

April 29, 2021

The regularly scheduled meeting of the New Milford Borough Council was called to order by President Teri Gulick at 6:30 p.m. at the borough building. Members in attendance were: Teri Gulick, Kerin Welch, Lawrence White, Donna Cosmello and Don Button. Others in attendance were: Amy Hine, Secretary; Chuck Welch, Karen Gudykunst, Ted Brewster, Transcript and Eleanor Lempke.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Teri said Greg will be checking on the complaint at 262 Johnston Street. Greg will be investigating the junk at 1094 Main Street. Greg will be checking on Maple Street. Greg has been talking with the fire company about the rules and regulations for building a new building. Mr. Savage had submitted a zoning permit application for a crematorium and it is only allowed in an industrial zone so Greg will be handling that.

A motion was made by D. Cosmello and seconded by L. White to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by L. White and seconded by D. Cosmello to accept the treasurer's report as presented and pay the bills as listed. Motion carried.

PRESENT TO SPEAK

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

The 2020 audit is complete and there were no issues.

The council received an email from Ralph Schwartz, Susquehanna County EMA, about virtual flood risk outreach focus group. Teri said the sessions are all during the day. Amy will ask Dan if he can do them.

The council received a letter from Susquehanna County Conservation District seeking county residents/stakeholders to take part in the development of the Community Clean Water Action Plan.

The council received notice from Adams Cable about a rate increase.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Scott Smith was not present to give a report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COG: Nothing to report.

Streets: Kerin said the committee agrees that we need to move forward with advertising for bids for paving streets. **A motion was made by L. White and seconded by D. Button to advertise for bids for street paving. Motion carried.** The council received a proposal from Vestal Asphalt for crack sealing, \$6,500. Chuck said the crack sealing is for the streets that we aren't paving and those that haven't been paved in the last few years. **A motion was made by D. Button and seconded by D. Cosmello to accept the proposal from Vestal Asphalt for crack sealing streets, \$6,500. Motion carried.** Briechele is working on the parking ordinance and the letter to Forans. Kerin said she is working on the Maple Street Bridge. Teri said we need Briechele to work on the Church Street Bridge agreement. Chuck said he will be sweeping streets next week.

Buildings & Equipment: Teri said we received an estimate from the claims adjuster for the damage done in the COG office, \$21,451.71. Amy was asked to contact the insurance company for clarification on this because it's a lot higher than our estimate from Mark Roberts.

Parks & Recreation: Lawrence said Cooper sprayed the bank. Teri said we need to start working on grants for the park. Chuck said we need to have some kind of rock to stabilize the bank. Eleanor Lempke said we really shouldn't be mulching the bases of our trees because it will kill them. Amy was asked to check with Cooper on that. Lawrence said he would like to plant a tree in Midtown Park where the Maple tree came down in memory of his grandparents. Lawrence asked if he could put a stone by the tree in memory of them. Teri said if we allow one person to do it others will want the same. Karen Gudykunst asked in preparation of opening the pool this year, will the daily fee remain at \$2.00. The council agreed that it will remain the same. Karen asked if we would be doing a reduced membership rate the day of the festival. The council agreed to do a reduced fee of \$50 for a family of up to 6 and \$25 for single memberships. Karen said she and Mindi will be the managers again. Karen asked council if they feel it's necessary to have the 3rd person at the pool this year to sign people in. The council agreed that it won't be necessary to have the 3rd person as long as the state guidelines don't require it. Karen said she will check on that. Teri said the fence at Blue Ridge Park is deeded with the property from the school to the borough. Lawrence said in talking with Nathan Place he was told the fence was installed by the previous property owners. Teri said Mr. Place has installed gates and locks on the fence that doesn't belong to him. The council agreed to send a letter to Mr. Place kindly asking him to remove the gates and locks because the fence belongs to the borough. Amy said Youth Soccer will be utilizing the field this year and would like to have games on Wednesday nights and Saturdays. The council said that would be fine. Chuck said Donnie has the water fountain that's normally in Midtown Park because it has been damaged again. **A motion was made by D. Cosmello and seconded by K. Welch to not repair and install the water fountain in Midtown Park at least this year. Motion carried.**

Economic Development: The website is moving along. We haven't heard anything more about the sidewalks or SR 492/SR 11 intersection.

Police: Nothing to report.

Personnel: Lawrence said the committee needs to meet.

Ordinance: Teri said she will ask Greg to review the ordinances at his leisure. Teri said the fee schedule for the IPMC has to be done by resolution which Briechle is working on. Teri said we have to establish a board of appeals for the IPMC.

Finance: Nothing to report.

New Milford Beautification: Nothing to report.

Zoning: Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Amy asked council about changing the location of the project in memory of Phil Hari. The area by the existing flag pole would just look out of place. Amy asked that it be put around a tree that is just inside the fence as you enter the park. The council agreed to the change. Amy said she will contact Cooper about it.

Teri said the festival is doing very well; we are getting more vendors signing up. The next meeting for the festival will be May 11 at 6pm.

Teri said the council had discussed a while ago about asking PennDOT to extend the 35 MPH zone on SR 11 before entering town. Teri gave Amy a map that will show exactly where we want it. Amy will give it to MaryJo at the township.

NEW BUSINESS

Council received an email from Cara Lane about an environmental Justice Analysis for the proposed tolling of I-81. They are studying the potential effects of bridge tolls and engaging low-income and minority populations in the decision-making process. Amy was asked to respond to this.

Teri brought a flyer with information about the emergency rental/utility assistance program available through the Susquehanna County Housing Authority.

The council will be receiving money through the American Rescue Plan. Amy will send council the questions and answers she found through PSATS on the plan.

Amy said the school would like to do another concert in the park on May 26.

Amy asked council if they would be willing to split the cost of a Veteran banner for Jim Carpenetti with the Municipal Authority. The council agreed to it.

FYI

None.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

A motion was made by L. White and seconded by D. Cosmello to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Motion carried.