

Milford Town Council

Monday, February 12, 2018

7:00pm at the Milford Town Hall

Present: Doug Ruch, Bob Cockburn and Dan Cochran

Doug opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

The minutes were presented for review, Dan moved to accept as written with Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

The attorney was not present yet so Doug moved on to Public Input.

Ryan Brauen from Wessler was on hand to give his report on the study of the proposed sewer extension to Camp Mack. After a detailed report, he stated the town can do one of three things, 1. Do nothing, 2. Could serve just Camp Mack using a 2" pipe for \$350,000 or 3. Could serve all the homes along the way, but would need a 3" pipe for \$380,000. It would be a combination of gravity system and a low pressure sewer system with small pumps at each residence and the camp would need three pump stations. The estimated costs to each residence to hook up would be \$10,000 to \$14,000. He stated we would need nineteen homes to hook into the system to keep the flow moving.

Resident Ken Long asked "would residents be required to hook up as the State Code states?" The Kosciusko County Health Department's person in charge of the sewers in the county stated the county works with residents and each of their situations. They don't force people to hook on unless there are no other options.

Someone asked what it would cost to put in a septic system? He stated it varies, but starts around \$5000 and goes up!

Resident Jay Urbin asked, "How would the town pay for it?"

At some point the Camp will need to commit to an amount to help pay for it!

Councilman Dan Cochran stated the town needs to look for growth to help sustain the utilities and to stay up with the current needs.

Ken Long asked the council, "After the meeting with Camp Mack, what research did the council do before deciding to do the study?" Doug responded, "that is what the study is for!"

The next step appears to be to contact the homeowners along the route to see how many would be interested in hooking up if sewer was available.

Also the council will need to meet with the Camp and see what their level of commitment will be.

The council tabled the issue for a later date giving them all time to read and study the research provided.

A representative from Milford Lake presented the town with a petition from the property owners on the lake that are not in agreement with this project. She also



presented a petition from towns' people who oppose using taxpayer money for the \$8500 study and oppose incurring any more debt for such a project.

Doug informed the residents that no taxpayer money was used to pay for the study, the town has Riverboat funds and those will be used to pay for it.

Trisha Gall, the Milford Fest Chairperson was on hand to report that sponsorship letters will be going out this week as work is beginning on this year's Milford Fest.

#### Departmental Reports:

Fire: No report

Police: Chief Marsh reported that Brandon Shipp has finished academy and presented him with his pin and requested his raise in pay to \$41,000. Dan so moved with Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

Chief Marsh stated that we are down to three reserves and requested approval to add three more. Dan so moved with Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

He state the new SOP's are updated and need approval, will send to Jay for review and he will advise the council at next month's meeting.

Chief Marsh reported on parking issues on west Emeline street especially close to the school, people are parking on the street creating a bottleneck and traffic jam. Jay will review and change the present ordinance to resolve this problem and will have it for the next meeting.

Travis reported that he had to purchase a different car and will need to redo the lease contract with the town, he will send Jay a copy for review.

Travis stated he would like to purchase more Narcan, but it is expensive, and Jay suggested he contact K21 for a possible grant.

#### Utilities:

Superintendent Steven Marquart stated mosquito season is coming and we can order the product now and obtain a 5% discount. Dan so moved to purchase the mosquito spray at \$3509.35 with Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

Steven reported that he had been looking for a better way of having flowers downtown throughout the summer with little care and time involved. He showed the council a pot with a reservoir in the bottom which will hold extra water so will not need to water daily, these pots will require a new hanger which Steven presented quotes from Slabaugh Welding Shop of \$77.00 a set or Ward Industry of \$323.00. Price of the pots & flowers, and hangers equals \$2518. Dan moved to purchase the new pots, hangers and flower for the amount of \$2518.00, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

Steven reported that he is still working on a backup system for the Telemetry System so as not to have another water emergency.

Steven asked the council if he could discontinue using fluoride in the water. He provided a lot of research on the side effects of over usage of fluoride in today's

culture. The council decided they would like to get some feedback from the residents, so we will put the question on next month's water bill. Tabled for now.

Steven stated that Wawasee Tree service didn't make it in the fall and requested we have them down the trees at the well for \$800. Dan so moved with Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

Steven presented a quote from Kent Sawyer for \$500 to clean out the storm water system. Dan so moved with Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

Steven presented a quote for a new storage shed for the park for \$5961.25 to replace the building that was torn down last year.

Bob so moved with Dan 2<sup>nd</sup> and Doug abstained since his relative owned the business selling the shed. Both agreed.

A discussion ensued regarding who cleans off the sidewalks, due to the recent large amount of snow, many residents on Emeline failed to shovel their sidewalks which created difficult travel for school children. Resident Scott Mast was frustrated with the situation and decided to run his snow blower from Main to the school, but wanted to know why the town no longer plowed that path for the children. Steven explained that the sidewalks are not the town's responsibility, their priority is the streets and alleys! At one time they had a bobcat that they used to plow the sidewalk on the north side of Emeline for the kids, but they no longer had that equipment. Scott offered to do it for the town. So next time we have a large snowfall, we will call Scott to clear that sidewalk.

#### Wastewater:

Operator Mark Brubaker stated we are still having issues with rags being thrown into the sewer and clogging pumps. Is checking with other towns to see how they are dealing with the problem.

#### Clerk:

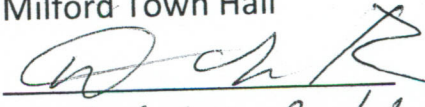

Joellen requested to purchase new chairs for the meeting room, twenty-five chairs at \$54/ea from Uline. Dan son moved with Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

Joellen reported that the 2018 Proposed Budget has been approved by the State.

She presented the accounts payable voucher with additions, Dan moved to accept with the additions, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

Since there was no further business Dan moved to adjourn with Bob 2<sup>nd</sup> and all agreed.

Milford Town Hall

  
Robert C. Cockburn  


Attests:

