

Richard C. McCarthy Commission Chamber  
Millville City Hall  
Work Session  
May 3, 2022, 5:30 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners met in a **WORK SESSION** with Mayor Orndorf presiding. Members present: Hewitt, Sooy and Romanik. Absent: McQuade. City Solicitor, Brock Russell was also present.

#### **Salute to the Flag**

The Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Orndorf.

#### **Open Public Meeting Statement by City Clerk**

"This meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975 and was advertised, posted and made available to the public as required by Statute. The Municipal Clerk is directed to include a statement in the minutes of this meeting."

#### **City Clerk To Review Changes To the Agenda**

The City Clerk stated that the following discussion item was added to the work session this evening:

An Ordinance of the City of Millville amending and supplementing Chapter 11. Bureau of Permits and inspections, Article VI. Removal and Disposal of Harmful Matter, Vegetation and Bulk Waste of the City of Millville Municipal Code entitled "Brush, Grass and Weeds" to prohibit future planting and regulate the existing plantings of invasive species of vegetation within the City.

#### **Public Comment**

Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion open on agenda items only and asked if any person present wished to be heard.

There being no response Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion on agenda items closed.

Commissioner McQuade entered the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

#### **Discussion Items**

Vice-Mayor Sooy announced that the issue with all the trailers that were parked on 15<sup>th</sup> Street has been resolved by the Traffic Safety Bureau with Commissioner Hewitt responding that they are all gone and all the yellow lines have been repainted and cannot be missed.

Vice-Mayor Sooy reported that some redevelopers are not abiding by the redevelopment agreements that they have entered into with the city, therefore Mr. Russell is taking the necessary action to address same and in addition they are consulting with a few lawyers to assist with the redevelopment agreements, due to the complexity of the agreements.

Mayor Orndorf reported that her department has been receiving several calls regarding bamboo, which is a very invasive species and after conducting some research with other neighboring municipalities who have ordinances in place, she has learned that the ordinances are difficult to enforce. She reached out to the public for any feedback regarding bamboo, because bamboo is very invasive and hard to get rid of and is a nuisance.

Greg Keers advised that rhizome paper is what most backyard gardeners use to get rid of bamboo, which is the only way to stop the spread of bamboo.

Vice-Mayor Sooy thanked Mr. Keers for his advice and stated that he did not see the point in trying to pass an ordinance that the city officials cannot enforce with Mayor Orndorf advising that the ordinance would have a grandfather clause, meaning that if people already had bamboo, they would have to demonstrate to the city of how they would contain the bamboo so it doesn't spread.

Further discussion took place regarding the difficulties in enforcing a bamboo ordinance, the invasiveness of bamboo and the damage it can cause to home foundations and the fairness of holding homeowners financially responsible, if they did not plant the bamboo.

Mayor Orndorf and Vice-Mayor Sooy concluded that they would like further input from the public before taking any further action by means of enacting an ordinance.

#### **Public Comment**

Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion open and asked if any person present wished to be heard.

There being no response Mayor Orndorf declared the public comment portion closed.

#### **Closed Session Resolution**

The City Clerk read the following resolution:

Resolution No. 144-2022 authorizing a Closed Session meeting for the following matter:

I. Potential Sale of City-Owned Property in James Hurley Industrial Park specifically part of Block 136 Lot 1 as part of a Redevelopment Project –  
Pending Contract Negotiations & Attorney/ Client Privilege

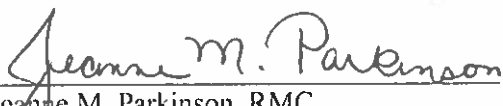
Vice-Mayor Sooy made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Hewitt. The motion was carried by the following vote: Yeas: Hewitt, Sooy, McQuade, Romanik and Orndorf.

The Board of Commissioners proceeded to the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room and held the executive session. Upon completion the Board of Commissioners returned to the dais.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further comments the meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Commissioner Hewitt and seconded by Commissioner Romanik subject to the call of the chair. All were in favor. None were opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jeanne M. Parkinson, RMC  
City Clerk