

**Borough of Millbourne
Council Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2021**

The Zoom meeting was called to order by Council President Justin Skariah at 7:09 pm

Roll Call: Present were Council President Justin Skariah, Council Vice-President Md. Hasan and Council members Mahabubul Tayub, Md. Ali, Rafikul Islam and Mayor Tom Kramer. Also present were Solicitor Rebecca Geisler, Engineer Dennis O'Neill, Police Chief Shawn Payne, Financial Officer Mainul and Acting Manager Nancy Baulis.

Public Comment: None

Appointments/Presentation/Announcements/Awards: None

Minutes: **Motion was made** by Council Vice-President Hasan and seconded by Council Ali to table the January 11, 2021 minutes. **Motion passed.** Concerns were raised by Mayor Kramer that there were corrections to be made. Nancy will listen to the tape and make the corrections.

Bills List: **Motion was made** by Councilor Tayub and seconded by Councilor Islam to approve the bills list dated January 19, 2021. The Animal Humane Society lost the first check sent back in October, so we were billed again, so a second check was cut. There is also a bill for the legal fees for the assessment appeal. The MacCombie bill included work for the CHOP project and yes money will come out of escrow account per the Solicitor. **Motion passed.** The total was \$51,644.41.

Reports: **Motion was made** by Councilor Tayub and seconded by Councilor Ali to approve the reports. The reports were engineering, police, code with tickets, delinquent taxes, property tax concerns. Chief Payne added to his report that he has hired 2 more police officers. Millbourne cannot be short staffed and paying overtime. Our officers have full time jobs and with COVID they need to do more shifts at those jobs. Shawn also reported that the 911 center will be converting to a 900 mega-hurts system and the new radios will be bought with a \$3,000,000 grant. Millbourne will not need to spend \$40 to \$50,000 to purchase new radios, we are being given the new radios. **Motion passed.**

Old Business:

32 Millbourne the sheriff did come and evicted the renters. They have until March to remove their furniture.

Properties in violation of zoning. Basement apartments are illegal they do not have 2 means of exit. Potential litigation Millbourne could give citations to the owners for being in violation of zoning. The citation would go to district court. There was a lengthy discussion. Councilor Tayub if we give them approval we can collect some revenue because they already exist to the borough and some of them have 2 electric meters, paying for multiple electrical meters. The tenants are paying like 2 units didn't know the basement illegal. Parking a problem on all the streets not just Burd and Millbourne. Big issue for the Borough. One

solution collecting of trash a sewer for all the units. Councilor Ali parking a problem on Burd and Millbourne too tight. The insurance companies should be consulted. Parking 2 units get 4 parking spaces and multiple units increase the number of parking permits. Councilor Islam more basement apartments not just on Burd and Millbourne, concerned with the renters didn't know what the owners had done to the property. Changed from a single to a two-family house. Are the owners paying for 2 units? Current buyer taking away, and new owners cannot convert. Can the existing properties be grandfathered in the question of number of units? If legal change zoning ordinance. Solicitor said yes could be grandfathered. Council Vice-Pres. Hasan 10-15 years ago many owners changed properties. Borough doesn't want to pay lawyers to go to court Upper Darby has the same problem. Many properties were changed without permission. Engineer O'Neill need to change zoning. Understands former Mayor let the end units have basement apartments. Dennis is concerned the conversions of the properties were done without permits or inspections. Some properties were split into 4 units and added a basement. No fire walls installed. Fire spread laterally. Need an aggressive code department on inspections. Kitchens not inspected for proper work. Council Pres. Skariah sent letters giving notice to owners until 2021 to correct. Concern that fire coverage could go up. All of council voiced concern with the potential safety issues. Rebecca said any ordinance could be challenged. But there is safety, health and welfare of the Borough. All of council need to send a second formal letter. Dennis continued need comments from residents on changing ordinance. Neighbors hear work being done next door. Dennis reported that 6505 has a grading problem that they are working on and should be resolved. 6501 is going to submit a new design and needs a fence that can prevent people seeing work going on during the project.

Property taxes: Rebecca needs a copy of the packet and Nancy will send. Mainul said the figures sent by the county were wrong. Might want to consider changing back to old land and building values. Mayor Tom saw numbers for \$284,000,000 off school taxes if went back to old break down.

Rebecca said the 5G is ready to be approved. The fees are the legally set by regulations. Can pass at workshop meeting in February.

New Business:

Audit agreement same company and asking for a \$200 increase. Justin will sign the agreement.

Release of funds from CHOP escrow: **Motion was made** by Hasan and seconded by Ali to release the funds. **Motion passed.**

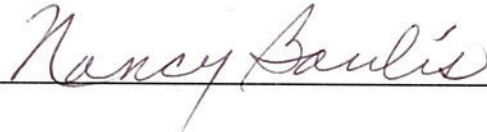
Security cameras: Nancy will call Happy Singh and have him call Hasan when in Borough.

Quarterly audit of funds that Hasan requested wants to check on budget. March would end quarter so in April or May can do audit.

Dennis and Shawn were dismissed at 8:02 pm so Council could go into **Executive session** exited Executive session at 8:12 pm. Personnel matters were discussed. **Motion was made** by Ali and seconded by Hasan advertise for a Borough manager. **Motion passed.**

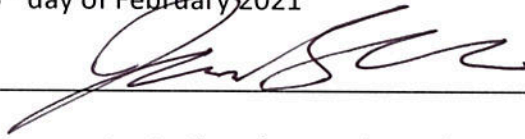
Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tayub and seconded by Ali. **Motion passed.** The time was 8:14 pm

Respectively submitted



Nancy Baulis, Secretary

Approved by Council this 16th day of February 2021



Justin Skariah, President of Council