

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2017 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NO. 17-20

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, October 23, 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: Police Chief Michael Spaulding
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Julie Della-Maria, Main Street Coordinator
Dennis Hoover, Town Attorney

PUBLIC CONCERNS: None

MINUTES: October 10, 2017

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

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

REPORT: Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of October 5 through October 18, 2017. There were a total of 389 reports including 54 calls for service, 11 community policing events, 198 patrol checks and 39 traffic enforcement initiatives. Chief Spaulding explained that the patrol checks have paid off, and two girls were caught trespassing in the Warfield Complex. The officers patrol so frequently that they can notice when a window or door has been opened or damaged.

Chief Spaulding also announced that the speed trailer has been deployed recently. If citizens believe there is a speeding problem on a particular street, they are encouraged to contact the Police Department to request the trailer.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

REPORTS:

- Written reports were provided.
- The Mayor announced that the Memorandum of Understanding between the Main Street Association and the Town was signed tonight.
- Thanks was given to Stewart Dearie, Dave Neith, Julie Della-Maria, and the entire Design Committee for their hard work with the Bike Rack and the dedication for the Bike Rack.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- At the last Mayor and Town Council meeting, Joyce Mills was hired as a Post Office worker
- At the last Mayor and Town Council meeting, the Mayor was authorized to finalize and sign the MOU with the Main Street Association
- Halloween on Main Street, Thursday, October 26, 5-7 P.M.
- Last day for Farmers' Market and Little Sykes, October 29
- Halloween trick or treating throughout the Town will be Tuesday, October 31, 6 P.M. – 8 P.M.
- Craft Beer Festival, Saturday, November 4, 12-5 P.M.
- Town Offices are closed on Friday, November 10 for Veterans Day

OPEN SESSION:

Consent Agenda:

1. **Approval of Planning Commission Appointment**
2. **Approval of Purchase of Pickup Truck in Public Works Department using State Cooperative Bidding Program**

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Link seconded to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

Business:

3. **Formal Approval of the Draft Town Manager Profile**

The profile was approved via email by the Mayor and Council. Council Member True asked whose daughter was on page four of the profile and if we had permission from the child's parents to use her photograph. The child in question is the daughter of Julie Della-Maria, and she was the one who submitted the photograph to the recruiting company for use in the profile. She agreed to sign a waiver giving the Town permission to use her daughter's photograph.

MOTION: Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to formally approve the Town Manager Profile.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Discussion of the Hiring Process of the Town Manager**

Mayor Shaw explained that during the last recruitment process, a meet and greet was held to allow the public a chance to meet the candidates. He wanted the Council's opinions as to if this is needed for this recruitment. Council Member True thought the last meet and greet was helpful, and it worked well when the Chief was hired.

The meet and greet would take place with the top three or four candidates who are invited to interview with the Mayor and Council. The interviews will be only with the Mayor and Council.

Julie Della-Maria asked if there would be an advisory committee for merchants

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and citizens to be a part of the decision process. Mayor Shaw requested input from the recruitment company about the advisory committee, but he explained that ultimately the decision is up to him and the Town Council.

5. Discussion of Ownership of the Blue Caboose

Stewart and Ridia Dearie have expressed interest in the old blue caboose that is currently sitting on the dead line. Mrs. Dearie explained that their idea is to turn the caboose into a private dining area. On nights when food wasn't being served, they were considering a pop-up speakeasy.

Dennis Hoover explained that he doesn't believe the donation can be rescinded because it was accepted by Howard County. The blue caboose is now technically their property, not the Town's property.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Link seconded to rescind the donation of the blue caboose to Howard County pursuant on the legal details being worked out.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to take a five minute recess at 7:41 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Link seconded to go into open session at 7:55 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 President Betz motioned and Council Member Link seconded to go into closed session at 7:56 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Those in attendance were: Mayor Shaw, Council President Betz, Council Members Carter, Grasley, Keenan, Link, and True, and Town Attorney Dennis Hoover.

Items discussed were:

- **Personnel** – Gate House Curator – Confidential Personal Information – no action
- **Personnel** – Staff Updates – Confidential Personal Information – no action

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MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member True seconded to go back into open session at 8:30 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

A proclamation is needed for the Maryland Municipal League declaring November as Municipal Government Works month.

MOTION: Council President Betz motioned and Council Member True seconded to declare November as Municipal Government Works month.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Shaw will ensure that the Proclamation gets prepared and can be signed at the next Mayor and Town Council meeting on November 13.

MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Carter seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney