



Town of Sykesville

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Town House

Stacy Link, Mayor

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager

Jennifer Livesay, Town Treasurer

Kerry G. Kavaloski, Town Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 25-02**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, February 10, 2025. Council President Carter called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Town House Council Chambers. Council President Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Council President Anna Carter, and Council Members Mark Dyer, Alan Grasley, Elizabeth Guroff, Leo Keenan, and Jeremiah Schofield.

ABSENT: Mayor Stacy Link

STAFF: Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager
Kerry Kavaloski, Town Clerk
Michael Spaulding, Police Chief
Jennifer Livesay, Town Treasurer

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- **Minutes from January 27, 2025**

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned to approve the item on the Consent Agenda. Council Member Dyer seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- I. **Introduction of Ordinance NO. 2025-01: FY2025 Budget Revision**
Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, presented Ordinance NO. 2025-01: FY2025 Budget Revision. There is an overall increase of \$488,005 with the majority of the change being capital in nature. Adjustments include increasing revenues due to the three-year rolling average of income tax adjusting with the final FY2024 income tax payments, State Aid for Police Protection revenue has been lowered based on crime data, the interest accounts have produced more revenue than originally anticipated, and the Gate House restricted fund was used for the porch repair, so that was allocated properly in this revision.

Expenses for professional services have increased due to the Warfield lawsuits and an increase in general liability insurance, for Public Works and Sanitation due to replacing dumpsters and trash cans, Parks Maintenance due to a stormwater pond issue and the South Branch Park weigh station, the Historic Building increase is due to creating a line for the Station water bills, the Gate House due to the porch repair, Parks and Recreation increase is for equipment replacement, and the Capital Outlay increases are for streets and roads and the funding allocated to the Station project. Mr. Cosentini explained that the Administration and Public Safety budget lines did have changes; however, these changes offset completely, so they are not noted in the ordinance.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned to introduce Ordinance NO. 2025-01 and set the public hearing for February 24. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS:

- The next meeting is Monday, February 24, 2025.
- We have volunteer opportunities available as a Crossing Guard, and on the Police Auxiliary. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.
- Staff Updates
 - Town Manager Updates:
Mr. Cosentini announced that candidacy filing forms are available on the Town's website and are due by March 24 at noon. Staff is watching the forecasted weather and will ensure the public is informed if there are any delays to trash and recycling pickup. He announced that there have been internal discussions regarding code enforcement. Currently, code enforcement is handled on a complaint driven process.

Council Member Keenan asked for a Station update. Mr. Cosentini explained that the business owners are working on their site plan. Once that is completed, it will go back to the Maryland Historical Trust for a brief review, and then the building permit process will occur, including Town Planning Commission and Historic District Commission review.

- Treasurer's Report
Jennifer Livesay, Town Treasurer, presented the January 2025 Treasurer's Report. She explained that there is a positive cash flow due to receiving property tax revenues.
- Public Safety Report

Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of January 21 through February 2. There was a total of 465 reports, including 10 assist other agencies, 15 community policing events, 18 foot patrols, two incident reports, 254 patrol checks, and 27 traffic enforcement initiatives. He announced that Sergeant Lacy has been

instrumental in helping other local jurisdictions with cases. He also announced that the injured turkey vulture which was roaming around the Town House and Becks parking lots was safely trapped by the Department of Natural Resources and was taken to a rehabilitation facility. Chief Spaulding gave an update on the annual report for the Police Department, which includes a decrease in the number of assaults, burglaries, frauds, malicious destruction of property, overdoses, thefts, and stolen vehicles.

- Council/Commission Updates
 - Council Member Dyer announced that he attended the Managing the Strategic Cybersecurity Challenge class through the Academy for Excellence in Local Governance. He has an after-class report which he will provide to the Mayor and Mr. Cosentini.
 - Council Member Schofield announced that Planning Commission met on February 3. They will be reviewing a site plan for Parcel B in the Warfield Complex in March.
 - Council Member Keenan announced that Art and Wine Festival are on sale. The Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion group is heading a Black Heritage project. There will be live music on Main Street on Valentine's Day.
 - Council Member Grasley announced that the Historic District Commission will meet on February 26.
 - Council Member Guroff announced that the Parks and Recreation Commission will meet on February 27.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to adjourn meeting at 7:36 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Kavaloski**