

June 18, 2020

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, Donna Cosmello, Dan Totten, Simon Frailey and Don Button. Others in attendance were: Amy Hine, Secretary; Chuck Welch, Ted Brewster, Transcript; Karen Gudykunst and Eleanor Lempke.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Teri said she hasn't gotten a report from Greg but she gave an update. Savages is going to court, a letter was sent to the property owners of the house on SR 492/11 and Maple Street, the trailer on Delaware Street is cleaned up down to the frame. Simon said the toilet at 41 Delaware Street is not on the trailer property. It has sweet peas planted in it and Simon has asked the property owners to move it back away from the road. Teri said she has no update on the junkyard.

A motion was made by K. Welch and seconded by D. Totten to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried with D. Cosmello abstaining.

A motion was made by K. Welch 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 council received notification from the Susquehanna County Conservation District about their annual awards banquet on October 15, 2020.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Scott Smith was not present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COG: There hasn't been a meeting.

Streets: The borough received an estimate from Broome Bituminous for paving 5 streets. It was turned over to the streets committee to review. Amy was asked to send a letter to Foran's about the catch basin they filled in on their property. There is nothing new to report on the Church Street Bridge. Amy is working on the no parking ordinance.

Planning Commission: Nothing to report.

Buildings & Equipment: Teri said Dalton still wants to talk to the committee members about the generator when things become a little more open. We are on Ron Kowalewski's list for the back parking lot.

Parks & Recreation: **A motion was made by D. Cosmello and seconded by S. Frailey to purchase a new handicap chair lift for the pool with the money donated by June Huston. Motion carried.** Amy suggested getting a small plaque to put on the new lift that it was donated by June Huston. Amy will look into that. Karen Gudykunst, pool manager, came to discuss opening the pool. Karen said they will have a 3rd person working at the pool to check people in. Karen asked about hiring pool monitors to do that job if needed. The council agreed that the lifeguards should do the job as monitor

instead of hiring someone new so they can get more hours. Karen said we will be ready to open next weekend under the yellow phase. Karen said under yellow the pool can be opened. Dan asked what the plan is if there is more than 25 people. Karen said they will have to wait outside the fence and the monitor will watch that. Karen said they will have hand sanitizer on hand for the patrons but we are still trying to find the dispensers which are on back order. Dan said he will check with a lady that made some face masks for the Minute Men to see if she can do some for the pool. Chuck said the pool is ready to go. Karen asked council if we were allowing pavilion rentals. The council agreed that it was decided last month that we would play it by ear. Karen said that at the Midtown Festival family memberships are usually sold for \$50 instead of \$75. She asked if that could be offered this year. **A motion was made by S. Frailey and seconded by D. Cosmello to set the family membership rate at \$50 for the 2020 season. Motion carried.** Karen asked council about an increase in pay for the lifeguards because they haven't received an increase in several years. This request was turned over to the personnel committee to review. Teri said we currently have a policy in place to reimburse the lifeguards for their certification fee if they work at least 100 hours. Teri asked if we should consider reducing the amount of hours to qualify. Amy suggested that we wait until the end of the season to see where everyone is at with their hours. Karen thanked everyone, including the fire company, they came and helped take the cover off and clean the pool. Kerin thanked Donnie, Scott, Ben, Tommy and Chuck for doing the mulch in the parks. Chuck said it definitely cuts down on maintenance.

Economic Development: Donna said they are working on the budget so there is no update on SR 492/11. The sidewalk project is being working on. Amy is working with PSAB on the website.

Police: Nothing to report.

Personnel: The committee will meet on June 23 to discuss the request for a pay increase for the lifeguards.

Ordinance: Teri said she spoke to Mike Briechele and he is working on the ordinance for the IPMC. Teri said she will talk to Greg about making a list of what he doesn't want in the ordinance.

Insurance & Fire: Nothing to report.

Finance: Nothing to report.

New Milford Beautification: Nothing to report.

Zoning: Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Amy said she spoke to Cooper about the park project and he will mark out the area again so everyone can look at it and give their opinion on it. Amy said Cooper said he will also do maintenance on the bank but he did ask if the water problem with the catch basin has been taken care of. Amy was asked to talk to Cooper about putting some kind of plants on the bank.

Donna said the state doesn't do water gauges. Dan said the dry hydrant is on the back burner.

Teri said the Bradley case has nothing new. He is home under house arrest, wearing an ankle bracelet. Simon said they only let him out a few months early. Ted Brewster asked what the case was about. Teri said Mr. Bradley was sentenced for shooting off a gun and threatening employees of the contractor building the new housing for the Susquehanna Housing Authority on Susquehanna Street. Teri said after many appeals he finally had to start serving his sentence but after a month into his sentence he asked the judge to be released because of his age and COVID. Ted asked what he was charged with. Teri said that was so long ago that she couldn't remember.

Teri reminded everyone that the CENSUS needs to be done and ask everyone to please do their part.

Amy said she did speak to Bobbi Jo about the CDBG grant money for this year. There is grant money that will be available for businesses. Amy said Bobbi Jo will contact her when it is available for them. Ted Brewster said there is also grant money available for municipalities in Pennsylvania.

NEW BUSINESS

Simon said if hand sanitizer stations finally do become available it would be good to have them on hand. Simon said if we can just get the dispenser he can build a stand for them.

The council received paperwork for a lawsuit filed against the borough by Places Properties LLC for a land use appeal. The borough attorney, Mike Briechele, has filed a motion to quash the land use appeal. A hearing has been scheduled for October 5, 2020 at 10:30 am. Ted Brewster asked if this was the guy that was running a business in the old school. Teri said yes; he asked us to rezone the building to commercial from residential. Ted said he thought that was all settled against him. Teri said he is suing the borough because we didn't change it but our solicitor found that he really can't sue us because he was asking us to do a legislative act that we really don't have a right to do.

FYI

None.

PUBLIC INPUT

Eleanor Lempke said the last time she was here she brought up the fact that there was a flag on Main Street that she thought was inappropriate. Eleanor said she just wanted everyone to know that it has been taken down and there is another flag up that is appropriate. Eleanor said just wanted to give a compliment the same way she did a disagreement.

Eleanor said the home next to her has very high weeds and they have ducks and chickens and there is an odor. Eleanor said they need to control the odor. Teri said she will pass it on to Greg.

Kerin asked that Karen Gudykunst encourage the pool patrons to park in our parking lot and not the property owned by Places Properties. Teri said maybe we need to close off the other entrances to our park. Amy was asked to check on the fence ownership at the park.

A motion was made by S. Frailey and seconded by D. Cosmello to adjourn at 7:32 pm. Motion carried.