

**MILLBOURNE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 15, 2010**

PRESENT:

Jeanette MacNeille, Council President
Khiet Luong, Council Vice President
Mohammed Patwary, Councilman
Gurbaksh Basra, Councilman
MD. Munsur Ali, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT:

John McBlain, Borough Solicitor
Cindy Leitzell, Borough Finance Officer
Dru Ann Staud, Borough Manager

President MacNeille and Vice President Luong presented on behalf of Millbourne Borough Council and the residents of Millbourne a certificate of appreciation to Andrew Formanes for his dedicated service to the citizens of the United States.

Mayor Kramer is excused from this evening's meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bill Donovan from 27 Hurley Court, stated that it appeared that the 2010 Budget was going up 2 mills.

President MacNeille stated that the 2010 budget is estimated to go up 105 mills.

Bill Donovan stated that if Council got rid of over paid employees such as the Borough Manager, who only works five hours a day and takes an hour lunch, we would not have to raise the mills at all.

The Borough Manager tried to inform Bill Donovan that he was wrong.

At that time Bill Donovan told the Borough Manager to "Shut Up", he continued to say that the Borough could get someone to work and actually do a good job for a lot less.

Reverend Laurent from 14 Park Avenue asked the status of the fundraising event to be held at the Millbourne Borough hall to raise money for the people of Haiti.

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President MacNeille informed Mr. Laurent that the Vice President has been working very hard to develop a proposal for the rental of Millbourne Borough hall, we are aware that you are waiting but we need to make sure the proposal protects the borough.

Mohammed Uddin from 34 Burd Avenue asked how the snow removal contractor is paid and who determine when they are called out.

President MacNeille informed Mr. Uddin that she has reviewed the contract; the contract is active for another two years. There is a range of fees for which the contractor is paid depending on what service is given.

The Borough Manager stated that the police department is responsible to calling the snow contractor out to either plow or salt the streets. The rationale for having the police department responsible for calling out the snow contractor is because they are driving the roads through storms and are the most informed.

Vice President Luong informed Mr. Uddin that based on the contract there are four billing options, salting the roads, plowing the roads, shoveling the sidewalks and the cost of the tons of salt used.

Joe Feldman from 22 Park Avenue, asked why the price to shovel the sidewalks was so high?

President MacNeille stated that this was a contract negotiated by the previous Council.

Charles Lord from 20 Park Avenue asked what the line item on the budget was for beeper and projector.

The Borough Manager stated that the beeper line item is actually the cell phones.

Vice President Luong informed Mr. Lord that Council would like to investigate the possibility of purchasing a projector for future meetings. The projector would allow Council to show residents more clearly projected development within the borough and to illustrate problems which occur in the borough.

Mr. Lord also asked what is the bond payment and are the ticket writers bonded?

The Borough Solicitor informed Mr. Lord that the ticket writers are covered under the Commercial Liability Insurance; if an employee stole it would be covered under crimes code.

Mr. Lord asked why there is no salary listed under the line item of Turnkey?

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The Borough Manager informed Mr. Lord that in the past the turnkey salaries came out of the ticket writer line item.

Mr. Lord asked why we have listed 6,000 under street cleaning? In the past Community Service has handled that.

President MacNeille stated that we are going to try to get Community Service out as often as possible but we want to prepare to have someone clean the streets, mow the lawn at the park and maintain a safe, clean environment. Community Service has been wonderful but we need to keep in mind that they might not always be available.

Mr. Lord suggested that Council donate their salaries to the Borough for the next several years.

Carol Leiblein, President of the Millbourne Borough Fire Company addressed Council regarding the reduction in the allocation to the Millbourne Fire Company. The current budget reflects a 25% reduction to the fire company. This is a major concern, we are willing to work with Council but we will be unable to stay open and functioning with a 25% reduction.

President MacNeille stated that Council did in fact reduce the allocation to the fire company. I did speak with Carol and Steve Leiblein regarding the accountability of the funds which are given to the fire company. I was very impressed with the improvement in the keeping of the financial records. We have spoken to Carol regarding working with the fire company to complete an energy audit. The fire company is working on an annual equipment list, stating when, for example hoses were purchased and when they will need to be replaced. I would like the borough and the fire company to work together to apply for grants for equipment. I think we have established a positive working relationship and I would like to continue to work with the fire company.

