

May 20, 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, Donna Cosmello, Simon Frailey, Don Button and Mayor Scott Smith. Others in attendance were: Amy Hine, Secretary; Chuck Welch and Ted Brewster.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

#### **CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

Amy said Greg did send a letter to Mr. Savage denying his zoning permit for a crematorium. We don't know if he's done anything else.

**A motion was made by D. Cosmello and seconded by D. Button to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried with S. Frailey abstaining.**

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

#### **PRESENT TO SPEAK**

None.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

The council received an email from Cara Lane, Gannett Fleming Inc., about a town hall meeting for the proposed tolling of I81 on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

The council received a letter from NTM Engineering about the NPDES permit application for the I81 project. Amy and Greg will work on it.

The council received a letter from Blue Ridge Recreation seeking donations for the 2021 Summer Adventures program.

**A motion was made by S. Frailey and seconded by D. Cosmello to donate \$350 for the 2021 Summer Adventures program. Motion carried.**

The council received notice about the 2021 CDBG grant money. Applications are due by July 30. Amy will ask Bobbi Jo if we can use it for our parks or sidewalks.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Scott Smith thanked Chuck for sweeping the streets. Scott said the pool looks good. Amy said she spoke to Cooper VanCott about the concern brought up last meeting about putting mulch around trees will kill them. Cooper said that is not true; he's been doing this for 30+ years and hasn't killed a tree yet. Scott said they will be putting the banners and flags up this weekend. Scott said we need to find somewhere to properly dispose of old flags. Scott said Donnie has the lawns looking good in the parks.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**COG:** Teri asked if we've heard who they went with for their engineering choice. Simon said Nicki said there is a new form to fill out for codes violations. Simon said they spoke to Ken Marino about enforcing the IPMC and what municipality wants to use their services and he will give them a quote.

**Streets:** Kerin is working on the parking ordinance. Teri said she spoke to someone at Foran's when she was there getting flowers and they discussed the catch basin. She said the water was bad. Teri said she asked him if they unplugged their catch basin yet. Teri said they told her they weren't going to because the water was destroying underneath his gardening center. Teri said he also said the town doesn't own it but Teri told him that was debatable. Amy said she spoke to Briechle today and he will do the letter to Foran's and work on the Church Street Bridge

agreement. Kerin is working on the Maple Street Bridge. Amy said the \$5,000 grant from PIRMA needs to be finalized by the end of this year. Amy will check on what needs to be done with the guiderails on the bridge to possibly use the grant money for it. The paving project has been advertised for bids to be opened at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Planning Commission:** Nothing to report.

**Buildings & Equipment:** Amy said we received money from our insurance company for the damage done in the COG office, \$13,470, for replacing the entire carpet and the ceiling tiles and insulation. Amy was asked to contact Mark Roberts to tell him to get ahead and do the ceiling tiles and insulation.

**Parks & Recreation:** Teri said we need to get a meeting going after the festival to start working on grants. Chuck said the resin picnic tables in Midtown Park are in bad shape; one has already been removed. Amy will research the cost of the tables.

**Economic Development:** Donna said SR 492/SR11 is still on the books. Teri said she read somewhere that they want to start the I81 project December 2021. We've heard nothing on the sidewalk grant. Amy was asked to contact Bobbi Jo about sections of sidewalk qualifying for CDBG.

**Police:** Nothing to report.

**Personnel:** Don asked that council go in to executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel issues.

**Ordinance:** Amy said the appeals board for the IPMC does not have to be a borough resident.

**Finance:** Nothing to report.

**New Milford Beautification:** The Mayor said the mulch is good.

**Zoning:** Nothing to report.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Amy said she's working with Cooper on the park project.

The Midtown Festival is approaching fast. Teri said we currently have 37 vendors. Teri said we are meeting the day before the festival to finalize everything.

The school is doing the concert in the park on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Amy sent council members the Q & A from PSATS about the American Rescue Plan. Teri asked that everyone please look it over to come up with ideas to use the money for.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Simon asked if community yard sales would be something that the Parks & Recreation committee would do. Teri said they can discuss it at their meeting.

#### **FYI**

None.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

**A motion was made by D. Cosmello and seconded by D. Button to adjourn at 7:17 pm. Motion carried.**