

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
MILLVALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Council Chambers, 501 Lincoln Avenue
Wednesday, July 5, 2017

Workshop Meeting Convened

The Millvale Borough Council Workshop was called to order at 6:00pm by Council President James Machajewski.

Roll Call

Council Members: Al Atkinson, Brian Spoales, William Stout, Jack Varley, James Machajewski.

Also in attendance: Deputy Chief Komoroski, Mayor Cinski, Solicitor Dalfonso, Engineer Phil Strunk, Director of Administrative Services Ed Figas, Manager Amy Rockwell.

Absent was: Jason Miller, Brian Wolovich and Chief Miller.

Community Development

The Lang brothers submitted a business proposal to council regarding space at the riverfront. The Lang brothers detailed their proposal to council and were directed to work with staff to work out a leasing agreement. Discussion was held regarding the status of 524 Grant renovations. The equipment is being delivered along with the tables and chairs. We are just waiting on final inspections from the county and occupancy. Discussion was held regarding the hotel property. Preliminary drawings have been designed along with the footprint of the hotel. Soil testing has been completed. Designs and engineering will be ready in the next few weeks to do a preliminary review. The buildout should be a year, and there are monetary incentives to complete earlier.

Borough Engineer

Mr. Strunk reported on engineering activity for the month of June. Discussion was held regarding the ARLE grant and the locations of the stop bars and stop signs installation. The locations will be determined once we review the balance of the grant once the stop signs have been installed.

Police Report

Deputy Chief Komoroski reported that the civil service tests are completed for the written tests. Scores were sent to the applicants. Oral tests will need to be conducted next. DC discussed departmental priorities moving forward. The first priority was identified as installing a computer into car 1, a quote was submitted to council and the manager for review. Other outstanding issues for car 1 are the striping and patch. The work is under warranty and they will be out to repair the patch. Another concern is tasers and body cameras. Discussion has been held with Taser International regarding their buyback program for Tasers and new body cameras. The need for additional portable radios was also identified. The cost per radio is anticipated to be around \$1600 each. Deputy Chief reported that you can no longer obtain blood for a DUI without a search warrant, police now have to use an intoxilizer. Millvale is one of the few stations left with a unit in-house and the cost for a new one is \$10,000. There was discussion on the need for more CCTVs in the borough office, as well as, a panic button for the employees who work the front desk. Deputy Chief addressed the need for training, and presented various trainings which would be free to the borough. The only cost necessary would be to backfill a shift. Some of these trainings are first stage accident reconstruction, patrol rifle certification, and CIT. Deputy Chief requested council to set minimum staffing levels for the department. Deputy Chief reported that the police station has been painted and he requested a quote to strip and wax the floors. Deputy Chief requested to hire two part timers.

Planning Commission

No report due to no meeting.

Items from Council Members

Mr. Spoales discussed crossing guard applications and the new bus contract for Shaler Area School District. It was discussed that the police should re-assess crossing guard needs and stop locations with ABC Transit.

Discussion was held regarding the Deputy Chief and his use of a personal vehicle to answer calls from home. It was determined that the Deputy Chief should take home the Expedition and respond in a borough vehicle.

Mr. Stout discussed the new crosswalk painted across from Randig's.

Mr. Varley discussed rental inspections and frequency.

Mr. Wolovich sent an email to discuss Lincoln Avenue ADA access at 10 intersections.

Mr. Machajewski discussed the planting done at the island by Wokutch's. The Stay at Home Mission at Christ Lutheran Church worked to plant and mulch the space, and it looks great. Mr. Machajewski reported that letters went out for Millvale Days to sponsors and parade participants. Another meeting will be held in July, and once permits are available they will be advertised on the Facebook page.

New Business

Discussion was held regarding Three Rivers Rowing Dock Permit application. Three Rivers Rowing is paying for the engineering but the borough is the applicant on the permit.

Discussion was held regarding Mr. Smalls application to the Zoning Hearing Board for a sign variance. There were two hearings to discuss the application and the Zoning Hearing Board approved the variance with conditions. The conditions center around brightness, type of copy, quickness of images and texts, characters must be on a dark background, cannot be positioned toward residential properties, no audio, limited on words per minute, and the applicant will allow the Chief to contact them in an emergency for posting.

Discussion was held regarding proposed sign ordinance changes. Current language is difficult to explain and enforce, looking to simplify requirements.

Discussion was held regarding the Gardens of Millvale sale. The sale will need placed on the agenda for next month.

Discussion was held regarding the PennDOT curb cut projects on Evergreen.

Comments From the Public

Zaheen Hussain, 213 Grant Avenue, requested approval to send an email to the upstream neighbors regarding the upcoming meeting of the Allegheny Watershed Alliance. Discussed was Traffic 21, an initiative by CMU; Multimodal Funding to install sidewalk enhancements; and a possible TAP application.

Executive session

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

James Machajewski, Jr., President

Amy S. Rockwell, Borough Manager