

MILFORD BOROUGH – MEETING MINUTES 4/15/24

The Milford Borough Council met April 15, 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 not present. 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: 3/18/24, 4/1/24. **Motion to approve by Manion/Provenzano, AIF.**

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

Public Comment: Jim Clark, who lives at 3rd Street & Catharine Street, addressed the importance of no parking on one side of 3rd Street during baseball games, so, an ambulance can get through in case of an emergency.

Derrek Ricciardi, who lives on East Catharine Street, agreed parking on both sides during the ball games is a hazard. He complained about the noise from the Skate Park, that's starts as early as 6:45am and goes late into the evening hours, since the new half pipe was installed. Mr. Ricciardi stated concerns about the police not doing anything after they are called.

Beth Kelley commented on the new half pipe which was built by her sons. She stated the half pipe was reviewed by an engineer and deemed safe to be used. Ms. Kelley owned an indoor skate park 10 years ago and all of it was built by her sons.

Resident Erin Krivolka said that when she lived in the Borough as a little kid, it was boring, and is in favor of the Skate Park because the kids now have something to do within the Borough.

Public Hearing

- a. Conditional Use Hearing to consider the application of Douglas and Penney Luhrs for approval to permit construction of three two-family homes upon property located at 404 Seventh Street. **Motion to open the hearing by Lutfy/Manion, AIF. Motion to approve the Conditional Use application, subject to Land Development approval and sewage approval by Farrell/Provenzano, AIF. Motion to close the hearing by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.**
- b. Discussion and vote to approve an ordinance to amend Chapter 290, Vehicles & Traffic Ordinance, to add No Seasonal Parking from Catharine to Ann Streets on the east side of 3rd Street, two stop signs at the intersection of Currant Alley and George Street, one stop sign to the intersection of Currant Alley and West John Street, and a Parking Prohibited sign at East John St, North side, from the intersection of 4th Street. **Motion to open the hearing by Manion/Lutfy, AIF. Motion to approve the amendment to Chapter 290, Vehicles & Traffic by Manion/Ford, Nay by Councilman Cooney, All Others In Favor. Motion to close hearing by Manion/Provenzano, AIF.**

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

SEO Report: SEO Will Whitehead emailed a report to the Council with only 2 permits active at this time. **Motion to approve the SEO Report by Manion/Farrell, AIF.**

Update from MFD/EMS: The MFD/EMS Report was tabled to the next meeting due to their availability.

Treasurer's Report: The March financial reports were distributed as well as the income vs expense graphs. The General Fund has a total of \$9,840 in interest to date. Real Estate taxes collected through March equals \$114,951, which includes delinquent taxes from previous years. Real Estate Transfer tax through March total was \$7,481, the Earned Income Tax through March is \$125,844 and LST Tax is \$20,535. We are still receiving delinquent EIT taxes from 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Reminder of the dollar amount thresholds for approving purchase orders are: up to \$1,000 for Council Members, Mayor, Chief and Secretary/Treasurer and up to \$5,000 for Council President. If the purchase order, invoice or total project cost is over \$5,000, this needs to come before the Council for approval. The money for the expense also has to be in the budget.

The Borough Office cleaning person, Sue, has resigned. The Borough reached out to Wash on Wheels for a quote to clean the Office, MPD & Borough Hall. WOW quoted \$149.00 per cleaning which will come out to \$5,070 a year. With our previous cleaning person, it cost the Borough between \$2,000 and \$2,300 a year. There are two-line items in the budget for \$5,000 for other services and charges.

The Borough will be participating in the Pike County Workforce Development Program again this year. The Office will be obtaining an intern to continue the filing project started last year. DPW will also be seeking a

streets intern during the summer.

Special Events/Applications: None

HARB/Certificates of Appropriateness:

- a. 117 W. Harford Street – New roof. **Motion to approve by Cooney/Lutfy, AIF.**
- b. 105 E. Ann Street – M&E Auto – Installation of a generator. **Motion to approve by Cooney/Lutfy, AIF.**

New Business:

- a. Discussion and vote to petition state and federal officials to lower the allowable weight on the SR209 Sawkill Creek Bridge. **Motion to write and send a petition by Farrell/Cooney, AIF.**
- b. Discussion and vote on revisions to forms/policies:
 1. Borough Hall Rental Agreement. **Motion to approve the revision by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.**
 2. Gatherings Policy Notification update. **Motion to approve the revision by Manion/Provenzano, AIF.**
- c. Individual updates on two-year plans. This agenda item has been tabled to the May meeting.
- d. Update from Counsel on use of social media. Solicitor Ohliger discussed a United States Supreme Court decision regarding when a private social media account becomes a public social media account. If an individual uses a private social media account to disseminate certain information, such as a Council Member using a personal page as a government information page, this has now become a public account and the owner cannot delete comments or block anyone from viewing or commenting on the post.
- e. Discussion and vote on proposed paving needs for 2024. **Motion to approve the list of Streets and Alleys that will be paved in 2024 by Manion/Lutfy, AIF.**
- f. Discussion and vote to spend \$1,150 for re-engineering costs as a part of the building permit approval process for new skate park mini ramp. There were a few public comments in regards to this agenda item. Beth Kelley stated again that her sons are experienced in building skate parks and the half pipe is safe to use. Ms. Kelley also suggested the Borough have a contest for the residents to design and paint the noise barriers to be purchased. The second to speak was Maureen Dooley who wanted to know why this new piece of equipment was purchased and the existing equipment has not been maintained. A few pictures were presented to the Council showing some areas that need to be maintained on the new ramp and old skate park equipment. Dan MacLeod registered concern regarding the lack of safety equipment on the skaters. There is a sign posted that skaters must wear a helmet and safety pads, but no one is there to enforce this. **Motion to approve the payment with the condition that the new mini ramp will be insured by the Borough Insurance Company by Lutfy/Cooney, AIF.**
- g. ARLE Grant application interest. President Dooley is going to submit a grant application for approval.
- h. Discussion on Planning Commission recommendations for multi-use sights. This agenda item has been tabled to the May meeting.
- i. Discussion and vote to approve \$2,016.62 for repair of the traffic signal. **Motion to approve by Lutfy/Cooney, AIF.**

Old Business: None

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

Committee Reports:

- a. President Dooley thanked the Grants Committee being awarded \$10,000 from PMVB. This money will be used to update the decorative lamps in the Borough.

Correspondence:

- a. 2024 Spongy Moth public message. The letter from Pike County Conservation District has been added to the Borough website.
- b. Progressive Health Helmet Safety Information. The letter from Progressive Health with the information link was added to the Borough website

Appointments/Resignations: None

Borough Solicitor Update: None

Council President Update: None

Public Comment on Matters Under Borough Control: None

Motion to Adjourn at 9:45pm by Lutfy/Cooney, AIF.