

**STAFF REPORT FOR
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2016
MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF SYKESVILLE**

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER:

7:05 PM PUBLIC CONCERNS:

7:10 PM MINUTES: February 8, 2016

7:15 PM REPORTS:

- Public Safety Report
- Council Committee Reports

7:45 PM ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Saturday, February 27, the Mayor and Town Council Retreat will be held at the Town House starting at 9:00 am.

7:50 PM BUSINESS:

- 1. Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 294 – Maintenance of Roadside Vegetation and Trees** – The Mayor and Town Council introduced the Ordinance on February 8, and now a Public Hearing will be held to get comments from the public

Recommended Action: Open the Public Hearing, ask for comments from the public and then close the Public Hearing.

- 2. Approval of Ordinance No. 294 – Maintenance of Roadside Vegetation and Trees** – the Mayor and Town Council will provide their comments at this time.

Recommended Action: If in agreement, make a motion to approve Ordinance No. 294, An Ordinance To Amend The Code Of The Town Of Sykesville, By Adding Chapter 61, Providing For The Regulation And Control Of Vegetation Located On Roadside Property And Elsewhere Within The Town..

- 3. Main Street update – Farmers Market and staffing** – The Sykesville Farmers' Market is gearing up for the 2016 season and will again feature 20+ local vendors to offer a variety of goods and services to the community. Proposed changes to this year's Market season include:

- Loosening of producer-only guidelines to be more in line with regional Market practices. New guidelines will allow vendors to sell goods that they

produce, as well as goods purchased or consigned from any local producer that would otherwise meet the producer guidelines. All vendors will be required to sign commitment letters indicating their compliance with the new proposed guidelines.

- o An example of these new guidelines would be that a local farm can sell their own produced goods, as well as produced goods from another local farm that is not selling at our market – e.g., if Whitmore Farms solicits beef (which they do not produce) from another local producer within 50 miles of Sykesville, they would be permitted to sell that producer's beef.
- Expansion of Market footprint to include a portion of Oklahoma Avenue. This proposal is contingent on agreement from the Town and Church, as it would have a significant impact on traffic flow during Market events.
- “Local” continues to be defined as being either within a 100-mile radius from the SFM or located within a state that borders Maryland.
- Season is proposed to run from May 15 – October 30, with each event running from 9am-1pm.
- Temporary contractual Market Manager position is proposed to fulfill the duties of managing the Market.

Recommended Action: No action required. For information only, unless there are questions.

4. **South Branch Park – Skatepark helmet rules** – Dawn Ashbacher will provide an update regarding the skate park progress and next steps. One of the issues is producing a sign with the rules before it opens. There is one issue that conflicts regarding the use of helmets:
 - HOWARD COUNTY: Helmets are recommended, and you are encouraged to wear safety gear including elbow, knee, and wrist guards.

[Link to the Town Code Required safety equipment
<http://ecode360.com/6569544#6569570>.]

TOWN OF SYKESVILLE:

Section §92-4. Required Safety Equipment

Any person under the age of 17, while in the Town limits of Sykesville, operating, riding, or using a bicycle, scooter, skates, skateboard or motorized scooter on a public roadway, bicycle path, linear parkway, Town park, or any right-of-way under the jurisdiction and control of the Town shall wear a protective helmet designed for public safety. Such a helmet shall meet or exceed the standards set by the American National Standards Institute or the Director of the Department of Transportation standards.

Below are the other rules used by Howard County.

The Skate Park is not supervised. Please remember that all persons using this facility do so at their own risk.

- All Howard County park rules and regulations (Title 19) apply. Failure to comply with these rules will result in park closures, permanent loss of use of the facility, and/or prosecution.
- In the event of a serious accident, call 9-1-1 and advise the operator that you are at, 350 West Friendship Rd., Sykesville, MD 21784.
- The park is open daily from dawn until sunset daily unless otherwise posted. Closed when surfaces are wet, icy, or snow covered. Shoveling, use of ice melt/salt material will ruin the concrete surface. Without a fence, this must be stressed!
- No loitering, trespassing or skating when the park is closed.
- Graffiti and vandalism are not permitted in this park. Failure to comply will result in park closures, permanent loss of use of the facility, and/or prosecution.
- Gang activity, alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs are prohibited.
- Fighting and disruptive or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated.
- Profanity and recklessness will not be permitted.
- Contest or competitions are prohibited unless sanctioned by the Town of Sykesville
- Do not use park features or elements beyond your skill level.
- Unauthorized ramps and obstacles are prohibited.
- No food, drinks, or glass containers in the skating area.
- Please place all trash and recycling in appropriate receptacles.
- The Town of Sykesville does not assume responsibility for lost or stolen items.
- Everyone must enter and exit through designated areas only.
- No amplified sound in the Skate Park, parking lot, or surrounding areas.
- Personal music devices are permitted provided headphones are used.
- Skater etiquette is expected at all times.
- Have fun, be courteous, and skate safely at all times.

Recommended Action: If in agreement, motion to approve the use of Howard County skate park rules, including the helmet rule, for the skate park at South Branch Park.

5. **FY 2016 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments** - Dawn Ashbacher will provide an update on mid-year adjustments if the info is available. Approval is postponed until the March 14 meeting.

Recommended Action: No action required at this meeting.

9:30 PM Recess

9:35 PM CLOSED SESSION:

The meeting is proposed to be closed pursuant to the General Provisions of the Annotated

Council Staff Report
February 22, 2016

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. (3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition, and (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

- **Consult with Legal Counsel** –Property Acquisition and leases
- **Personnel** – Staffing updates and appointments – confidential personal information

ADJOURNMENT: