Farrell, AIF.**
- e. Ordinance # 500 - Act 600 – Police Pension Ordinance. **Motion to open hearing by Farrell/Ford, AIF. Motion to approve Ordinance # 500 by Lutfy/Provenzano, AIF. Motion to close the hearing by Lutfy/Farrell, AIF.**
- f. Ordinance # 501 – Chapter 60 – Council Member & Mayor Compensation. **Motion to open the hearing by Lutfy/Provenzano, AIF.** The public was asked for any comments and Fred Weber asked if this Ordinance was being passed just to have a Christmas party. President Dooley specified that the Borough is not allowed to pay for a party with tax payers' money. The compensation would also go towards flowers for a wake/funeral for Council Members' families. Candace Mahala asked to see where it says that the Borough cannot pay for a Christmas party. President Dooley specified that this is in the Borough Code and not an ordinance. **Motion to approve by Lutfy/Provenzano. Roll Call vote: Dooley, Lutfy, Provenzano in favor, Farrell, Ford, Cooney opposed. Mayor Jacobs' tie breaking vote opposed. Motion failed.**
- g. Ordinance # 502 – Chapter 312 - Zoning Skill Games – Must be advertised – Moved to New Business # 12g
- h. Ordinance # 503 – SALDO Definitions – Must be advertised – Moved to New Business #12f

Treasurer's Report: For March the General Fund has collected \$10,354 in interest to date. Real Estate taxes collected through March were \$61,099.39, Real Estate Transfer Tax was \$18,283, Earned Income Tax was \$143,661, and LST Tax was \$18,160. **Motion to approve by Cooney/Farrell, AIF.** Fred Weber asked how much is in the General Fund account at this time. President Dooley stated that there is about \$919,000 in the General Fund right now.

Zoning/Building Report: The zoning/building report was distributed to the Council for review. Rental registration applications are being received and inspections are ongoing.

SEO Report: Three applications have been received for failing cesspools in the Borough.

Shade Tree Report: The tree commission removed 10 dead, dying, or dangerous trees this spring. Bills will be sent to specific residents the week of April 17th. We received another grant for 14 trees that were planted on Arbor Day, April 10th. The Tree Commission had a nice little group of volunteers to come out and plant those trees. Spongy Moth season is almost here. The Tree Commission has contracted with a professional arborist to spray affected trees with a product called BTK. This is an organic spray that impacts only caterpillars and only lasts for two weeks. It is safe for pets and humans. If after two weeks, that treatment proves insufficient, we will use a contact spray to treat the most impacted trees.

Special Events/Applications:

- a. Memorial Day Ceremony – Marine Corps League – 5/26/25. **Motion to approve by Cooney/Farrell, AIF.**
- b. Wine & Food Truck Festival – Milford Presents – 8/9/25, in Ann Street Park; Banner 7/28/25- 8/12/25 on Broad St. **Motion to approve by Farrell/Ford, Cooney and Lutfy – Nay, All Others in Favor.**
- c. Opera in the Park – Pike Opera – 8/23/25 & 8/24/25; Banner 8/9/25 – 8/26/25 on E Harford St. **Motion to approve by Farrell/Ford, AIF.**
- d. Milford Septemberfest – Milford Presents – 9/20/25; Banner 9/8/25 – 9/22/25 on Broad St. **Motion to approve by Farrell/Ford, AIF.**
- e. Oktoberfest – Log Tavern – 10/4/25; Banner 9/22/25 – 10/6/25 on Broad St. **Motion to approve by Lutfy/Farrell, AIF.**
- f. Toast to Milford – Milford Presents - 10/11/25; Banner 9/29/25 – 10/13/25 on Broad St. **Motion to approve by Farrell/Lutfy, AIF.**
- g. Black Bear Film Festival – Black Bear – 10/17/25 – 10/19/25; Banner 10/6/25 – 10/20/25 on E. Harford St. **Motion to approve by Farrell/Ford, AIF.**

HARB/Certificates of Appropriateness: Motion to approve all by Lutfy/Cooney, AIF.

- a. 515 Broad St – Darrin Schmidt – add two split system heating/cooling units
- b. 410 Broad St – Applejack Holdings LLC – hardscape project to join existing bluestone walkway and front stairs to the macadam parking area.
- c. 401 Broad St – Hotel Fauchere, LLC – replace fence along parking lot with like kind materials.

