

March 18, 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, Simon Frailey and Don Button. Others in attendance were: Amy Hine, Secretary; Chuck Welch, John McCarthy and Eleanor Lempke.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The list of committees was reviewed. Dan Totten was taken off streets and Don Button was put in his place. Dan replaced Don on lights water and sanitation. Don replaced Teri on personnel.

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Greg will be checking on 1094 Main Street tomorrow. The house on the corner of SR 492 & SR 11 will be taken off the agenda. Donna will talk to Greg to get an update on the other agenda items.

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

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

PRESENT TO SPEAK

John McCarthy came to the meeting to inquire about the status of the Church Street Bridge. Teri said we don't really have a timeline. John asked if he got 100 signatures on a petition could we consider making it a covered bridge with a walkway only. John said he thinks that would save the taxpayers a ton of money. Amy will check with PennDOT about that since it's their project.

Eleanor Lempke said the greenery needs to be removed from the boxes on the front of the building. Eleanor said she would like to put some pansies in the boxes until Memorial Day and she will plant the summer flowers then.

COMMUNICATIONS

The council received a thank you card from Phyllis and Lloyd Sheldon for the Christmas decorations along Main Street.

The council received a letter from Interfaith seeking donations.

The council received notice from PIRMA about a \$5,000 grant received for the Maple Street Bridge. Teri said they commented that they were very impressed with the quality of the submission and it's expected benefits for the community. Teri thanked Amy for a good job done on this.

The council received an email from Bobbi Jo about some stimulus money the county received for COVID related rental and utility assistance. It can help those that had income effected by COVID 19 with up to 12 months of rental and utility assistance including arrears.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Scott Smith was not present to give a report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COG: Nothing to report.

Streets: Kerin is working on the parking ordinance. We've heard nothing from Briechle about Foran's catch basin. Kerin is working on the Maple Street Bridge. The council got an estimate from Ed Sumski for paving more streets in town. The streets committee will review it and make a recommendation. Lawrence said some of the streets done last year need some attention.

Planning Commission: Nothing to report.

Buildings & Equipment: The drain pipes at the office did not need to be snaked out. Chuck just had to fix the seal under the toilet in the lady's room. There was a leak in the ceiling in the COG office from snow built up on the roof. We are waiting on the insurance company about making repairs.

Parks & Recreation: The bank at the park needs to be done. Simon will try to schedule a meeting for April 6. Amy said the South New Milford Baptist Church would like to rent Blue Ridge Park and the pavilion for a family sports day. The council said it was okay as long as they provided us with proof of insurance. Teri said we budgeted \$50,000 this year for pool repairs. Chuck said we usually uncover the pool in May so we'll be able to see what needs to be done.

Economic Development: Donna said she spoke with Jonathan and the infrastructure is started for SR 492 & SR 11. Teri said we've reapplied for a grant for sidewalks.

Police: Nothing to report.

Personnel: The council had received a request from Karen Gudykunst, tax collector. Teri said unfortunately we can't increase her pay by law but we can help her with supplies.

Ordinance: The council received information from Great Bend regarding the IPMC. Amy will check with Briechele on it.

Finance: Nothing to report.

New Milford Beautification: Nothing to report.

Zoning: Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Amy will get with Cooper VanCott about the park project.

Teri said the next Midtown Festival meeting will be on April 13 at 6 pm. Teri said we need volunteers to help that day.

NEW BUSINESS

Amy said this is the 3rd year for the Hometown Hero banners. The cost to renew the banners is \$80.00 and if someone doesn't want to renew the banner, they will lose their spot on the pole. After this year the banners will go back to the person that purchased it. Amy will be sending out renewal letters.

FYI

None.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

A motion was made by D. Cosmello and seconded by D. Button to adjourn at 7:25 pm. Motion carried.