

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
MILLVALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Council Chambers, 501 Lincoln Avenue
Tuesday, September 1, 2020

Workshop Meeting Convened

The Millvale Borough Council Workshop was called to order at 5:05 pm by Council President James Machajewski.

Roll Call

Council Members: Al Atkinson, Paul Bossung, Katie Dembowski – absent, Patty Sorg, William Stout, Jack Varley, James Machajewski.

Also in attendance: Engineer Jenn Slagle, Borough Manager Eddie Figas, Zoning and Planning Director John Roth, Public Works Foreman Joe Kypta, Office Administrator Michele Kranik

Solicitor Cambest joined the meeting at 6:15pm.

Covid-19 Updates

Discussion was held regarding ACT 15; Council meeting adjustments – no adjustments or changes.

Discussion was held regarding implementation of the credit card system – Freedom System software installed on Point of Sale computer, as well as credit card reader. Online e-commerce system is set up and is live and available for payments of certain fees. Suggestion for a post-card mailer announcing the system, as well as other pertinent information. Recommend putting Nixle and Facebook info on the mailer. Questions raised on how to appropriately extend information to parts of the Millvale population that may not have access to a computer or social media.

Discussion was held regarding upcoming Holidays and Holiday Events (Halloween, Christmas Senior Luncheon). It is too early to tell at this point; not enough information to make a firm decision.

Discussion was held regarding MCC/Pavilion rentals. Suggestion to close Pavilion for the year; MCC will be determined on a month by month basis, however no rentals for the remainder of September.

Correspondence

None.

New Business

Discussion was held regarding PGH20 2019 Water Quality Report. Handouts were available for council to review.

Discussion was held regarding Millvale North Gateway/Active Allegheny Grant.

Discussion was held regarding purchase of a keyless building entrance system. Reviewing a past bid from Global Access Control Systems. Will have more information for next week's agenda.

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of 2 PC laptops through Allegheny Cares – Zoning and Accounting.

Discussion was held regarding shredding of expired Police and Borough documents.

Discussion was held regarding an update on the Employee Handbook. Need to review with COVID-19 updates, working from home, etc.

Discussion was held regarding the Preliminary Budget. Handouts available for council perusal.

Discussion was held regarding PSAB 2021 UC Rate 0.0285 / no change.

Discussion was held regarding PLIGIT – by-law adjustments.

Discussion was held regarding IRS Payroll tax. Deferral process information released today by the IRS. Individuals can decline or accept the program.

Events/Programming

No updates.

Zoning/Community Development/Code Report

Discussion was held regarding Mr. Smalls application for a special events permit, has been on hold for a while. They are looking to temporarily close Butler street for outdoor dining/entertainment. May happen for Labor Day Weekend. Questions were asked regarding safety and road closure procedures.

Discussion was held regarding Grist House building permit application. In review with PCS.

Borough Engineer
Gateway Engineers

Ms. Slagle reported on engineering activities for the month of August.

C-42000-2020 General Engineering Review of Patrick Street and Evergreen Road homes for condemnation.

C-42004-2020 MS4 Compliance Work Gateway continues to plan for 2020 tasks. report due September 30.

C-42007-2020 Millvale Road Program No new updates.

C-42010-0005 CDBG Grants Gateway met with the Borough and is preparing the annual Allegheny County has waived the local funding match requirement in an effort to ease the strain on municipal budgets, due to COVID-19. The revised CDBG award amount has been increased to \$33,000.00 from the original amount of \$22,000.00. The funds will be available after July 1, 2020. The bid opening occurred on August 28, 2020, with Joe Pamieri Construction, Inc. the apparent low bidder. Construction will be scheduled upon completion of the bid award process through North Hills Council of Governments. Gateway is working with the Borough to prepared pre applications for CDBG Year 47 grant opportunities.

C-42018 Spring Street Slide The Borough can release the bonds and any additional items can be addressed under the maintenance bond.

C-42019 Mary Street Slide There are no new updates. As requested, Gateway performed a field visit and noted that there is evidence of continued movement of the slope.

C-42021-2020 Demolition Contract This project includes 3 properties in the base contract with 3 optional properties. Bid opening occurred on May 11, 2020 at the Borough office. Two bids were received with Allen Demolition, LLC as the low bidder. Gateway will process award documents upon contract approval by Borough Council.

An agreement with the owners of 17 Friday Street is in the process of being executed. Once an executed agreement is received, the award process may begin.

Public Works

PWSA – Hydrant work done on Gerwig Street. Beckert Street issues also addressed.

Peoples Gas – No work currently being done in the Borough.

Natural Playspace – Sculpture being purchased from Carrie Furnace via Rivers of Steel. Pressure wash the walls under the bridge for the directional mural. Use of reclaimed wood from 524 Grant Avenue project to build a boat for playspace, with information about the history of the wood posted for educational purposes.

Frederick Street Extension work – Work has been completed. Thank you letter from Karen Demko for job well done.

Discussion was held regarding storm clean up from Evergreen Ave and Seavey Road from storm on Friday.

Discussion was held regarding roof repair; spoke with MRM – will have an answer this week.

Discussion was held regarding the Solar Grant. No updates.

Police Report

Discussion was held on general police updates.

Comments from community on police visibility – positive.

Planning Commission

No report due to no agenda.

Items from Council Members

Councilman Bossung and Mayor Spoales discussed Tickets for the Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for “Save Girty’s Woods”. Tickets are \$15. Sprezzatura is providing the meal; it is to be held on September 19th.

Councilman Bossung discussed custom teeshirts for the fundraiser, as well as a Socially Distant Millvale Art Tour.

Mayor Spoales discussed sending birthday cards to Bob from Esther’s Hobby Shop on North Ave on September 4th, for his 90th Birthday. He also expressed a thank you to police and public works for their prompt

cleanup after the storms on Friday. He also discussed the Farmers to Families program being extended for at least three more weeks – drop offs will be on Thursdays at 2pm and limited to 200 produce boxes.

Councilwoman Sorg discussed a “Millvale is Love” socially distant event on September 19th at the Gardens of Millvale. The Library will also be involved. She also discussed the mission statement that was read at the last council meeting and would like more visibility on social media and the website.

Unfinished Business

Discussion was held regarding the Stanton Avenue Slide; Reserve Township was notified and looking for funding.

Discussion was held regarding updates with Seavey Road; will reach out to Shaler Township regarding Seavey Road.

Discussion was held regarding the Riverfront Appraisal. Will loop this in with budget process.

Discussion was held regarding the Riverfront Park Entrance Sign. There is a lot of movement forward on this project from the Mayor’s end as well as the committee. Waiting on response from PennDOT.

Discussion was held regarding the Crosswalk Project. Project is progressing, and will be tying up loose ends with payment of bills.

Discussion was held regarding the Evergreen Avenue Duquesne Light Company sign project. Waiting on a final cost analysis from DLC.

Discussion was held regarding the Sternwheeler Lease. It is progressing.

Discussion was held regarding the Borough Side Lot Purchase of 79-B-82 (9 Sedgwick Street). Sale is recorded from the Borough to the CDC.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

Council then moved to Executive Session.

James Machajewski, Jr., President

Eddie Figas, Borough Manager