

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2017 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**NO. 17-12**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, June 12, 2017. Mayor Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Meeting Room at the Town House. Mayor Shaw led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Ian Shaw, Council President Julia Betz, and Council Members, Anna Carter, Alan Grasley, Leo Keenan, Chris True, and Stacy Link.

**STAFF:** Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager  
Police Chief Michael Spaulding  
Evelyn Sweet, Town Treasurer  
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk  
Julie Della-Maria, Main Street Coordinator  
Jeremy Lindamore, Assistant Public Works Director  
Dennis Hoover, Town Attorney

Wayne David was recognized by the Mayor and Town Council for his bravery and actions which helped stop an attempted murder. The Mayor and Town Council proclaimed their gratitude to Mr. David, a recent recipient of the Carroll County Gold Medal of Valor.

Ellen Dix was in attendance to discuss the National Night Out event that will be held on August 1, 2017. There will be free food and over 30 vendors at the event. Ms. Dix was thanked for helping to organize the event again this year.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:** Dan Andersen suggested the meetings be audio recorded or possibly posted using Facebook Live. The meetings are already audio recorded. Staff will look into posting the audio on the Town website.

**MINUTES:** May 22, 2017

**MOTION:** **Council President Betz motioned and Council Member True seconded to approve the minutes with the revisions provided.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**REPORT:** Jeremy Lindamore, Assistant Public Works Director, presented an update to the Mayor and Town Council. He has been working to improve contact with the other Public Works employees. He has morning meetings with them and weekly meetings with Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager. He has started a checklist for keeping track of when parks and other open areas are mowed and maintained so they can better schedule maintenance. He announced

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that he is fixing up a trash can that was at the shop and hopes to have it installed at Burkett Park by Friday, June 16. They have collaborated with Mark Onheiser, Special Projects Coordinator, to install benches on the Linear Trail, install the wayside exhibits, cut trees, and seal the entrances to Warfield buildings. The trustees help, and it is a good resource to have, but Mr. Lindamore said the job would get done without them. One trustee is released at a time and only for a period of around 90 days, so by the time one has gained experience and knows how to best help, they are no longer eligible for work release. The Mayor and Council thanked Mr. Lindamore for all of his hard work since Ron Esworthy retired.

### TREASURER'S

**REPORT:** April 2017

**MOTION:** Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Link seconded to approve the April 2017 Treasurer's Report.

The motion carried unanimously.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

**REPORT:** Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of May 18, 2017 through June 8, 2017. There were a total of 625 reports including 79 Calls for Service, four Community Policing events, 311 Patrol Checks, and 57 Traffic Enforcement Initiatives. Several wallets were either found or turned in to the Police Department during this period. The owners were contacted and the wallets returned.

The Mayor asked if it was possible for the officers to contact Tim Weber, the Drug Treatment and Education Liaison for the Carroll County State's Attorney's Office, when they respond to a drug overdose to attempt to get the person some treatment right away instead of waiting to possibly be diverted into treatment plans through the court. Chief Spaulding announced that the Sheriff's Office gets a detailed report of each overdose, and the State's Attorney's Office reaches out to drug offenders to try to get them help. A drug taskforce is also brought in to try to locate the source of the drugs. The county will be hiring another person to help Tim Weber. There are also State and County hotlines that can be called if people need help. The drug offenders need help, but families can also benefit from education.

Chief Spaulding announced that he and Officer Nick Betcher participated in the Torch Run last weekend to support the Special Olympics.

### COUNCIL COMMITTEE

#### REPORTS:

- **Sykesville Parks and Recreation (SPARC)** – Council Member Carter announced that about 60 people turned out for the June Movie in the Park event. The next movie is *The Hunger Games* on July 8. The Concerts in the Park series begins at the First Friday Block Party on July 7 on Main Street. The next SPARC meeting is on June 22 at 7 P.M.
- **Historic District Commission (HDC)** – Council Member Link announced that Jack White, Curator of the Gate House Museum, has given a presentation and

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will have another one on June 21 at 7 P.M. at the Town House. He has put in new window covers, fixed the front door screen, installed some new display lighting, and brought in an era-specific winding clock. The Boy Scouts helped clean up the yard, and the Public Works Department mulched. Most of the displays are up and Mr. White is now looking to advertise to let people know the Museum is open again. The next HDC meeting is on July 5 at 7 P.M.

- **Planning Commission** – Council President Betz announced that the County Freedom Plan is open for public comment until June 20. The draft Bike-Ped Master Plan was approved. They are mid-cycle for the review of the Town Master Plan. The next meeting will be on July 17 at 7 P.M.
- **Warfield Development Corporation** – Mayor Shaw announced that there were some board appointments. They are still working on the sixth amendment to sale agreement and are also working on an extension from the Commerce Department.
- Council Member True announced that a meeting for the Sustainable Communities will be scheduled for the end of June.
- **Main Street Association (MSA)** – Council Member Keenan announced that Scott Beck is no longer on the MSA Board. Mary Vaccarino from the Promotions Committee is now the Vice President of the MSA Board. There is a Promotions Committee meeting on June 13 at 7 P.M. at E.W. Becks. The Farmers' Market has purchased three misting stations to help keep people cool during the markets. They will also buy no parking signs that their volunteers will place on Mellor and Maple Avenues during the Farmers' Market. Pets at events are becoming more of an issue than before. Council Member Keenan will look into what other towns do and what the county does in an effort to create a better pet policy for the Town.

There was discussion about why the Farmers' Market changed location from Oklahoma Avenue to the parking lot at 714 Sandosky Road. While some people do not like the new location, the benefits of the location, larger space for vendors, no need for a road closure, the building in case of a rainy day, and being closer to Little Sykes Railroad, outweigh the old location benefits. It was suggested to put up signs letting people know what businesses are on Main Street, to have a handout with a directory of merchants, and to create tickets for S&P Railway.

Julie Della-Maria, Main Street Coordinator, announced that a \$2,000 grant was awarded for the community garden sign through the Green Committee. They have teamed with the Flying Dog Brewery to grow peppers in the community garden that the brewery will use in their beer.

The bike rack for Centennial Park is in the works. Rich Austin, the new chair of the Economic Development Committee, is planning the Carroll Business Academy, which will begin soon. They are thinking of moving the August Block Party to the Centennial Park to allow the businesses on the southern end of Main Street to have more participation. They will know more after the next Promotions Committee meeting. Ms. Della-Maria is also looking into a foam or bubble machine for the Coolest Mile on Main Street.

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Relay for Life occurred with no complaints that Ms. Della-Maria heard. She placed flyers on cars to help alert people that the parking lot would be closed. It was suggested to have the Relay for Life at the middle school next year. It would not require a road closure, and there would be more room for the relay.

Ms. Della-Maria announced that the snack shack painting will begin in September. The art club from a local high school will paint a mural on the shack for \$500 every three years including maintenance.

Ms. Della-Maria suggested turning the employee parking spaces into church parking spaces during the Farmers' Market. Signs will be placed saying "Church Parking from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. on Sundays during the Farmers' Market season.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- At the May 22, 2017 meeting, Bob Morris and Ken Johnson were appointed to the Warfield Development Corporation Board.
- Gate House Presentation, June 21, 7:00 P.M to 8:30 P.M. Jack White will be presenting on America's entry into World War I, and how it affected Carroll County and Sykesville, with particular emphasis on the 313th Infantry Regiment, also known as Baltimore's own.
- First Friday Block Party, July 7, 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. This month is an Independence Day Block Party Celebration!
- Lemonade Social at the Schoolhouse, July 8, 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
- Movies in the Park, July 8, The Hunger Games will begin at sundown
- Farmers' Market and Little Sykes, every Sunday 9:00 A.M to 1:00 P.M.

### OPEN SESSION:

#### Consent Agenda:

1. **Approval of on-call proposal with Kimley-Horn and Scott Scarfone**
2. **Authorization to apply for FY 18 SHA Recreational Trails grant**
3. **Appointment of Jeremiah Schofield to the Planning Commission**
4. **Approval of FY 2017 Budget Amendments**
5. **FY17 Budget Amendment – Operating Budget by Department**

Council President Betz asked for some clarification of item 1. The Mayor and Town Council will still get to vote on the use of Scott Scarfone; this is just the contract with the prices for services.

**MOTION: Council Member True motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

#### Business:

##### **6. Parking Update for Mellor, College, and Maple Avenues**

The MSA is purchasing signs to be placed on Mellor and Maple Avenues during the Farmers' Market. An officer met with the volunteers to show them the best places to put the signs. Chief Spaulding recommended continuing with the temporary signs on Mellor and Maple Avenues and placing

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permanent no parking signs on College Avenue and on Sandosky Avenue from College Avenue to the entrance to the car care shop.

**MOTION:** Council Member Carter motioned and Council Member Link seconded to place permanent no parking signs on College Avenue west of Route 32 and on Sandosky Avenue from College Avenue to the auto center.

The motion carried unanimously.

**7. Council Liaison Assignments**

Mayor Shaw announced the following Council Liaison assignments.

Julia – Planning Commission

Leo – Main Street Association

Al – Assistant Business Liaison

Anna – Sykesville Parks and Recreation

Stacy – Historic District Commission

Chris – Raincliffe Home Owners' Association and Sustainable Communities Work Group

**8. Town Projects Update**

Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager, put together the list of priorities so the Mayor and Town Council can see what is being worked on. Some items have deadlines that need to be taken into account.

**MOTION:** Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to take a five minute recess at 8:30 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** Council President Betz motioned and Council Member True seconded to go back into open session at 8:40 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

The meeting is proposed to be closed pursuant to the General Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b): (1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; and (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

**MOTION:** Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to go into closed session at 8:42 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Those in attendance were: Mayor Shaw, Council President Betz, Council Members Carter, Grasley, Keenan, Link, and True, Town Manager Dawn Ashbacher, and Town Attorney Dennis Hoover. Police Chief Spaulding attended for part of the closed session for the item related to Police Officer

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**appointment, as did Dennis Boyle of Lee and Associates for the item related to 714 Sandosky Road.**

**Items discussed were:**

- **Personnel** – Police Officer appointment – Confidential Personal Information – action
- **Consult with Legal Counsel** – 714 Sandosky Road disposition – no action
- **Consult with Legal Counsel** – Main Street Organization – no action
- **Consult with Legal Counsel** – Update on Warfield Contract Negotiations – no action
- **Personnel** – Public Works Director appointment – Confidential Personal Information – action
- **Personnel** – Warfield Development Corporation Board Appointments – Confidential Personal Information – action

**MOTION: Council Keenan motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to go back into open session at 10:36 P.M.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Carter seconded to adjourn meeting at 10:37 P.M.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted  
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney**