

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Sykesville Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance by President Michele Yamrick. In attendance were Michele Yamrick, President; Elaine Fike, Vice President; Nathan Alvetro, President ProTem; Council Members: Kurt Kister, Ron Morris, and Don Zimmerman; Mayor Gail Cunningham; Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito. Absent was Councilman Gabriel Sweka.

Visitors present were Kermit Tuning & Michelle Moore (Tuning Accounting), LuAnn Murray & Jeff Pisarcik, Justin Felgar (Punxsy Spirit), and Brian Williams (Crew Foreman).

VISITORS CONCERNS:

Jeff Pisarcik and LuAnn Murray presented to Council a Hometown Hero that will honor men and women of the community who have served in the Armed Forces. They are asking for the Borough's support in doing this. They have received the support of the American Legion in Sykesville, State Senator Cris Dush, Representative Brian Smith, Director of Veteran Affairs David Reitz, and the Sykesville Fire Department. Mr. Pisarcik informed Council that he has sent Solicitor Nick Gianvito an agreement with Penelec to use the poles. Ms. Murray presented a packet to Council with all the information that would be sent out to the individuals interested in purchasing a banner. She also informed Council that there is over 100 individuals on a waiting list in Brookville, so the program went well. She informed that it will be up to Mr. Pisarcik to design the towns banner and families that order a banner can also order extras for their use. Mr. Pisarcik informed that he would like to have banners by Memorial Day and stated that everyone will qualify within 10 miles of Sykesville. A motion was made by Councilman Kurt Kister and seconded by Councilman Ron Morris to approve a resolution for the third party installment of the flag banner memorials for Sykesville Borough (agreement is between Sykesville Borough, First Energy, and installers). Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

President Michele Yamrick presented the data input form for tax year 2022 to Council. A motion was made by Councilman Don Zimmerman and seconded by Vice President Elaine Fike to keep the millages the same as 2021 (12.9 real estate tax and 1.5 fire protection with a discount of 2% and a penalty of 10%). Motion carried.

A motion was made by President ProTem Nate Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Don Zimmerman to renew the 2022 JCDC membership at the silver level costing \$100. Motion carried.

President Yamrick presented Borough News magazine subscriptions (\$10 for individuals) and an extended listing in the membership directory (\$40) from the PSAB. The Borough has a copy sent for free at the Borough Office. Council decided not to be listed in the membership directory and not to receive additional copies.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

A motion to approve November 1, 2021 minutes was made by Councilman Don Zimmerman and seconded by Vice President Elaine Fike. Motion carried.

Kermit Tuning informed Council that he has been working on the 2022 budget with the Finance Committee. There were a few issues to resolve that were on payroll, insurance, and garbage. Since there was a motion made to give full time employees a .50 cent raise that has since been factored into the budget. Also he stated that the wage reimbursement from the water and sewer increased from \$106,000 to \$112,000 (based on information Jaysa gives to Renee). Mr. Tuning informed that November 2020-October 2021 was used for each grouping and the new insurance rates and payroll taxes for 2022 was factored into the budget. He informed that the garbage bill increased about \$3,000 a quarter this year and also stated that Waste Management was not giving the Borough their collection. Secretary Neale reached out and the garbage company is giving the Borough about a \$5,000 credit on the first two quarters and an additional \$1,350 (about) credit on the fourth quarter invoice. He informed that his past calculations have been that the Borough received a 7% collection fee and now it is about 5% and informed that the 2022 budget reflects that. He informed that the 2022 budget works out to a -33,106.50 with the end of October of 2021 bank balance of \$147,000 so there is adequate funds to cover the deficit. Council decided to discuss the budget further in executive session.

Vice President Fike and President ProTem Alvetro recommended on behalf of the Personnel Committee to move forward in hiring Alyssa Dixon for the part time secretary position for 12 hours/week. Vice President Fike also stated that Ms. Dixon would be able to work 12-4 on Wednesday's. A motion was made by Vice President Fike and seconded by Councilman Zimmerman to hire Alyssa Dixon as the part time secretary for 12 hours/week at the rate of \$12/hour pending physical and bond. Motion carried. Secretary Neale stated that a new computer/tower will be needed for the part time secretary. Council gave permission in obtaining prices.

Council discussed in using the COVID relief money to refurbish the Borough Office (new flooring, new chairs, repairing of the basement and roof). Councilman Zimmerman stated that he would not do more than getting a new roof. Councilman Morris asked if there has been a decision yet in selling the bank building or remodeling it as the new Borough Building to which President Yamrick stated there was no decision as of now. Councilman Zimmerman stated that a meeting was just held for obtaining grants for the bank building. A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Kister to seek out estimates for a new roof for the Borough building and investigating the mold issue in the basement. Motion carried.

#### CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

Foreman Williams presented two classes presented by the PA Rural Water Association for Mike Gamble to attend. The first class is a live online zoom training for wastewater pathogens held December 14, 2021 for a total cost of \$75 and the second class is on water and wastewater workplace safety (6 hours) held January 6, 2022 at the Quality Inn in New Kensington for a total cost of \$165. A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Kister to have Mike Gamble attend both classes for a total cost of \$240. Motion carried.

#### COMITTEE REPORTS:

##### Public Works:

Nothing to report.

##### Finance/Personnel:

October monthly financial reports were presented to all board members by Tuning Accounting. No questions or comments were made.

A motion was made by Councilman Kister and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to pay Tuning Accounting \$1,045.31 for their monthly retainer for October 2021. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Vice President Fike to renew the Highmark Vision at a 3% increase beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried.

An invoice for \$278 was presented from JHA Companies for the upcoming stormwater project. A motion was made by Councilman Kister and seconded

by Councilman Morris to transfer \$278 from the Sludge Removal Fund to the General Fund in order to pay JHA Companies. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to approve Brian Williams paid time off for November 2 (4 hours). Motion carried.

A motion was made by Vice President Fike and seconded by Councilman Kister to approve Karl McCracken's paid time off for November 10, 12, and 15. Motion carried.

Vice President Fike informed Council that there were three applications received for the Borough Laborer position which will be discussed further in executive session.

Ordinance, Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Councilman Kister stated that the SCIA is interesting in booking rentals, decorating the park, and the finances. The Borough would just have to continue maintaining. Councilman Zimmerman stated that he thinks that they are only interested in the decorating of the park. President Yamrick stated that this needs to be discussed more and also stated that someone from the SCIA should be invited to a Council Meeting to further discuss.

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

Mayor Cunningham informed Council that OIC Campbell's first day back was today from quarantine.

Solicitor Gianvito:

Nothing to report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session to discuss personnel matters at 8:01 P.M.

ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council reconvened from executive session at 8:30 P.M.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Don Zimmerman and seconded by Councilman Ron Morris. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jaysa Neale".

Jaysa Neale  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

