



Town of Sykesville

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Town House

Ian Shaw, Mayor

Dawn M. Ashbacher, Town Manager

Linda S. Quinn, Town Treasurer

Janice M. Perrault, Town Clerk

APPROVED

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2014 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 14-01**

The regular Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on January 13, 2014. 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 to the flag and a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Mayor Ian Shaw, Council Members Julia Betz, Anna Carter, Stacy Link and Al Grasley

ABSENT: Council President Robert and Council Member Keenan

STAFF: Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager
Sgt. Shawn Kilgore, Interim Police Chief
Janice Perrault, Town Clerk

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Nothing mentioned

MINUTES: December 9, 2013

MOTION: Council Member Betz motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to approve the minutes as written.

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

REPORT: Sergeant Kilgore reported on the period from December 5 through December 8. There were a total of 185 calls for service which included 18 assists to other police agencies/departments outside the Town.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

REPORTS:

- **Historic District Commission** – Council Member Link announced at the last meeting the Commission reviewed 4 applications. The next meeting will be held on January 28.
- **Warfield Development Corporation** – Mayor Shaw announced the next meeting for WDC is scheduled for February 5.
- **Planning Commission** – Council Member Betz announced at the last meeting, the Commission discussed the joint meeting held with

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the Council and they indicated that it was a positive experience. The next meeting is scheduled for February 3.

- **Main Street Association, Promotions Committee** – Council Member Grasley announced the SYK Awards will be held on January 25 at Fairhaven Community Center. The next meeting is scheduled for February 5.
- **Parks & Recreation Committee** – Council Member Carter announced the next meeting will be held on January 23.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On December 9, 2013, in closed session, the Mayor and Town Council voted to approve the hiring of Andra Dennett as the Curator of the Gate House Museum with a salary of \$10.00 per hour on a part-time basis.

Saturday, January 25, 2014 – the Main Street Association will hold their second annual SYK Awards reception. This will be held at the Fairhaven Community Center.

Monday, January 20, 2014 – the Town offices will be closed for Martin Luther King Day.

Maryland Municipal League Scholarship – There will be three \$1,000 scholarships awarded this year to Carroll County students. The application is available on our website.

Police Chief search update – the Town received 75 resumes and they were given to the International Association of Chief of Police to review and narrow down the candidates for phone interviews. It is anticipated the Town will start the interview process mid-February.

February 7, 2014 – Main Street will host “I left my heart on Main Street” and will feature wine and chocolate tasting.

BUSINESS:

1. **Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities and Towns Campaign** – Mayor Shaw indicated this campaign is in partnership with the Maryland Municipal League (MML) and will assist with adopting local policies that promote access to healthy, affordable foods, opportunities for physical activity and recreation, and workplace wellness for employees. To join this campaign, the Town must adopt a resolution indicating efforts the Town will make. Mayor Shaw requested staff to draft a resolution and Council Member Betz indicated she would help.
2. **Introduction: FY 2015-2019 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)** – Mayor Shaw presented FY 2015-2019 capital requests. This is not the proposed plan rather a list of all requests. The FY 2015 budget is anticipated to accommodate a total of approximately \$250,000 in capital expenditures.

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- 3. FY 2015 pre-budget input from the public and Council** – This was an opportunity for members of the public and the Council to share funding requests or concerns early in the budget process before a budget is proposed. This input will be considered in making the FY 2015 budget recommendations.

Comments from the public included the following:

- Trees along most town roads should be cut so tall items such as boats will not get damaged by hanging branches.
- The 32 gallon trash can limit should be changed to a 42 gallon size so residents can purchase cans with attachable lids.
- The Town should install an arm on the trash trucks to pick up larger trash cans.
- What is the status of Norwood Avenue paving? There was an issue with a residence. A solution has been designed. Paving Norwood Avenue will be proposed for FY 2015.

Comments from the Council included the following:

- Mulch for the playgrounds. It was requested by Council Member Betz to increase this line item for engineered wood fiber in all playgrounds.
- Council Member Betz mentioned that legislation is proposed that would eliminate the amount of alcohol license fees the Town receives.

- 4. Potential Schoolhouse Road development** – Mayor Shaw reported that at the joint meeting with the Planning Commission, discussion took place in reference to a development off of Schoolhouse Road. The proposal was to build 40-50 age-restricted single dwelling villas. If the Town agrees with this endeavor, the Town would need to annex land and provide a text amendment to the Zoning ordinance. Mayor Shaw requested Council to provide comment on this development as there are advantages and challenges to consider. Some supported this proposal and some did not. It was noted that two Council Members were absent.

- 5. Program Open Space (POS) land conversion update** – At the joint meeting on December 18, the Planning Commission encouraged the Mayor and Town Council to explore using the Patapsco Overlook parcel for the POS conversion. Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager, consulted with the state POS representative. Ms. Ashbacher and Bob Bond, Town Engineer, were unable to locate adequate buildable land on the Patapsco Overlook Parcel to provide equal recreational potential. Therefore, only the Little Sykes Property is suitable. The Town must conduct a Phase I environmental assessment of Little Sykes Railroad Park for the land conversion application. The public was given a chance to provide input. There were no comments.

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MOTION: Mayor Shaw motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to authorize a Phase I environmental assessment of Little Sykes Railroad Park for the Program Open Space land conversion.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mayor Shaw motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to approve the use of parcel C and part of parcel A as noted in the appraisal of Little Sykes Railroad Park for the Program Open Space land conversion for 731 and 732 Oklahoma Avenue.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Mayor Shaw seconded to take a five minute recess at 9:05 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

**CLOSED
SESSION:**

Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Link seconded to go into closed session at 9:17 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was proposed to be closed pursuant to the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 10-508(a) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

Those in attendance were: Mayor Shaw, and, Council Members Betz, Carter, Grasley, Link, Town Attorney Dennis Hoover and Town Manager Dawn Ashbacher.

Absent: Council President Robert and Council Member Keenan

Items discussed were:

- **Consult with legal counsel to discuss Warfield contract negotiations – No Action**

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Mayor Shaw seconded to go back into open session at 9:59 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

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MOTION TO

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Grasley motioned and Mayor Shaw seconded to adjourn meeting at 10:00 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Janice Perrault

Town Clerk