Joe Feldman from 20 Park Avenue, stated that he joined the Millbourne Fire Company when he was 14 years old; the company runs 24/7 on volunteers. The cost to purchase gear for one man is 2,000.00. The men and women working for the fire company are working for nothing.

President MacNeille stated that when this Council took office there was no information on how the money was spent which was allocated to the fire department. Carol has been working very hard to provide the information to Council.

Joe Feldman stated that no one ever asked for the information.

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Councilman Patwary stated that he did ask for the information but he did not receive a detailed description.

Daniel Laurent from 14 Park Avenue asked if there are more seats, we have many people attending the borough meetings but there are not enough seats for everyone. Also, can you add the position of the person to the name tags.

APPROVAL 2010 MILLBOURNE BOROUGH BUDGET-

A MOTION WAS MADE TO DISCUSS THE 2010 MILLBOURNE BOROUGH BUDGET BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

President MacNeille stated that the 2010 budget was made prior to the two major snow storms. Also, I want to mention that we did review cutting salaries of the staff and we have some staff members who have contracts which require us to pay raises. The staff who did receive raises were estimated at ½%.

Vice President Luong informed Council that back in December we were looking at taking 80,000 out of the reserve, even if we take 40,000 out of the reserve we won't last very long. We should be able to run the government in a fiscal way.

President MacNeille stated that we should use the reserve for matches or contributions to grants. I started writing grants for the borough about a year ago. We have gotten one for 15,000. which the borough contribution was 1,000. There are two more pending grants, one would require a 10,000 contribution but we will get 50,000. We need to use the reserve to get money from other agencies to make improvements to the town.

Vice President Luong stated that we advertised the proposed 2010 budget with an increase in millage by 1.5, what is flexibility?

The Borough Solicitor stated that you can go up or down depending on what is done this evening.

President MacNeille stated that we are planning to appoint a budget and finance committee.

Vice President Luong suggested that the budget be raised to 2.5 mills.

Councilman Patwary stated that we should not raise the budget any higher than 2 mills; we need to find the funds in another area.

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The Borough Solicitor offered 3,000 of his salary to the Millbourne Borough Fire Department.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO PASS THE 2010 BUDGET WITH A TWO MILL INCREASE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

All in Favor- yes
All opposed - one

President MacNeille requested a motion to remove 3,000 from the borough solicitor's salary and placing those funds into the line item for the Millbourne Fire Department.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN LUONG TO MOVE 3,000 FROM THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR'S LINE ITEM INTO THE MILLBOURNE FIRE COMPANY; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

The Borough Solicitor informed President MacNeille that the previously approved 2010 Ordinance which was approved by former Mayor Donovan and President Kramer will stand.

BILLS LIST: February 15, 2010

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY TO DISCUSS THE BILLS LIST OF FEBRUARY 15, 2010; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

All in favor yes
All opposed no

President MacNeille asked the Borough manager to explain what a few bills were for, Drugscan, Animal Control, Gloucester County and Pierce and Hughes.

The Borough Manager stated that Drugscan is the company used by the police department for lab results, Animal Control is the company which removes stray, dead or dangerous animals from the borough, Gloucester County is offering a course for patrolman and Pierce and Hughes is the solicitor responsible for collecting delinquent Municipal Service fees.

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A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY TO APPROVE THE BILLS LIST OF FEBRUARY 15, 2010; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

All in favor yes
All opposed no

MEETING MINUTES: January 19, 2010

Vice President Luong asked for a few corrections to be made to the January 19, 2010 meeting minutes. On page 3 the Council President is referred to as President Kramer, this should state President MacNeille. Also, Annie Huynh's name is spelled incorrectly.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2009 WITH THE ABOVE MENTIONED CHANGES; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

POLICE REPORT: See Attached

President MacNeille stated that the closing of the Millbourne Blvd. is not actually a policy. Ms. MacNeille stated that she would address this with Chief McCann.

Councilman Patwary asked the status of the stop sign on Wister Drive and Brier Road.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT/FIRE MARSHALL: No report

ENGINEER'S REPORT: No report

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: No report

MANAGER'S REPORT: No report

MAYOR'S REPORT: See Attached

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S REPORT AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

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All in favor yes
All opposed no

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report

OLD BUSINESS:

President MacNeille stated that they have been interviewing various Engineer firms over the last several weeks and at this time I am requesting a motion to appoint Herbert E. MacCombie to serve as the Millbourne Borough Engineer for the 2010 year. They were highly recommended and are less expensive.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY TO APPOINT HERBERT E. MACCOMBIE AS THE MILLBOURNE BOROUGH ENGINEER FOR THE YEAR 2010; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LUONG; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

All in favor yes
All opposed no

President MacNeille stated that Remington Vernick and Beach will be working with Herbert E. MacCombie to complete the transfer.

President MacNeille requested authorization to appoint the following people to the Millbourne Borough Finance Budget Committee

Mohammed Uddin
Alauddin Patwary
Jeanette MacNeille
Don Yoo

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPOINT THE ABOVE MENTION PEOPLE TO THE MILLBOURNE BOROUGH FINANCE BUDGET COMMITTEE; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

All in favor yes
All opposed no

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President MacNeille requested authorization to appoint Khiet Luong to the committee to evaluate the means of how we collect taxes.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY TO APPOINT KHIET LUONG TO THE TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

All in favor yes
All opposed no

President MacNeille stated that the Community Design Collaborative is working with representatives from the borough and the community to develop a vision of what would serve the property of 6501 Market Street as well as the Millbourne Borough community. The task force will speak to residents to determine what residents, business owners and elected officials feel is missing from the borough and what will help the economic improvement of the community.

President MacNeille stated that we have to plan to move forward in regards to the Park project. We have been awarded two grants designed to expand the existing park, to date there has been little agreement as what to do. We need to decide how we want to proceed with this project or we will lose the funds.

Councilman Patwary stated that we need more time to discuss this issue.

Vice President Luong informed Borough Council that we have some residents who do not want the park and we have some who do. We should look into enhancing the park which is already developed at the end of Wister Drive.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY TO DEFER THIS DISCUSSION UNTIL NEXT MONTH; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BASRA; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

All in favor yes
All opposed no

NEW BUSINESS:

President MacNeille stated that she is in the process of applying for a Federal Appropriation request, there are three projects we are anticipating applying for, they include a request for an updated Comprehensive Plan, Weatherization Audit and funds to

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purchase the street lights in the Borough. Aldan Borough is interested in working with us if they are able to pull all the information needed for the grant in the time frame.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN LUONG TO APPROVE APPLYING FOR THE FEDERAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST WITH THE ORDER OF PROJECTS AS FOLLOWS; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

1. Comprehensive Plan
2. Street Lights
3. Energy Weatherization Audit

All in favor yes
All opposed no

Vice President Luong informed Borough Council that he has been working very hard on the Rental policy for the Borough hall. The policy which is drafted at this time is not ready for approval, there will be many changes required. At this time Council is not ready to adopt this rental policy as discussion and changes are required.

Vice President Luong reminded everyone to keep to the meeting process, although Reverend Laurent spoke during New Business we would like to remind everyone to hold comments until the public comment section of the meeting.

President MacNeille stated that we are not ready at this time to move forward with the purchase order system, we will defer to next month for this topic.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bill Donovan from 27 Hurley Court stated that the reserve fund is there because of SEPTA and the Millbourne Police Department. Bill Donovan stated the Millbourne Police saved the borough 200,000.00. Mr. Donovan stated that he represents 24 property owners who are against raising taxes and can't afford to pay any increase.

Charles Lord from 20 Park Avenue stated that creating a park in Stephan Court would be a huge mistake, the park would attract young people and the fence to the Septa El tracks is open at that point, would be very dangerous for young children. Mr. Lord also pointed out that if the borough hall is rented where would the people park? Our parking is limited at this point.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: No Announcements

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THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE MILLBOURNE BOROUGH COUNCIL; A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN PATWARY TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MILLBOURNE BOROUGH COUNCIL; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LUONG; AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DRU ANN STAUD
MILLBOURNE BOROUGH MANAGER