New Business:

- a. Discussion and vote to approve Veteran's Park Walkway Project. Maureen Dooley from the MEC spoke about the project to remove the gravel and replace it with pavers. **Motion to approve by Cooney/Farrell, AIF.**
- b. Discussion and vote to transfer \$25,535 from Debt Service to General Fund to cover remaining balance on new MPD Truck. **Motion to approve by Lutfy/Provenzano, AIF.**
- c. Discussion and vote to approve donation request from Milford Garden Club. **Motion to approve a donation of \$1,500 to the Milford Garden Club by Cooney/Farrell, AIF.**
- d. Discussion and approval of letter to Representative Bresnahan regarding Re-Starring the Knob. **Motion to approve by Farrell/Provenzano, AIF.**
- e. Discussion and vote on resolution re PennDOT Maintenance and Ownership Agreement. **Motion to approve by Lutfy/Provenzano, AIF.**
- f. Discussion and vote to advertise Ordinance # 502 – Zoning Skill Game. **Motion to approve to advertise by Lutfy/Farrell, AIF.**
- g. Discussion and vote to advertise Ordinance # 503 – SALDO Definitions. **Motion to approve Lutfy/Farrell, AIF.**

Old Business:

- a. Update on stop sign request to PennDOT on Seventh Street. The Borough received a letter from PennDOT stating a multiway stop condition is not warranted at any of the three subject intersections since none of the criteria established within the regulations justify a multiway stop installation were met.
- b. Update on Public Utilities Commission hearing. President Dooley and Vice President Farrell attended the PUC hearing that was held in the Milford Township municipal building on March 18th. Presidents Dooley and several other speakers addressed price increases. No decision has been made at this hearing.
- c. Update on Trash Collection Bids. The Borough hosted a pre-bid conference last Monday in Borough Hall. Two trash hauling companies attended, and three additional companies were sent information. All bids are due to the Borough Office on May 2nd. A special meeting will be scheduled for Monday, May 5th to open the bids and start an analysis of the bids. The Council will vote on the bids at the May 12th meeting.
- d. Update on Pedestrian Crosswalk Signals. The Borough is working with the engineer, and on the grant application for scoping. The application and engineer report will be sent to PennDOT, and see if they're going to move forward with the grant application.
- e. Discussion and vote to advertise changes to Special Events Ordinance. This item was tabled and moved to a future meeting. **Motion to table by Farrell/Lutfy, AIF.**

Mayor's Report: Mayor Doug Jacobs spoke about the protest on the Courthouse lawn held by Delaware Valley Action and how it was a peaceful protest. Ray Tonkin called Mayor Jacobs in regards to the fire lane lines that still need to be painted by the Courthouse.

Police Report: Reports were distributed to the Council.

Committee Reports: None

Correspondence: One email was received in regards to the protest by Delaware Valley Action which was emailed to the Council Members.

Appointments/Resignations:

Vote to accept Planning Commission Chair Barbara Tarquinio resignation. **Motion to accept resignation with regrets by Farrell/Lutfy, AIF.**

Borough Solicitor Update: None

Council President Update: President Dooley had a meeting with the County on April 3, 2025, to talk about the America 250 celebration in 2026. David Lender was appointed to coordinate the America 250 celebration in the Borough.

Act 537 update. The plan was submitted to the DEP on April 8, 2025. Based on DEP guidelines, the DEP has 120 days to review the Act 537 plan, and an additional automatic 60-day extension period. The 120 days is up on August 6, 2025.

The Route 209 Bridge update. President Dooley was in touch with Mike Conway, the project manager, and they are working on addressing the final comments of the abutment redesign. After the permit is issued, the contractor has to submit a schedule. The bridge project will then restart in accordance with the new schedule.

A couple of events coming up in the Borough. This Saturday is the Milford Community Cleanup at the 10AM at the Milford Community House. Come and bring a shovel if you're interested, and a raincoat. There's an emergency preparedness event on May 7, 2025. Dave Ruby and Eric Passaro from our fire department will be speaking at this emergency preparedness event at 6: 00 PM at St. Patrick's.

The Borough Secretary/Treasurer will contact Delaware Township in regards to the rental of a street sweeper they approved for \$2,000.

Public Comment on Matters Under Borough Control: Tamara Chant stood and said that when she walks around the Borough on some blocks she smells a foul smell and was wondering if it was coming from a septic. President Dooley asked Tamara to make note of where the smell is coming from so we can have our SEO check it out.

Laurie from the Pike County Dispatch asked about the Spongy Moth spraying and if the Shade Tree Commission is spraying only Borough trees or alleys too. Vice President Farrell stated that only Borough trees along the streets will be sprayed.

Linda Sudal asked Mayor Jacobs if she could see the MPD stats for the month of March.

John Messer stood and let the Mayor and Council know that cars are still doing U-turns on the corner of E Harford and Fourth Street, by the Library. Mayor Jacobs stated that he will let Chief McCormack know about this issue.

Executive Session: Motion to open the Executive Session by Provenzano/Ford, AIF. Motion to close by Cooney/Farrell, AIF.

Motion to Adjourn at 9:02 pm by Lutfy/Cooney, AIF.