

**Millersburg Borough Committee of the Whole
Council Chambers
June 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order – President Dietz called the meeting to order at 20:04 with Cl’ms Boyer, Campisi (virtual), Hoke and Hoffman present. Mayor Bowman, Borough Manager Whitall and Secretary Jackson were also present.

Guests – None.

Finance/Risk Management

Mid Penn Financial Products – Secretary Jackson and Mayor Bowman met with Mid Penn Bank over lunch to discuss current and future investments of Borough funds. Secretary Jackson stated that there are benefits to maintaining accounts with PLGIT that she would like to see from Mid Penn, but that Mid Penn wouldn’t quote any type of package until they knew how much money was being invested. Council asked if FDIC protection applied to each individual account, or to the account holder and all of their holdings in the institution. Council stated they would be interested in seeing what interest rate Mid Penn would provide based on the amount currently with PLGIT.

Secretary Jackson left the meeting.

Employee Relations

Volunteer FD Support – Borough Manager Whitall relayed a request from Chief Snyder at the Fire Department about allowing Borough Employees to volunteer with the Fire Company during the workday if a call was to come in. Borough Manager Whitall was supportive of the idea but stated that Council would have to make a decision on whether or not the volunteer time would be paid or unpaid. Council elected to table the discussion until the Public Safety Chair could comment.

Junior Council Program – Borough Manager Whitall presented information on the PSAB Junior Council Program. Council would need to pass a Resolution to participate in the program. Positive discussion took place around the program. Cl’m Hoffman volunteered to head up the project. The Resolution for participation should be added to the July Business meeting agenda.

Parks

Swing Sponsorships – Borough Manager Whitall relayed two requests for Swing and Bench sponsorships at parks. Cl’m Boyer expressed his concern about the longevity of the current benches. Cl’m Dietz suggested that a proposal for new benches that addresses need and covering cost of purchase/installation would be valuable. The proposal should include dog bag stations and bike racks/repair station.

Community Garden – Council heard a proposal from Cl’m Campisi for a local beekeeper to place bees at the community garden for the purposes of pollinating the garden and for teaching prospective beekeepers. The proposal includes an electric fence to keep bears away from the bee hives as well as an outer, non-electrified and locked fence to keep children or unsuspecting bystanders from contacting the electrified fence. Council directed Manager Whitall to contact the insurance company about the potential liability from the electric fence and Mr. Carns about how he would lock the non-electric fence.

BMX Park – Manager Whitall shared his assessment of the Reamer lot for the park and recent communication from the insurance company. The insurance company won’t cover the park if it’s located between the river and canal as previously discussed. The Reamer lot is certainly big enough to house the

park, but Manager Whitall is unsure how the residents in that area would feel about it being adjacent to their property. CI'm Dietz suggested reaching out to municipalities that have successfully implemented these types of parks for design ideas. CI'm Campisi will reach out. Manager Whitall was advised to place this item on the July Committee Agenda.

Hand Dryers at Seal Park – Manager Whitall presented quotes for hand dryers at the Seal Park bathrooms due to vandalism involving paper towels. This would also reduce cost. Committee decided on the less expensive, stainless steel option from Amazon as a test run for the product at Seal Park.

Movies in the Park – Manager Whitall relayed a request from Captain Gamez about having a Movie in the Park on National Night Out, 8/1/23. Manager Whitall stated that the 2023 Tourism Grant allotment would cover the expenses of insurance and licensing for an additional event. Committee agreed to schedule the event and move the currently scheduled movie for 7/22 to late August.

Property – Nothing for discussion.

Public Safety

Curfew Discussion – Manager Whitall reviewed the current curfew ordinance as requested at the PD Public Forum. He relayed comments from Solicitor Kerwin that the ordinance is enforceable as written however, reimplemention may be unpopular. CI'm Boyer asked if there were concerns about behavior during the curfew hours. CI'm Hoffman relayed recent events including an incident where minors were throwing firecrackers at each other in the street during the curfew's stated hours as well as recent illicit activity at MYO Park that had been discovered. Manager Whitall was directed to reach out to PSAB about other municipalities that enforce a curfew.

Contracted Security for Special Events – Manager Whitall relayed a request from Captain Gamez about the use of contracted, Act 235 Security for special events. He relayed Captain Gamez's intent to use them to help effect an arrest during an incident while providing extra security in the absence of a larger police force. Committee was not comfortable with the idea of moving forward with any contracts at this time given that a job offer was being sent to a new Police candidate. Manager Whitall was asked to add Captain Gamez and Shane Comp to the agenda for July's Committee Meeting; CI'm Campisi would reach out and invite both parties.

Streets – Nothing for discussion.

Economic Development

DCED Gaming Grant – Manager Whitall was instructed to apply for a Gaming Grant that would provide for the Borough's responsibility for the ADA ramps to be installed during the PennDOT SR 147 resurfacing project.

Mayor – Nothing to report.

The meeting was properly adjourned at 9:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James Whitall
Borough Manager