

Town of Millersburg

Meeting Minutes

June 22nd, 2022

Opening

The regular meeting of the Town of Millersburg was called to order at 5:00pm on June 22nd, 2022 at the Town Hall by Jim Winkler.

Present

Jim Winkler, Dean Smith, MacKenzie Taylor, Ben Eldridge, Ray Rodriguez, Robert Roa, Avery Ferguson, Haley Hurst, John Veenstra, Joni & Robert Miller and Matt King (late)

Approval of Minutes

Jim Winkler made a motion to approve the minutes for Wednesday, June 8th, 2022. The motion was seconded by Dean Smith and upon voice vote was approved unanimously.

Community Development: Reminder about Saturday night. We have gotten a few people for the car show. MacKenzie has a couple of bounce houses ordered. Steve will be cooking burgers and hot dogs for us. We'll also have corn hole, face painting, balloon animals, a magician and a movie at 7:30.

Ben said he noticed that Millersburg is the only community that doesn't have flags up around their downtown area. So Ben put those on the posts.

The statue outside of the Town Hall is attracting many people to come here. Last week, there was a couple here from Grand Rapids. They heard that we had a statue and they specifically came into Millersburg on their way to the Round Barn to see the statue.

Ben said the tornado siren is up and running. A padlock just needs to be put on it. Hopefully, a kid won't come up and flip the switch.

Dean asked Ray if there would be officer's here to help Saturday? Ray said, yes, there will be two reserves working and Robert. Dean mentioned he is worried about the dogs that live across from the Town Hall. Robert told the council he will go over and talk to them before Saturday to inform them of the event and to keep their dogs inside.

Animal Control was in Millersburg last week. They went into a home that had 10 cats and 1 dog. They removed 3 cats.

Maintenance: Matt King just had a partial knee replacement yesterday. Avery Ferguson was here on behalf of Matt King not being there.

Avery told the council he's received some complaints about the new sidewalks that were just redone on Washington Street. The resident's that live on Washington are mowing their yards and leaving grass on them. The sidewalks are ADA compliant, so those with wheel chairs aren't able to ride on them because of the grass and straw that's blown over them. Avery and MacKenzie looked through the ordinances to see who is responsible for maintaining the sidewalks. The ordinance MacKenzie and Avery did find, didn't necessarily specify who's responsible. At this point, we can't enforce the homeowner to maintain them. Jim said, let's table this issue until the next meeting and we will revisit it with Ray and Robert.

Avery said, another thing for the council to consider is to put traffic signs on Wastewater Drive. Avery is back there a lot. Many of the haulers and truck drivers are speeding. There's also a blind spot where the trailers are parked, it's difficult to see around them. Ben said, the issue with this is the property isn't ours so that complicates things. It's privately owned and this individual wasn't interested in deeding it over to us to maintain, which the Town does maintain it anyways. Jim asked, is there any way we can put a stop sign there? Jim asked Ray if he could contact the owners and see what they would be willing to do to help us with this situation. The goal is to come to some sort of agreement with Amity and the Town about the road. Ben said, he would ask if someone could come to the next Town meeting to come up with a solution from Amity.

Avery said, there's more junk and trash being put in the grass bin. He had Ben post pictures and a message on the Facebook page about what is acceptable to put in the grass bins. Ben has made a sign for the grass bin area and people are not following it still. Ben said he would check with Moe to see what he has available to help put an end to the trash dumping situation.

Lastly, Avery said the backhoe is starting to shut down. It hasn't been working properly and we're going to start nickel and diming it. MacKenzie asked Matt in the previous meetings to look for some other quotes outside of the Sourcewell he had done. Jim asked if Matt had done this. Avery said he wasn't too sure. Jim said something does need to be done soon the quote is past its 30 days. Jim told Avery to get a hold of the guy who completed the Sourcewell and see if the 89,100 was still available. Ben asked, what about State Board of Accounts? Don't they require three quotes if it's over a certain threshold? MacKenzie said yes, typically they do. Matt went through Sourcewell and that is suppose to eliminate the 3 bids to find the best deal for government entities. MacKenzie still wanted another quote to see if anything would compare/be more cost efficient. Matt ended up coming to the meeting. Jim asked how Matt has been doing. Matt told him it's

been a rough couple of days. Jim asked about another quote for the tractor. Matt said he doesn't have another quote coming but according to acuquote or whatever it's called, the 89,100 is the cheapest we're going to get. Jim said, in the past we've paid for large purchases ½ now and then ½ in next years budget. Jim wanted to see if the Sourcewell gentleman would be receptive to that. MacKenzie asked, where exactly do should you want me to take these large funds? MVH or MVH restricted? Matt said there's a community fund that this could be paid out of. MacKenzie looked through her sheet and wasn't sure what he meant. Then she asked him, public safety? Matt said yes, we can take it out of public safety. MacKenzie stated, no that money is specific for our local law enforcement.

Moving on, Jim asked Matt what has the Doctor told you about your knee? Matt said he has a little machine and it makes his knee bend and rotate, he has to do this 4-6 hours a day.

Police: Ray had John Veenstra here to speak about his work as a Chaplin for the Town of Millersburg. John introduced himself and explained about his line of work. He is a Chaplin for other neighboring communities and has been doing this for a number of years. He has 22 years of ministry under his belt along with a bachelor's degree in arts and ministry. This is a service that is free of charge to anyone who uses it. John's mission is to meet with any Town employee or resident in Millersburg that needs any sort of counseling services. This isn't necessarily a religious side but a spiritual one. Everything is strictly confidential. John Veenstra also does funerals and weddings. Jim was very eager to approve this and made a motion to approve John Veenstra being a Chaplin for the Town of Millersburg. Dean seconded the motion to approve John Veenstra to be the Chaplin for the Town of Millersburg.

Robert has the regulation for weeds and rank vegetation and will see what they can come up with for the sidewalks.

Robert said Ray's been sitting vehicles out on Lincoln and Elm. It's been successful and making vehicles slow down. As for the speed sign that was approved to be purchased, Lions Club is having a chicken fundraiser and they will donate half of their proceeds to help us purchase the speed sign.

Park: The concession stand and equipment passed it's final inspection. The brush pile will get cleared out and a parking lot will be coming within the next month.

Clerk Treasurer: MacKenzie announced a retroactive credit card ordinance 2022-08 for the Town. Jim and Dean were not aware department heads had credit cards. Ben said, that was something Patricia Barhydt and Angie King took upon themselves. The council read through the ordinance and expectations of the use of credit card purchases. Jim made a motion to waive the second reading, Dean seconded the waive. Jim then made a motion to adopt the retroactive 2022-08 credit card ordinance.

MacKenzie announced another retroactive ordinance 2022-07 to pay claims in advance or via EFT. Jim read over the ordinance, made a motion to waive the second reading, Dean seconded the motion waive the second reading. Jim made a motion to approve 2022-07 ordinance to pay claims in advance or via EFT. Dean seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 2022-07.

New Business: Joni Miller asked Ben if he had flattened or smoothed out that water thing? Ben said, yes, I had Todd Truex do it. Joni said, Todd never came and did that. Ben said he would get a hold of him again and have it taken care of.

Joni said, Friday when she was getting ready to leave for a work trip Ray and Robert showed up. They informed Joni that she was still in violation of the junk ordinance. Joni said she was under the impression that the ordinance stated that it is only in violation to what's visible from the street. It didn't matter what was in back. Jim told her no, it's the entire property. We (the Town) is working very hard on enhancing and maintaining good looking properties. Joni said she knows there's stuff in the back but she is so busy this coming month and doesn't have time to do it. It was acknowledged that the front looks a lot better. Robert, Ray and Joni had a very civil conversation about cleaning up the back area. Joni said she really will try to work on it when she has time.

There's a hefty number of tires in the back. Joni said her friend wants them. Robert is willing, on his own time, to help Joni move all of the tires out of the back yard. Joni said, she will have to wait and see when her friend wants them. Robert said to let him know so he can help transport these to her friend.

Jim asked Joni permission to go on the back of her property to trim her trees? Jim said, he'd trim them as much as he could with the equipment he has. Joni gave Jim permission to trim the trees that are in her back yard.

Joni asked MacKenzie when ordinances will be posted on the website. MacKenzie told Joni she doesn't have any time to do that right now. If there's a specific ordinance she is looking for to tell me and I will do my best to find that ordinance for her.

Joni asked why her son's vehicle was tagged. The car has legal plates and legal insurance. No one really knew the issue about this.

Doug Miller is out of jail, again. Doug turned himself in to the Millersburg PD a few weeks ago.

Joni asked what happened to the tee-ball diamonds? Jim explained, since they weren't getting used, it was decided to put two pickleball courts there.

Adjournment

Jim Winkler made a motion to pay bills. The motion was seconded by Dean Smith and upon a voice vote was approved unanimously. Jim Winkler made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dean Smith and upon voice vote was approved unanimously. The next general meeting will be at 5:00pm on July 13, 2022

X

Jim Winkler
Council President

X

MacKenzie Taylor
Clerk Treasurer

