

TOWN OF
Millersburg

Town Council Meeting Minutes

~~March 12, 2025~~
February 26, 2025

Attendees: MacKenzie Taylor, Larry & Alice Randolph, Dean Smith, Dana Rutter, Corey Oberlin, Gale Gerber, Avery Ferguson, Patty Myers, Neil Cripe, Jim Winkler, Ray Rodriguez, Rita Van Voorst, and Vernon Miller.

Dean called the meeting to order.

Dean made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 26, 2025. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Water: Avery began by telling the council nothing is new. The chlorine pumps are fixed. Avery is working on getting scheduled with Stouder to have another item worked on.

Wastewater: Avery said, the cold weather has messed up some equipment functions. Everything is operating back to normal now. Dean asked if there was a report on the UV project? Avery said, nothing yet. He is waiting on project specifics from Commonwealth to begin determining details and financing. Avery said, the project will not be until sometime next year.

Community Development: MacKenzie reminded everyone to have newsletter information to her by March 7.

Crystal from Abonmarche reached out to her saying the survey responses went from 21 to 44. MacKenzie asked Avery to repost about taking the survey. MacKenzie's goal is to get 100 responses.

Maintenance: Corey said he has a video to show the council. The video was of the dump truck where the bed attaches. Corey explained, it's broke in half and welded on. Larry said, it's been neglected over the years. Corey mentioned there is something going on with the breaks, also. It keeps dinging and it's starting really hard. Corey suggested maybe the blow plugs are getting bad. Corey asked if he could take it to BoDick's Diesel to get it looked at. Dean gave Corey approval to take the dump truck to BoDick's Diesel to get it looked at. Dean said bring them a cost estimate of the work if they're able to figure it out. Larry agreed the matter was worth looking into. Larry asked about the price of a new dump truck, Corey replied no. It's probably more than we want to deal with.

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The councils had quotes for a new maintenance pick-up truck. Dean asked Corey to tell him about this. Corey said, he doesn't know if this needs to be done because of the issues that have arose with the dump truck. Dean told Corey; he's not against it. Corey said, we'll just see what the dump truck needs. Larry said, if we do decide to get a new maintenance truck, get rid of that blue pick-up truck. Corey said he looked at Bluebook for a trade in value and it would be \$15,000 and the 09 would be \$10,000. This does not include the plows. Corey said, he doubts the current plows would fit on a new truck. Dean agreed because of the different body sizes.

Marshal: Ray explained to the council he sat in on the meeting with MacKenzie and Addie for Verkada. After speaking with them, it sounds like Verkada would be quite a bit cheaper. The cameras even seem to be a better quality. A representative is coming on site next Thursday to give us a livestream trial and I will be able to discuss more with him. Dana said we will just table this until the next meeting.

Park: Vernon said it's starting to warm up, but not a whole lot. He was able to take one tree down yesterday. With the snow melting there's a lot of standing water. The new signs are up for disc golf and Troy wants to have a grand opening of the course sometime in April.

Clerk Treasurer: The Annual Financial Report has been submitted to Gateway and advertised in the Goshen News as required. Suzy Bass has signed off on the AFR. MacKenzie told the council, she is now presenting them with this information and ask for them to sign off on her copy that she had presented the AFR to them. All council members signed off.

MacKenzie presented the council with the bank reconciliation for January 2025. Suzy Bass has signed off on the January bank rec. All council members signed off on the January bank rec as well.

MacKenzie let the council know the Clerk Treasurer's Office will be closed from March 17- March 20 due to the ILMCT training in Plainsfield. Addie is going with MacKenzie, she thought this would be a great learning experience for Addie. MacKenzie told the council she will have Avery post something on Facebook alerting resident's the office will be closed.

Avery reminded the council he will be gone the entire week of March 10th for his conference in French Lick.

Old Business: Larry said Brian Yoder isn't here but let's talk about the drain problem. It was suggested to dig on the south side of Walnut Street to see where that drain goes. Corey mentioned, he thought it was underneath the tax place. Dean asked, where does it come up? Corey speculates the drain was maybe crushed. Corey said, a camera needs to be ran through there. Jim Winkler mentioned Bill's Heating has cameras, but other places do as well. Dean said, let's find out where it goes and if we need to open something up. Larry said, when that matter is resolved another look needs to be taken at Kimberlin's. Larry said, he knows Matt dug some of it up, but Larry doesn't believe Matt dug enough. Dean suggested having this area scoped as well.

Avery informed the council the new light should be worked on tomorrow in Timber Valley. MacKenzie told Avery she received a call from a gentleman in Timber Valley asking what all of the flags were for? MacKenzie told the gentleman she thought they were for the new light pole and possibly for the 2025-01 CCMG if they were in everyone's yard. MacKenzie asked, how long they need to remain in the yard? Gale said he would check and let MacKenzie know.

Corey mentioned, locates were completed at the maintenance department. Maybe they will start on the fence this week.

New Business: MacKenzie gave Dean the agreement contract between the Town and Niblock. Chad Niblock had already signed the document. Dean and MacKenzie's signature was needed for the agreement. MacKenzie and Dean both signed the agreement.

Rita mentioned Farmer's Day will be August 15th and August 16th. Dean asked about the electric box? Vernon said they are coming out to take care of it. Vernon told Melissa as soon as he gets back, I want him to come out and look. The electrician is going to look at all three and get those taken care of. Dean asked if anything else needs to be done before Farmer's Day? Vernon said after those three posts are done, we will be set.

Rita mentioned there are many trash cans that aren't pulled up after trash has been collected. Rita said, she's just a spokes person for people here in town. She said, it's starting to warm up and some people can't go on the sidewalks, like Carl Wheeler (he is in a mobilized wheel chair) because those bins sit in the middle of the sidewalk. MacKenzie said she would put out a question in regard to an ordinance over this matter on the listserv. Larry told MacKenzie to post something about this on the next water bill.

Rita said, there are a lot of tagged vehicles that are still sitting idle. Rita said she can give the addresses of those and trash sitting around.

Neil Cripe is the President for the Fairfield Youth League. He explained the youth league provides events for tee ball, baseball, and softball throughout the community. They also have programs for jr. high. Typically, jr. high plays in Millersburg and the littles at New Paris. We have worked with Millersburg for a number of years and we want to make sure we can secure this location for playing games and having practices. This is the 5th season with the jr. high team. We are a feeder into the high school program. Neil would like to discuss pricing. Neil said, when we come to request time for the games and practices, we typically use the north east side diamond. We've been able to use more or less of that diamond from April to the beginning of July for games and practices and he is hopeful to continue that. The Town has updated their park rental form and prices have increased since 2024. Neil said, what he is asking since this year the rental agreement is new to us, the players have already paid their dues and fees, can we have it deferred this year and start it next year or have the rental fee reduced as much as possible? Neil explained, he does not have it in the budget for this season. He said he understands the reasoning behind the fee to rent to other companies and teams. He asked if we could work together to find a common ground? Neil said, this is a great program and it continues to grow every year. It was asked how many teams would be using the Millersburg diamonds? Neil replied, three teams and he would just need to one diamond. MacKenzie asked if they have a schedule yet. Neil said it's being worked on and typically comes out mid to late March or early April. The boys summer league is what we play in. Games start the first of May and we'd use the field Tuesday's, Thursday's, and Saturday's. It was asked, what does it normally cost you to rent diamonds? Neil replied, it hasn't ever cost us anything and that's why I came here when I found out because it's a significant cost for us to overcome. Jr. High has used the fields since 2020 and games are hosted there as well. So, \$1300-\$1400 is a lot to come up with after we've already had the players pay their fees. MacKenzie asked what the boys are charged. Neil said \$190. If we are to stick with that fee, then each player is looking at about \$230 or \$240 to play. Dana said he still has money leftover from the sale of the American Legion. Dana told Neil, let him talk to his other officers and see if they would be okay in donating \$1300-\$1400 to cover your season. Neil thanked Dana for the consideration. Neil said, for next year, please let him know the cost and if we need to charge the kids more by August. MacKenzie told Neil they would be in touch about the upcoming season to see what they could do.

Jim mentioned, in regard to the youth league, he thinks it'd be fair to waive the fee completely for next year too because they are apart of our community.

Jim asked, what is the outcome on the entrance on SR-13? Vernon said there's still hope. Jim asked how much is needed? MacKenzie replied with \$17,050, do you want to donate? Jim laughed and said, I'll have to think about it.

Avery had a conversation with Maggie Mast about standing water/flooding issues in her area. There is a ditch but they don't go anywhere. Timber Valley seems to have the same issue. Avery wasn't sure what the best solution to this would be. Larry said he spoke with the former builder of Timber Valley and County approved all of his plans. They only required on drain. It was suggested to have Commonwealth take a look at this. Larry told Gale to include Corey along in this venture with Avery so everyone is on the same page.

Dean made a motion to pay bills. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote the bills were unanimously approved.

Dean made a motion to adjourn. Larry seconded the motion. Upon voice vote it was unanimously approved to adjourn.

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MacKenzie Taylor
Clerk Treasurer

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Dean Smith
Council President