

The regular meeting of the Millcreek Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman McGrath in the Assembly Room of the Millcreek Township Municipal Building. Present were Gerald Wolf, Richard Figaski, Brian McGrath, John Groh, Richard Morris, P.E. and Sheryl Williams. Solicitor Evan Adair was absent.

Following the Pledge to the Flag, Chairman McGrath called for public comment on agenda items other than development or rezoning applications. No comments were received.

It was moved by Mr. Figaski, seconded by Mr. Groh and carried 2-0 to approve the minutes of the Board's December 16, 2014 meeting. Chairman McGrath was absent for the December 16th meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Figaski and carried by unanimous vote to approve payment of the weekly General Fund bills in the amount of \$2,572,044.77, and Sewer Revenue Fund bills in the amount of \$195,451.71.

Consideration of a Land Development Plan:

BAC RECREATIONAL CAMPER PARK. Land Development Plan. A land development plan to show the construction of a recreational vehicle park containing 77 sites with associated roadways and stormwater management facilities, located along the north line of West 6th Street and the east line of Peninsula Drive (State Route 832) in Tracts 4 and 7. **Index 218-005 & 281-013**

Action on this land development was tabled from December 16, 2014. Chairman McGrath asked Engineer Morris to review the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval from its meeting on December 9, 2014. Fr. Theofanis Nacopoulos, 4476 West Lake Road, speaking on behalf of the land development plan, was asked by Mr. Groh if there is still an active sale agreement between BAC and the state. He stated that the Supervisors have been told that there was a potential deal with the state to allow the land to remain as green space. Fr. Nacopoulos stated that there have been talks, but the specifics are confidential. However, the owners want to cooperate with the state and do not want any buildings on the property. The Supervisors feel that the best use of this property would be for public use as a green space entrance to Presque Isle Park, but the land development plan meets all Ordinance requirements. Therefore, it was moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh to approve the land development plan for BAC Recreational Camper Park. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mr. Groh and seconded by Mr. Figaski to refer to the Millcreek Planning Commission a request for a change in zoning classification for:

MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT, for property located at 3227 Highland Road, also known as Ridgefield Elementary School, no zoned R-1 Single Family Residential District, asking for a change in classification to C-1 Local Commercial District. **Township Index: 348-001, County Index: 33-74-320-1**

Chairman McGrath explained that this is a new proposal for this property. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Wolf presented the 2015 Proposed General Fund Budget for adoption. Chairman McGrath reported that the proposed budget has been available for public view since December 2, 2014. He explained that there were a few minor changes: \$9,000 increase in hospitalization, \$6,000 increase in clerk wages, and \$850.00 increase in code enforcement wages. There is no tax increase, and there will be a projected surplus of \$6.7 million at the end of 2014, and \$6 million at the end of 2015. It was moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh to adopt the 2015 General Fund Budget. No public comment was received. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

On motion by Mr. Groh and seconded by Mr. Figaski, Resolution 2014-R-41 was approved, fixing the Millcreek Township tax rate for the year 2015 at 3.5537 mills. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh to approve Resolution 2014-R-42; A Resolution authorizing certain financial grants within the 2015 Millcreek Township Budget. This includes \$2,000 for the Regional Asset Fund, \$20,000 for Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority (LIFT) and \$20,000 for Senior Citizen Health Care. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mr. Groh and seconded by Mr. Figaski to approve Ordinance 2014-11; An Ordinance to amend the Millcreek Township Zoning Ordinance, No. 2011-8, as amended, by changing the classification of a certain parcel of land situate in the Township of Millcreek, Erie County, Pennsylvania, described as follows, to-wit: Property at 5552 West Ridge Road, now zoned RR Rural Residential District, to be rezoned to C-3 Highway Commercial District. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Wolf presented the 2015 Sewer Revenue Budget for approval. Chairman McGrath reported that there was no need for an increase, and cost to residents will remain at \$84.00 per quarter. It was moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh to approve the 2015 Sewer Revenue Fund Budget. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mr. Groh and seconded by Mr. Figaski to purchase a 100' x 80' parcel of land from the Cross family for \$16,000. Chairman McGrath explained that the Township previously purchased several acres from the Cross family, adjacent to the Streets Department, and now that a cell tower has been removed from this new parcel, the Township would like to purchase this adjoining land as well. No public comment was received. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh to nominate Daniel Bensur and Robert MacIsaac for consideration to represent Millcreek Township on the Erie Water Authority Advisory Board. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Figaski explained that in past years, the Township has received grants from the North Central Highway Safety Network for participating in the Buckle Up PA and the PA Aggressive Driving Enforcement and Education Projects. It was moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh to approve both grant agreements between the Millcreek Township Police Department and North Central Highway Safety Network, Inc. for 2015. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was requested by Treasurer Wolf, moved by Mr. Groh and seconded by Mr. Figaski to approve the following Pension Plan contributions for 2015, per Act 205 of 1984: \$1,289,742 for General Employees, and \$1,456,482 for the Millcreek Police Department. No public comment was received. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was requested by Matthew Exley, EMA Coordinator/Fire Code Official, moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh, to authorize Mr. Exley and Deputy EMA Coordinator Richard Pietron to attend a class on "Planning for Evacuations and Re-entry into Neighborhoods" from January 8-9, 2015 at the Beaver County EMA, Ambridge, PA, at no cost to the Township. No public comment was received. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Figaski announced that John Nick has decided not to accept the Millcreek Township Auditor position. Jack Martin of Dusckas-Martin Funeral Home is willing to accept the position for one year until this Auditor position comes up for election. It was moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh to appoint Mr. Martin as a Millcreek Township Auditor for one year. No public comment was received. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

It was requested by Diane Lyons, Human Resource Manager, to adjust the salary of Gary Walters, Head Foreman, Streets Department. Mr. Walters was promoted to Head Foreman on June 2, 2014, and has satisfied his six-month salary review. On motion by Chairman McGrath and seconded by Mr. Groh, it was approved to adjust Mr. Walters' base salary to \$64,298.91, retroactive to December 2, 2014. No public comment was received. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chairman McGrath made two announcements from the Recycling Department: The annual Christmas Tree Collection event will take place at Millfair Recycling Center on January 11, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Donations will be accepted and will benefit the Emmaus Soup Kitchen. Also, the 2014 Township Calendar was awarded a Second Place Communications Award from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS).

Chairman McGrath thanked all who took part in the Giving Tree. Sixty families benefited from the generous donations from Township residents and staff.

Mr. Groh thanked Dick Whitbread and his staff for replacing the traffic lights at 23rd Street and Peninsula Drive within six days after they were destroyed due to an accident. He also encouraged residents to please donate to their local volunteer fire departments in 2015.

Carl Anderson, 2709 Legion Road, reminded the Board of the J.O.Y. Center's closing due to the Township being in "dire straits," but noted that there are still provisions in the 2015 budget for funding a senior center. He asked Chairman McGrath to investigate the amount of money spent on the investigation of missing items from the J.O.Y. Center, and also feels that a change in the Township's government structure would be more cost effective.

Chairman McGrath responded that the Township did not claim to be in dire straits, but rather the Supervisors were trying to find a more cost effective method of funding a senior center. He also stated that the Board did not direct the Millcreek Police Department as to how to conduct their investigation.

Larry Dedinsky, 2502 Powell Avenue, Apt. #3, reviewed the Township employment application and nepotism disclosure, and stated that there are no gray areas regarding nepotism. He would like Solicitor Adair to look into this, meet with the Human Resource Manager, and then give a legal opinion regarding the hiring of the new Director of Parks and Recreation.

Jerry Servidio, 1720 West Gore Road, asked if the current Millcreek Township Water Authority employees who may potentially lose their jobs after the sale of the MTWA are being considered for other open Township positions or Erie City Water Authority positions. Mr. Figaski replied that employee provisions are not a part of the current negotiations between Millcreek Township Water Authority and Erie City Water Authority, but that the Board is addressing this internally. Mr. Servidio then thanked the Board for their service to the Township and stated that he is in agreement with the current Township format of three Supervisors.

There being no further business to come before the Board or citizens to be heard, it was moved by Mr. Figaski and seconded by Mr. Groh to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Sheryl A. Williams
Assistant Secretary

Approved: January 5, 2015

Richard P. Figaski
John H. Groh
Brian P. McGrath