

Dear

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2021 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NO. 21-07

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, April 12, 2021. Mayor Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom.us. Mayor Shaw led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Mayor Ian Shaw, Council President Alan Grasley, and Council Members Anna Carter, Mark Dyer, Leo Keenan, Stacy Link, and Jeremiah Schofield.

STAFF: Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager
Police Chief Michael Spaulding
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Jana Antrobus, Executive Assistant
Derek Shreves, Public Works Director
Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

I. Minutes from March 22, 2021

Council Member Link requested the minutes be tabled until the next meeting so staff can include the names of the motioners and seconders for the nominations. Staff will make the changes and bring the minutes back for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

II. Introduction of Ordinance 2021-03 FY2022 Budget

Council Member Carter requested the FY2021 budget numbers to compare.

MOTION: Mayor Shaw motioned to introduce Ordinance NO. 2021-03 for the FY2022 Budget. Council Member Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

- There will be a Council Budget Workshop on Monday, April 26, 2021. This will be held via Zoom.

- We have volunteer opportunities available on the Historic District Commission, SPARC, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Police Auxiliary, and Crossing Guard. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.
- The Election is May 4! Mail-in voting applications are currently available on the Town website: townofsykesville.org or at the Town House. Polls are open May 4 from 8 AM to 8 PM.
- Staff Updates
 - o Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, announced there was a Warfield Citizen meeting where the developers discussed the current market. The developers are proposing to change the approved plan to include high density residential in the historic buildings. Any change to the approved plan would require a development review process and public input.
 - o Senate bill 885 was passed that will provide tax credit benefits for historic properties up to \$15,000,000. It is awaiting the Governor's signature now.
 - o The Town is working on writing a subrecipient agreement for the administration of the \$750,000 Strategic Demolition Grant. The developers have not provided a timeline for any work yet.
 - o Treasurer's Report
Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report for March 2021. There were no questions.

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to approve the March 2021 Treasurer's Report. Council Member Link seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

- o Public Safety Report
Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of March 15 through April 4. There was a total of 519 reports including nine assist other agencies, one community policing event, 26 foot patrols, 15 incident reports, 316 patrol checks, and 43 traffic enforcement initiatives.

Chief Spaulding explained the junk vehicle on Cedar Avenue was tagged with removal scheduled after 10 days. The owner of the vehicle moved it prior to it being towed. The graffiti at the Post Office was initials sprayed in white spray paint. There are currently no suspects. Officers will be ensuring the bathrooms are locked every night.

Chief Spaulding announced that field training with Officer Darby went well. He is starting on his own this week.

- Council/Committee Reports
 - o Council Member Link announced that SPARC did not meet, but the Plogging event was a success with over 100 participants. There were 30 bags of trash and 32 mason jars of cigarette butts collected. Council Member Link also announced that the SPARC Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt on April 2 was successful. Two families were selected as the winners out of 31 entries.
 - o Council President Grasley announced a merchant meeting was held on March 26. Joe Cosentini is invited to the next meeting to discuss lights over Main Street and other topics. They also discussed the plogging event, and merchants

provided \$5 coupons to participants. The Character Night scheduled for May 21 has been moved to July; a Pride event is scheduled for June 13. The next meeting is April 30.

Council President Grasley also announced that the merchants met with Commissioner Rothstein, Mayor Shaw, and Council Member Grasley for a roundtable discussion. Topics included Covid grant funding and Piney Run Park. Council Member Link suggested that as the only elected body in the Freedom District, an Advisory Committee could be created that would include some of the Town Council and would allow for comments on projects such as the County's decision on Piney Run Park. Mayor Shaw noted that he had a discussion with Commissioner Rothstein to ensure the Town will be notified in the future of similar situations.

- o Council Member Schofield announced that there was not a Raincliffe HOA meeting since the last Council meeting. He also announced that he sent in a few comments for the Comp Plan and overall was very impressed with the efforts put into its creation.
- o Council Member Carter announced that the next HDC meeting is scheduled for April 27 at 7 PM.
- o Council Member Keenan announced that there was no DSC meeting since the last Council meeting. There are two new businesses on Main Street, Natural Aesthetic Med Spa and Tidal Salt. Julie Della-Maria is participating in a "Main Street Now" virtual conference. The Farmers' Market begins May 16 with a Covid compliant model that was approved by the County Health Department. The Art and Wine Festival is no longer viable due to Covid restrictions, so Julie is working with Town staff for an alternative limited event called "Get Syked to Game on Main" which will have video gaming trucks along Main Street. The garden was cleaned up on April 10, and the Schoolhouse Garden was cleaned up on April 18. Grant funding has been disbursed to help Sykesville businesses. Julie is applying for a \$5,000 Keep Sykesville Beautiful grant, and a grant application was submitted to M&T Bank to help sponsor the Craft Beer Festival.
- o Joe Cosentini gave updates from Council Member Dyer. Planning Commission met on April 5 and discussion was mostly centered around the Comp Plan draft. Commissioners noted the decrease in the Municipal Growth Area from the 2010 Comp Plan and asked to have it reconsidered. Warfield was discussed and language was added to clarify that a process still exists for approvals from the Historic District Commission, Planning Commission, and Town Council. They also asked to modify the language to say the Town may consider a hybrid approach to updating its zoning ordinance and include a definition of hybrid zoning.
- o Mayor Shaw thanked Dave Lewis from St. Paul's United Methodist Church for picking up trash from Obrecht Road to Third Avenue and down Harlan Lane.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President Grasley motioned and Council Member Dyer seconded to adjourn meeting at 7:57 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Town Clerk Kerry Chaney