

Milltown Residents Facing Tax and Utility Rate Increases



At the June 20, 2017 Special Meeting, the Milltown Borough Council voted to spend up to \$15,500,000.00 for a new Municipal Complex on the site at 50 Washington Avenue adjacent to The Mill Condominium Development. The vote was 4-2 along party lines – with Republicans voting in favor of the spending and Democrats voting against the spending.

While there are still many questions regarding the project which remain unanswered, it is apparent that this unprecedented expenditure will be made with limited input from Milltown residents. This is in stark contrast to the nonpartisan committee of Borough residents which was created to design and oversee the construction of the new \$14 million Borough electric substation. The substation committee conducted countless public meetings to design a project which was functional, yet fiscally responsible. No committee was formed for this new project; nor have public meetings been conducted concerning its design.

As a result of the new Municipal Complex, a home assessed at the Borough average will see an increase in their taxes amounting to \$230.00 per year. This increase is in addition to a 7 percent electric rate increase; a 3 percent water/sewer rate increase; and a 10 percent water and sewer increase announced earlier this year by the Borough Council.

While most residents have been silent regarding the proposed expenditures for the new Municipal Complex, such silence is clearly the result of special meetings and a process which limits resident participation. It must not be dismissed as affirmation of the actions taken by the Borough Council.

This project will burden residents both in the near term and for years to come. Every effort should be made to solicit public participation in the design and planning in order to limit the burden on the Borough taxpayers.



The site of the new Municipal Complex prior to demolition.





The new Milltown Electric Substation.



Paid for by: Milltown Democratic Organization
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