

September 17, 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, Simon Frailey, Don Button and Mayor Scott Smith. Others in attendance were: Amy Hine, Secretary; Chuck Welch, Brian Koscelansky, Stevens & Lee and Ted Brewster, Transcript.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Teri moved the Municipal Authority refinancing next on the agenda. Brian Koscelansky, Stevens & Lee, came to the council with the ordinance and other paperwork for the borough to guarantee the Municipal Authority refinancing request. Brian said the Authority is replacing existing debt for sewer and water into one loan at a lower rate. Don Button said the Authority will be saving approximately \$3,000 a month. **A motion was made by D. Cosmello and seconded by S. Frailey to adopt Ordinance 212, authorizing and directing the incurrence of lease rental debt in the maximum principal amount of \$3,560,000.00. Motion carried with D. Button abstaining.** Donna said this is a good move.

#### **CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

Teri said nothing has been done about the house on the corner of SR 492 & SR11. Teri said she believes a letter was sent to the property owner on Maple Street. Amy said the junkyard permit application was dropped off but Greg hasn't done anything with it. Teri said the tenants have moved out of 721/725 Main Street and the water has been turned off. Greg has done his final inspection of Charlie Church's property on Montrose Street that burned and approves releasing the escrow account funds to Mr. Church minus his and Amy's time. **A motion was made by D. Button and seconded by D. Cosmello to authorize the release of the escrow funds to Charlie Church minus the time submitted by Greg and Amy. Motion carried.**

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

A bill from Wayco Inc. for street paving was added, \$86,851.14, to be paid with check #7829 bringing the new total to \$96,709.38. **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 with the addition of the bill from Wayco. Motion carried.**

#### **PRESENT TO SPEAK**

None.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

The council received an email from Marybeth Manns, Susquehanna County Library, about doing a story walk at Blue Ridge Park at the beginning of October. It is a program to promote literacy and physical activity. Pages of a picture book are arranged on yard signs along a trail. The council agreed that this is a good idea. Amy will call to get an exact start date.

The council received an email from Ralph Swartz about a Web Ex meeting to review the Hazard Mitigation Plan for our community. Donna said she is off work and can do it if needed.

The council received a letter from Sarah Proof, Director of Assessment, regarding the assessment of agricultural buildings and taxing of them.

The council received a copy of a letter from DEP to TCO Inc. (Pump N Pantry) approving their environmental covenant.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Scott Smith thanked Chuck, Donnie, Ben and Tommy for making the parks look exceptional. Scott said the fall banners were done today. Scott said he had a complaint from a resident about tire tracks on their property from the paving company. Scott said we will check it in the spring to see if there is any damage because nothing is noticeable now.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**COG:** Nothing to report.

**Streets:** The amendment to the parking ordinance is being worked on. Amy said she spoke to Mike Briechle about Foran's catch basin. Briechle said he will send a letter to Forans if council would like him to. The council agreed to have Briechle send the letter. The street paving is done. We are waiting on an estimate from Ron Kowalewski for the ditch on Church Street. Amy said the township will be taking care of relocating the speed limit signs on the south end of town. Teri said there are still some stop signs around town with graffiti on them and asked if Chuck could please replace them. Amy was asked to check with COG to see if they still have stop signs. Amy said the catch basin on Depot Street has a collapsed pipe and Ron Kowalewski will be fixing it.

**Planning Commission:** Nothing to report.

**Buildings & Equipment:** The council received an estimate from Precision Power Solutions for the generator, \$8,904 with an addition \$1,500 for a transfer switch for the COG office. Donnie said we can't get a generator until after January. The finance committee will consider this when working on the budget. Precision Power Solutions also gave an estimate to install 2 lights in the back parking lot, \$1,200. **A motion was made by K. Welch and seconded by D. Cosmello to accept the estimate from Precision Power Solutions for the installation of 2 lights in the back parking lot. Motion carried.** The council received an estimate from the Gutterman to install gutters at the concession stand, \$1,236. Donnie said he's concerned of where they want to put the downspout because it will be right over the sewer tank. Don and Chuck will get more information and estimates on gutters. Amy asked council if they would consider purchasing solar battery packs for the new trail cameras because it would be cheaper in the long run. **A motion was made by D. Cosmello and seconded by D. Button to purchase solar battery packs for the trail cameras. Motion carried.**

**Parks & Recreation:** Simon said he will schedule a meeting soon. Amy said the lifeguards met the required 100 hours to receive their certification reimbursement. Amy said new swings and chains are needed for Midtown Park. The cost would be about \$500 for 4 of them. Chuck said he wouldn't put them up until spring. **A motion was made by S. Frailey and seconded by D. Button to authorize the purchase of 4 swings and chains. Motion carried.** Chuck said the water fountain in Midtown Park was ripped apart and damaged. Chuck said he will have to rebuild it.

**Economic Development:** Donna said she needs a copy of the letter we received about our sidewalk project being denied grant money so she can send it to Lisa Baker.

**Police:** There is nothing new to report on the new contract other than Great Bend Borough had a work session to discuss it.

**Personnel:** Nothing to report.

**Ordinance:** Teri asked council to please review the IPMC so hopefully we can get this done by the end of the year.

**Insurance & Fire:** Nothing to report.

**Finance:** The committee will meet on October 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to start working on the budget.

**New Milford Beautification:** Nothing to report.

**Zoning:** Nothing to report.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Amy will touch base with Cooper VanCott about the park project.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Amy asked council if we are still doing Santa in the Park this year. The council agreed that yes it will still take place. Amy will contact the Men's Club about it.

Donna asked if there will be a parade of lights this year. Amy said she hasn't heard anything about it.

Scott asked if council will be regulating Halloween this year. Teri said we can't.

**A motion was made by K. Welch and seconded by D. Cosmello to adjourn at 7:33 pm. Motion carried.**