

Town of Milton
Town Council Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2004

7:15 – 7:30 p.m. OPEN FLOOR:

Joanie Martin-Brown – she brought a signed petition to preserve the town’s assets for historical reasons. Those signing the petition want a moratorium on demolition of historic buildings within the historic district.

Allison Howes – she has concerns regarding fluoride being added to the drinking. She submitted a letter to be read under correspondence.

Barbara Stellar – she has concerns regarding Tilney Street. She asked that the speed be reduced to 15 mph and a “Children at Play” sign on Tilney Street closer to Mulberry Street, and a stop sign at Tilney and Reed Streets. She also wants the cats picked up from the street.

Shelly Grabel – she reported that the Horseshoe Crab Festival has been reduced in size. In the park, there will be nature groups, crafts, music, etc. A lot of advertising has been done for the event. A porta-potty will also be delivered.

Mayor John F. Bushey called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Fire Hall on Front Street.

Councilwoman Betts offered the opening prayer.

Mayor Bushey called the roll.

PRESENT: Mayor John Bushey
Councilwoman Leah Betts
Councilman Jerry Hudson
Councilman Gene Dvornick
Councilwoman Ronda Melson
Councilman Charles Fleetwood (late)
Councilman Noble Prettyman

Others Present: Jocelyn Jenkins, Town Clerk
Eric Evans, Code Enforcer
Stephanie Coulbourne, Finance Clerk
Allen Atkins, Town Maintenance
Bob Kerr, Engineer
Tim Willard, Town Attorney

Presentation and Approval of Minutes

Councilwoman Betts made a **motion** to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2004 regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Prettyman.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Approval of Treasurer’s Report

Councilman Hudson made a **motion** to approve the treasurer’s report in printed form, seconded by Councilman Dvornick.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Presentation and Approval of Monthly Bills

Councilman Fleetwood made a **motion** to pay the monthly bills as money becomes available, seconded by Councilwoman Melson.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Committee Reports

Sewer & Water – Councilwoman Melson reported that Chestnut Street paving was to have begun April 26. Only half the street is getting paved. Funding was not available to pave the entire street. Several defective valves in the Round Pole Branch project will be replaced at the end of the school year as it requires that water be shut off at the school. Committee is discussing with CABA treatment plant options. Committee is also looking for available funding to have some water mains and service replaced on Union Street. Mr. Kerr and Mr. Hoffman of CABA Associates will meet with Mr. Clark and Mr. Carey to explore "Satellite Treatment System" and will report at the Committee meeting on May 11, 2004.

Streets & Sidewalks – Councilwoman Betts reported that there will be a streets meeting on May 7 at 11:00 a.m. Jerry’s Paving has given estimates on Betts, Hemlock, Spruce Streets, and the area by the boat dock. The Committee also wants street lights on Lake Drive.

Ordinance – Mr. Evans will report under New Business.

Personnel/Pension – Councilman Hudson reported that the Committee recommends a seasonal employee for the Maintenance Department. An executive session regarding Land Acquisition is needed later in the evening.

Jeff McDonald of Capital Software was present and gave an update on where the system stands. Licenses, permits, taxes, and payroll are all done. The accounting figures are in. He showed examples of the new budget reports. The utility program is still being updated. Bar codes will be printed on the bills. He also explained the difference between budget and payroll figures.

Parks & Recreation – No report.

Economic Development – No report

ADHOC Historic Preservation – Committee will hold a meeting on May 13, 2004 at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Planning & Zoning – Busy working/meeting.

Milton Development Corporation – Councilwoman Betts reported that \$7815 was raised from Godspell. The net profit was \$6173. They are planning live entertainment, movies, etc. for the summer. They need help with heating, air conditioning, and a new roof.

Board of Adjustment – No report.

Finance – The Committee met on April 28 at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. The Committee will meet with CapSoft and Sombar representatives and Stephanie on May 4. “Wish list” was given to the Department Heads. The next meeting is May 26.

200th Anniversary – The planning is on-track. An artist is still needed for the logo.

Police Building – No report.

Written Reports

Maintenance Report

Councilman Hudson made a ***motion*** to approve the report from the Maintenance Department, seconded by Councilman Prettyman.

Motion carried – “Aye”

It was noted that the machine to do the smoke testing will be here soon. The camera can’t get to the blockage in the line, so CDI needs to come jet the line. The light fixtures for Town Hall have been received.

Code Enforcer Report

Councilman Dvornick made a ***motion***, seconded by Councilman Prettyman, to approve the Code Enforcer’s Report.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Councilwoman Betts asked Mr. Evans if he checks up on conditions of requirements such as Food Lion lighting, etc? Mr. Evans stated that he has checked up on landscaping, etc. Mr. Evans will check the status of whether or not the lights are to be dimmed at night.

Police Department Report

Councilwoman Melson made a **motion**, seconded by Councilman Prettyman, to approve the Police Department Report.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Town Clerk Report

Councilwoman Betts made a **motion** to approve the Town Clerk’s report, seconded by Councilman Hudson.

Councilman Hudson asked that the rope on the pilings by the boat dock have some slack in it. It was also noted that the reflectors have been ordered.

There were additional questions about where the DelDOT monthly report is, about no one being signed up for the Regional Planning meeting, and about when the nautical posts for the park were approved.

With regard to the nautical posts in the park, Mrs. Jenkins thought Councilman Fleetwood presented it to Council.

Councilman Hudson asked if we cut down the trees by the park? The trees have been cleared up.

With regard to the two (2) visa accounts, it was requested that the statements be included with the finance report every month.

The question was called on the motion.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Correspondence

Councilwoman Melson read letters from:

1. Pinnacle – regarding Admiral’s Quarter.
2. Allison Howes – regarding fluoridation of the water.

Old Business

Fire Hall Rent

Councilman Fleetwood agrees with the figure of \$1200/year for rent to the fire hall. We hold at least 2 to 3 meetings per month.

Councilman Dvornick made a **motion** to approve the agreement of \$1200 annual rent. Councilman Prettyman seconded the motion.

It was noted by Councilman Hudson that if Council goes back to holding the meetings at the library, Council needs to discuss this again.

The question was called on the motion.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Preserve on Broadkill Memorandum of Understanding & Responses to EDU letter
Tim Willard gave an update on the Preserve EDU letter. There is an April, 2005 deadline for Preserve on the Broadkill to utilize the 21 EDU’s in Phase II because they currently only have preliminary approval.

Bob Kerr has not read the Preserve Memorandum of Understanding.

Councilman Prettyman made a ***motion*** to accept the Memorandum of Understanding with revisions; final approval must be secured by April, 2005. Councilman Dvornick seconded the motion.

Motion carried – “Aye”

It was noted that 2 more responses to the EDU reservation letter have been received. Responses were received from Chestnut Crossing and Zonko Builders have responded. The deadline is May 25.

Councilman Hudson made a ***motion***, seconded by Councilwoman Melson to sign the contracts and send Chestnut Crossing and Zonko Builders copies.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Annexation Moratorium Update

A draft was in the packets. Mr. Willard has comments to add before we send it out. The annexation fee and ordinances need some work before we lift the moratorium. It was asked if that can be accomplished in 3 months. Mrs. Jenkins stated that it can be accomplished in 3 months. Mr. Willard noted that the procedures are good and should be in place.

Mr. Willard’s draft will be presented to Council for a vote at the June meeting, in order to ensure that it makes it to the legislators before they end their June session.

It was the recommendation of Town Clerk Jenkins that other charter changes be looked at to be made at the same time.

New Business

Mutual Aid Agreement

Councilwoman Melson made a ***motion*** to accept the Mutual Aid Agreement and give authority for it to be signed, seconded by Councilman Dvornick.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Installation of Street Light on Lake Drive

No action was taken on this agenda item. It was deferred to Committee.

Seasonal Employee in Maintenance Department

Councilman Hudson gave an update with regard to this agenda item. It was recommended by the Personnel/Pension Committee that a seasonal employee be hired for 24 hours a week for the Maintenance Department. This position will be paid from funds saved from health insurance.

Status of Broadkill River

It was reported that there is a tree down $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way across the river. Nothing has been done. There are 25 areas of the river that have dead fall that need to be cleaned up. Councilman Hudson wants a letter to go to the Governor to clean up the river. It is very dangerous.

Councilman Hudson made a ***motion*** to send a letter to the Governor, seconded by Councilwoman Melson.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Status of Clean-up of Alley between Bay Avenue and Atlantic Avenue

Councilman Hudson gave an update on what was said last year from the Ohrt’s. Councilman Hudson’s opinion is that the alley goes nowhere and does not need to be cleaned up. There is a pool and a garage blocking that particular alley, and he doesn’t think the Town needs to clean up that alley.

Ordinances/No Parking Ordinance

Mayor Bushey read the update to amend the Parking Ordinance. Items I, J, and K are ok as written. For Items L & M, measurements are needed.

Councilman Prettyman made a ***motion*** to accept Items I, J, and K and get measurements for Items L & M by the next meeting. Councilman Dvornick seconded the motion.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Sewer/ Water

Councilwoman Melson asked what Council has in mind about allocating the remaining EDU’s? Mr. Kerr stated that we discussed taking a wait and see approach.

IDS Contract

Councilman Prettyman made a ***motion*** to accept the IDS contract, seconded by Councilwoman Betts.

Councilman Dvornick asked if there will be an increase to the taxpayers? Mrs. Jenkins stated that we have not discussed that yet. She suggests that we look at an increase for 2006.

The question was called on the motion.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Request from CatSnippers for Permission to Trap, Spay, Neuter, Release

Mr. Evans explained the process to Council. Mr. Willard wants to review any documents. Donna Gordon is out of Town; she will be back on May 17. Mr. Willard will look into writing a contract with the CatSnippers.

Request during Open Floor for Moratorium on Historical District Homes

Councilwoman Betts made a ***motion*** to put this item back on the agenda for June, seconded by Councilman Hudson.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Correspondence from Pinnacle

Mr. Willard suggested Council put this item on next month’s agenda.

Councilman Dvornick reported that there is a meeting on “Town and Regional Planning to Insure Livability and Profitability” on May 26. He wants Council to attend.

Councilman Prettyman made a ***motion*** that the Town pay for Planning & Zoning, Council and employees to attend. Councilman Dvornick seconded the motion.

Motion carried – “Aye”

Executive Session

Councilwoman Melson made a ***motion*** to go into Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Hudson

Motion carried – “Aye”

Council went into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Johnson
Administrative Assistant

:6/1/04