



Town of Sykesville

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Town House

Stacy Link, Mayor

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager

Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer

Kerry G. Chaney, Town Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2022 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 22-01**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, January 10, 2022. Mayor Link called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Town House Conference Room. Mayor Link led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Mayor Stacy Link, Council President Anna Carter, and Council Members Alan Grasley, Elizabeth Guroff, Mark Dyer, and Leo Keenan.

ABSENT: Council Member Jeremiah Schofield

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

POLICE CHIEF – AUXILIARY RECOGNITION

Chief Spaulding presented a proclamation to Kevin Cox, former Sykesville Police Auxiliary Lieutenant, for his hard work and dedication during his tenure. Chief Spaulding also thanked Lieutenant Jeff Queen for stepping up as the new Auxiliary Commander.

CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Minutes from December 13, 2021
- II. Appointment of Brandon Smith to the Planning Commission for a 5-year term, expiring January 2027

MOTION: Council President Carter motioned to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Council Member Dyer seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- I. Public hearing on Ordinance NO. 2021-06 – Planning Commission

Mayor Link explained that this ordinance was unchanged from the previous meeting. It is to codify some of the practices that the Planning Commission currently do and would also establish an alternate position on the Commission.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned to open the public hearing at 7:13 P.M. Council Member Guroff seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

There were no public comments on Ordinance NO. 2021-06

MOTION: Mayor Link motioned to close the public hearing at 7:14 P.M. Council President Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

II. Consider/Discuss/Act on Ordinance NO. 2021-06 – Planning Commission

Council Member Dyer asked if the Planning Commission had been made aware of the proposed ordinance. Chairman Steve Enslow was consulted on the proposed ordinance and is in full support of it.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned to approve Ordinance NO. 2021-06 – Planning Commission. Council President Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

III. Introduction of Ordinance NO. 2022-01 – FY2022 Budget Revision

Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, explained that most of the increase in revenues was from grant reimbursements and impact fees. The public safety training line was increased to allow more auxiliary officers to be sent through the academy. Another increase is to allow for street sweeping of some Town roads in an attempt to continue beautification. The Town House building maintenance line is for security upgrades at the front door and improvements for the server area.

Mr. Cosentini also explained that an additional increase will be added before the next meeting for security cameras in Millard Cooper Park and South Branch Park along with some along Main Street. The cameras in Millard Cooper Park will be able to get footage of someone going into the tunnel, however it will not be able to see fully into the tunnel. The cameras will not be watched at all times, but live feeds can be pulled by the officers along with recordings for investigative purposes.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned to introduce Ordinance NO. 2022-01 – FY2022 Budget Revision. Council Member Dyer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- IV. **Consider/Discuss/Act on an Engagement Letter for a Town Attorney**
Mr. Cosentini explained that the Town has been looking for a new town attorney since the passing of Dennis Hoover. After reviewing qualifications and interviewing candidates, Elissa Levan was selected as the new town attorney.

MOTION: Council Member Keenan motioned to approve the engagement letter for Elissa Levan to serve as the Town Attorney. Council Member Dyer seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

- The next meeting is Monday, January 24, 2022
- We have volunteer opportunities available on the Historic District Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Planning Commission, Police Auxiliary, and Crossing Guard. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.
- Staff Updates
 - Treasurer's Report
Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report for December 2021. He announced that several large checks were received for income tax, state aid for police protection, and highway user revenue funding.
 - Public Safety Report
Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of December 7, 2021 through January 3, 2022. There was a total of 808 reports including 31 assist other agencies, 11 community policing events, 15 foot patrols, 22 incident reports, 542 patrol checks, and 39 traffic enforcement initiatives. There were questions regarding the calls from Sykesville Station asking for additional police presence due to incidents. Chief Spaulding explained the incidents have been declining as the bar has gotten better at limiting alcohol to patrons. Officer will occasionally stop by on patrol and get a glass of water or coffee to make their presence known.

Council Member Guroff asked if there was an increase in the DUI incidents. Chief Spaulding explained that there is always a little increase in them during the holidays, but the increase was not significant.

Chief Spaulding announced that Annelise Young has passed the obstacle course section of the academy.
 - Joe Cosentini announced the zipline in Millard Cooper Park was reinstalled. The US Treasury has announced their final rule for the American Rescue Plan Act Funding. He will send Council additional dates for a strategic planning meeting.
- Council/Committee Reports
 - Council President Carter announced the Historic District Commission met on January 4, 2022 to review applications. Their next meeting is scheduled for January 25.
 - Council Member Guroff thanked Sykesville Parks and Recreation Commission (SPARC) for their hard work for the Santa's Arrival event. She discussed

additional family friendly events for SPARC to consider adding to their event schedule.

Council Member Guroff also announced that the survey regarding the youth council should be distributed in February.

- Council Member Keenan announced the Downtown Sykesville Connection has a meeting on Monday, January 17.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Grasley motioned and Council President Carter seconded to adjourn meeting at 7:43 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney**