

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2017 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NO. 17-22

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Tuesday, November 28, 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: David Deutsch, Interim Town Manager
Police Chief Michael Spaulding
Sergeant Shawn Kilgore
Derek Shreves, Public Works Director
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Dennis Hoover, Town Attorney

PUBLIC CONCERNS: None

MINUTES: November 13, 2017

MOTION: Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to approve the minutes with the revisions provided via email and in person.

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

REPORT: Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of November 9, 2017 to November 22, 2017. There was a total of 425 reports including 52 calls for service, 9 community policings, 52 traffic enforcement initiatives, and 220 patrol checks. Chief Spaulding explained that the incident of graffiti in Warfield was not an arrest; it was vandalism noticed by an officer during a patrol check of the area.

Chief Spaulding reported that the department is working through some issues with the speed trailer. There are periods of time when it did not get enough sunlight to the solar panels to remain on. They are working to find a solution.

Chief Spaulding also announced that the same route will be taken for Santa's arrival this year. There will be a full road closure instead of a rolling road closure that was used in the past.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

REPORTS: Written reports were provided.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Recycling will not be picked up on Thursday, November 30, because it was picked up on November 27
- 12 Hours of Christmas First Friday, December 1, 10A.M to 10 P.M., for every \$10 spent at participating businesses, get a raffle ticket to enter to win gift baskets!
- O Christmas Tree open house at the Schoolhouse, December 2, 2 P.M. to 4 P.M., come make festive, old-fashioned decorations for the holidays.
- Santa's Arrival! December 2, 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.
- Cookies on Main Street, December 8, 6 P.M to 8 P.M.
- Merry Main Street, December 9, 12 P.M to 4 P.M

OPEN SESSION:

Business:

1. Discussion of First Fridays

Mary Vaccarino was in attendance to discuss this with the Mayor and Town Council. She explained that originally the First Fridays were a merchant led effort that blended with the Main Street Association's block parties. The merchants want to try to bring First Fridays back to what they were originally, an encouragement for people to shop local rather than a large block party. They are not asking for any road closures for the First Fridays. The proposed August First Friday will have food trucks. It was agreed that the trucks would face the sidewalks so people will not have to walk into the street to buy food.

The Mayor and Town Council agreed that this was just the schedule and for larger First Friday events, a plan would be submitted once all of the details were worked out.

2. Discussion of the Pets at Town Events Policy

Chief Spaulding presented his research from other Towns and his proposed ordinance banning pets at Town events. He explained that all of the officers have received training on how to identify a service dog, including the two questions that are legally allowed to be asked. He also explained that people can lie about their pet being a service animal, but if the animal acts inappropriately, such as barking or aggressive behavior, the officers can have the animal removed.

It was agreed to change the wording for the infractions to "per incident" rather than "per day". The first infraction will also result in a verbal warning rather than a fine.

Chief Spaulding will revise the proposed ordinance and will send it to Dennis Hoover, Town Attorney, for his comments.

3. Discussion of Site Plan Review

David Deutsch, Interim Town Manager, presented a memo to the Mayor and Town Council detailing his research into site plan review policies from other towns. The Mayor and Town Council were split between wanting a policy that is specific and lists a lot of events that would lead to a site plan review and

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wanting a policy that is broad and less specific that would possibly cover more situations. Mr. Deutsch's memo will be sent to the Planning Commission for their comments and suggestions.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council President Betz seconded to take a five minute recess at 7:48 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to go back into open session at 7:58 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.

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to go into closed session at 7:59 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Those in attendance were: Mayor Shaw, Council President Betz, Council Members Carter, Grasley, Keenan, Link, and True, Interim Town Manager David Deutsch, and Executive Search Consultant, Lee Szymborski of GovHR USA.

Items discussed were:

- **Personnel** – Discussion with Executive Search Consultant about Town Manager Applicants – Confidential Personal Information

MOTION: Council Member Keenan motioned and Council Member Carter seconded to go back into open session at 9:44 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member True motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to adjourn meeting at 9:45 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney