

MILFORD BOROUGH – MEETING MINUTES 5/20/24

The Milford Borough Council met May 20, 2024, 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 Peter Cooney, Sharmie Ford, George Lutfy, Doug Manion and Richard Provenzano. Also present were Solicitor Jason Ohliger and Secretary/Treasurer Francesca Lombardo. Mayor Sean Strub was on zoom. The meeting was called to order followed by a roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Adopt Minutes: 4/15/24. Motion to approve by Manion/Farrell, AIF.

Adopt Agenda: Motion to adopt agenda by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.

Public Comment: Dan McLeod asked the Borough Council if the Insurance company confirmed that the new mini ramp at the skate park was covered. President Dooley confirmed and let Dan know that the insurance company was contacted after last months meeting and the insurance company stated the skate park and new mini ramp are covered.

Fred Weber, Milford Borough, asked the Council if the Borough is paying the total amount of \$42,900 for the Act 537. President Dooley responded that this is split 4 ways between the participating municipalities. The \$10,000 cost or thereabouts the Borough will advance to the Milford Water Authority, which will be reimbursed along with \$8,000, already advanced them for legal fees.

Jim Clark, Milford Borough, agrees with locking the skate park at night because of all the vandalism and graffiti that has happened recently.

Lisa Jenkins, Janine Sussa, Joanne Wilson, Taylor James, Mr. Prescott all spoke in favor of the Pride Month Proclamation. Pierre Tardy was the only voice of opposition for the Proclamation.

Public Hearing: None

Zoning/Building Report: There were no comments or questions from the Council or public. **Motion to accept the Zoning/Building Report by Farrell/Manion, AIF.**

Treasurer's Report: The April financial reports were distributed as well as the income vs expense graphs. The General Fund has a total of \$13,530 in interest to date. Real Estate taxes collected through April equals \$300,463, which includes delinquent taxes from previous years. Real Estate Transfer tax through April total was \$7,481, the Earned Income Tax through April is \$206,397 and LST Tax is \$23,654. The Borough is still receiving delinquent EIT taxes from 2021, 2022 and 2023. **Motion to accept the Treasurer's report by Manion/Ford, AIF.**

Special Events/Applications:

- a. Back-To-School Supplies 7/19/24 - Pike County Children & Youth. **Motion to approve by Farrell/Provenzano, AIF.**
- b. Memorial Day Parade 5/27/24 – Hosted by Marine Corps League. **Motion to approve and waive fee by Manion/Provenzano, AIF.**
- c. Milford Music Fest 6/14/24 – Milford Theater. **Motion to approve by Farrell/Lutfy, AIF.**
- d. Milford Music Fest 6/15/24 – Jive Bar Lounge. **Motion to approve by Manion/Farrell, AIF.**
- e. MEC Welcome Party 6/22/24 –Milford Enhancement Committee. **Motion to approve and waive fee by Provenzano/Farrell, AIF.**
- f. Milford Music Fest 6/15/24 – Dimmick Inn. **Motion to approve by Cooney/Manion, AIF.**
- g. Black Bear Music Festival 10/18/24 – 10/20/24 – Black Bear – Street Closures & Banner on E. Harford St for 1 week & on Broad St for 1 week. **Motion to approve by Manion/Farrell, AIF.**

HARB/Certificates of Appropriateness: **Motion to approval all Certificates by Manion/Farrell, AIF.**

- a. 315 Broad Street – Delaware Valley Action! – Install new wood wall sign with painted lettering.
- b. 611 Broad Street – Café Wren – Paint company name sign on the front wall of building. (Zoning approved pending HARB approval)
- c. 405 West Harford St – Stroyan Funeral Home – Add plaque to original granite sign over supervisor name engraved into sign.
- d. 120 E Harford Street - Babakuny Holdings – Replace roof with architectural shingles, replace lattice siding and add backup generator.
- e. 500 Broad Street – Milford Borough Office – Masonry, roof and cupola mast

New Business:

- a. Discussion and vote on request for vote on Pride Month Proclamation. Erica Maney from Triversity presented the Proclamation/Resolution to the Borough Council. The Proclamation stated:

Milford, Pennsylvania, Mayor and Borough Council recognizes and proclaims the month of June 2024 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) "Pride Month" throughout Milford Borough; and

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. LGBTQ+ individuals have had immeasurable impact to the cultural, civic and economic successes of our country; and Milford Borough is committed to supporting visibility, dignity and equality for LGBTQ+ people in our diverse community; and

Milford Borough is home to a robust LGBTQ+ and supportive community; and

The TriVersity Pride Center, based in Milford Borough has served Milford Borough, Pike County and the surrounding region since 2005

It is essential to acknowledge that the need for education and awareness remains vital to end discrimination and prejudice; and

This nation was founded on the principle that every individual has infinite dignity and worth, and the Milford Borough Council Members and Milford Borough Mayor call upon the people of Milford Borough to embrace this principle and work to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists; and

Celebrating Pride Month influences awareness and provides support and advocacy for Milford Borough's LGBTQ+ community, and is an opportunity to build acceptance and advance equal rights.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Milford Borough Council and Milford Borough Mayor hereby proclaims the month of June 2024 as Pride Month in support of the LGBTQ+ community and those who embrace, dignity and equality for all.

Larry O'Leary had a question in regards to how many other resolutions the Borough has passed. The Council responded that they have passed many different types of resolutions from Open Records Officer to applying for Grants. **Council voted 6 to 1 to pass the Resolution.**

b. Update on Sawkill Creek Bridge construction:

1. PennDOT response to Borough Council questions. PennDOT has denied all the requests of the Borough Council except for the advancement of warning signs to reroute regional traffic. The Council agreed to write letters to local officials for PennDOT to close Second Street and reroute traffic.
2. Discussion and vote on letters to be sent to local public officials requesting bridge weight limit reduction. **Motion to send letters to local public officials by Manion/Ford, AIF.**
3. Discussion and vote on request to send letters proposing traffic detour around Sawkill Creek. **Motion to send letters drafted by Andrew Jorgenson by Cooney/Manion, AIF.**

c. Discussion and vote on paving price fluctuation resolution due to small quantities. Secretary/Treasurer Lombardo spoke about why the Council needed this resolution to include in the bid packages. This resolution will ensure The Borough receives more bids for the project, even though it is a small paving project. **Motion to approve the resolution by Manion/Provenzano, AIF.**

d. Discussion on Planning Commission recommendations for multi-use sights. The Planning Commission and their Solicitor is working on a draft Ordinance to present to the Council at the June meeting.

e. Discussion and vote to advertise changes to special events policy. The Council engaged in a discussion about this policy with Adriane Wendell and David Weinberg, who were previous Council Members that updated the policy back in 2000.

f. Discussion on creation of a food truck ordinance. This discussion was tabled and moved to the June meeting.

g. Discussion and vote on adding cameras to Ann St and 3rd Street parks at a cost of \$6,800. This discussion was tabled to the June meeting because a resident wanted to submit a bid for this project.

h. Discussion and vote on new round of Civil Service testing at an estimate cost of \$2,500 which includes advertisements, legal and testing costs. **Motion to approve by Cooney/Manion, AIF.**

a. Review from Planning Commission regarding Milford Township Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission drafted a letter with comments and recommendations that were submitted to Milford Township.

j. Discussion and vote to approve Lattimore invoice for the repairs to the cupola totaling \$8,500. **Motion passed 6 to 1 to approve previous invoice from Lattimore for \$3,400, to be paid by the Borough and not the Grant.**

Old Business:

- a. Act 537 update-HRG proposal to finish estimated at \$42,900. The DEP is requiring Milford Township to assess the sewers on the properties along the three lane where the sewer line would go up from the Borough into Westfall via Milford Township. The DEP is requiring the assessment in the event there are properties that need to be connected to the line due to failure of the on-lot disposal system in the next 20 years. That assessment is being done this week by the SEO for Milford Township.
- b. Union update- 5/23 meeting. Council Members are meeting with the Union and mediator to discuss the non-economic proposals.
- c. Skate Park update; Lock access after-hours? **The Borough Council voted to close the park at dusk and reopen at 10:00am, motion to approve by Manion/Farrell, AIF.**

Mayor's Report: The Council received the April reports from the MPD.

Committee Reports:

- a. End of Year repots. The Recreation Committee presented their end of year report. **Motion to approve by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.**
- b. Richard Provenzano updated the Council in regards to the amount spent for the leaf vacuum repair. The approved estimate was for \$13,000 and the total cost for the repair was \$5,800. Rich also asked if the Borough could place the garbage Ordinance on the website because many residences and businesses are in violation. Rich also addressed Chief McCormack and asked if he has been using VASCAR on Seventh Street for the speeding. Chief McCormack said that he will use the VASCAR more often on Seventh Street.

Correspondence: None

Appointments/Resignations:

- a. Bonnie Crellin – Planning Commission alternate member. **Motion to approve, with term ending 12/31/24, by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.**
- b. John Messer – Planning Commission permanent member. **Motion to approve, with term ending 12/31/25, by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.**
- c. Krista Turano – Shade Tree Commission. **Motion to approve for 5-year term (12/31/28) by Farrell/Manion, AIF.**

Borough Solicitor Update: None

Council President Update: None

Public Comment on Matters Under Borough Control: Chief McCormack addressed the Council in regards to the removal of the tints from the police car windows. He stated that the tints are on the windows for the officer's safety as well as the equipment in the cars, such as the computer and guns. Solicitor Ohliger suggested the conversation be continued when Mayor Strub is present at the meeting.

Executive Session: Open Executive session by Manion/Ford, AIF. Motion to close by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.

Motion to Adjourn at 9:52pm by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.