

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; Nate Alvetro, President ProTem; Council Members: Ron Morris, Michael Sackash, Colton Gearhart, Don Reid, Absent was Mayor Kyle Pisarcik, Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito.

Visitors were John Sedor, Dylan Carlson (Carlson Technologies), Michelle Moore (J&M Accounting), Travis Long (JHA).

VISITORS CONCERNS:

John Sedor asked if Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito had a chance to look over the paperwork from JHA Engineer Travis Long, (Borough Council & Sewer/Water Authority joint governance discussion). No one has heard anything from him.

Vice President Elaine Fike has appointed Councilman Colton Gearhart to be the liaison between the Council and the Sewer/Water Authority. Councilman Colton Gearhart has accepted.

Brian, Zach, and Tony from Reynoldsville stopped in to talk about shared Code Enforcement Officer. President Yamrick asked them to come back to our next meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> when Mayor Pisarcik and our Solicitor Gianvito are here to ask and answer questions. The issue is insurance, hours, wages. Councilman Reid also asked if they have heard from Mary yet from the Regional Police Force either. They said that was another thing that they were going to bring up. They asked Council if anyone has been in yet to do the study? Council has not heard from anyone. We agreed to do it and we voted on it also, but that was the last thing we heard. Reynoldsville has not completed their financial part of it yet due to an issue with their software program. They stressed that they are interested if we are.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Nothing to report.

Old BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Gearhart to approve the Council minutes from March 16, 2026. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sackash and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to approve the Council minutes from April 6, 2026. Motion carried.

Travis Long (JHA) informed Council of the Stormwater update. "From a construction perspective all the piping is in the ground. We have one more storm inlet to put in. We have gotten with President ProTem Alvetro about a few issues where he physically knows where the water is running. We will put another inlet in and more curbing. They have finished with the milling and hope to start final paving later this week. Following paving we will do the final site restoration clean ups. We still need to put an under drain in the catch basin on London Street. We have some grates that we need to fix. We are looking to have everything completed in May with punch light items. We are on track with everything so far. Relative to the budget through April 6<sup>th</sup> we completed \$309,594.46. The remaining paving amount is \$260,000. Some restoration and seeding is \$30,000.00. This will bring construction to approximately \$3,299,594.46. Roman's have done a great job at keeping stuff in tow? We didn't touch contingency at all. We have a change order to present to Council tonight, along with the Additional Work Authorization Summery. Essentially that is what our close out/cleanup is. Extra designs, over runs in the inspection time period for the construction. Permits, financing a lot of the budget items we set up in PennVest and we did not use all of them, so what was estimated we came in under. Legal came in under. A few other items that came in under. So again, where everything stands, we are in really good shape. Which, I am very proud to say the team, contractors and you folks as a whole kept everything in line. That is what the change order is for, to get us through the completion of the project to close out the as builds and to get everything buttoned up. We are going to donate to the park some galvanized bleachers there. I know Roman's had chipped in and did a really nice job on the grass for the ball field. So we are going to add some nice bleachers to go with that. I have already sent pictures to President ProTem Alvetro for his approval. That is where we are with the change order. So with that I will open myself up to any comments, concerns, questions from the Council".

Secretary Walker informed Council the update with the new credit card. Will take the approved minutes to the InFirst branch manager before they can start the application.

Dylan Carlson from Carlson Technologies gave a demonstration of the Call Out System to Council on how it works. Council members or Representatives fills out the form with information & message. It notifies Shepherd Outdoor and the

message is sent in 1-3 hours or on a scheduled date. Then it will send out a call and a text message of the information. President Yamrick ask for a reminder of the cost. Dylan explained that there is a one time fee of \$1500.00 set up fee. The monthly fee, no contract, is \$250.00, 1 year contract \$200.00, 3 year is \$150.00. There is a \$3.00 per month per line, \$60.00 one-time number registration fee. The usage costs are Calls: \$0.021 per minute, Text: \$0.01245 per message and pricing is not based on number of contacts, only usage. A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Sackash to go with the monthly fee for now and revisit after 90 days. Motion carried.

MAYOR:

Nothing to report.

CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

President ProTem Alvetro informed Council that the water leak is fixed on Van Ness Street. Two new services were put in and I am still waiting on the quote for the concrete. The quote is from Clear Run Construction & Concrete is for pouring a new slab that was taken up for fixing the leak.

Seal Coat/Surface Treatment quote is for \$46,768.00. A motion was made by Councilman Gearhart and seconded by Councilman Morris to advertise for bids in the Tri County and Courier with a deadline of May 15<sup>th</sup> and awarded at the Council meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm with the project to be completed by August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Motion carried.

President ProTem Alvetro informed Council there is no update on the 2020 Blue Chevy 3500 dump truck. Still fighting with the insurance company and the adjuster. The one wire harness is not available through GM. Spitzers had found it on line but wants us to pay for it. The insurance states that if we pay for it, we probably wont get reimbursed for it. Will get with Jake from our insurance company to see if he has gotten anywhere. President Yamrick asked what is the best possible outcome for this. That they completely give us a new motor or new whatever or what? President ProTem Alvetro states that the motor is fine. That there is black specks in the oil, but they don't know what it is from. The truck is put on hold until we hear back from the insurance company.

Crewman Gamble informed Council that the spreaders got maintenance and put away. We replaced two hydraulic lines that were bad. Everything is oiled and put away for the summer. Plows are greased and put away. We are doing some patching.

## COMITTEE REPORTS:

### Public Works:

Nothing to report.

### Finance/Personnel:

A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Gearhart to sign the Additional Work Authorization for JHA. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Gearhart to sign the Change Order #1 for JHA. Motion carried.

A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Gearhart to sign Contractor's Application Payment #9. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Vice President Fike and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to replenish petty cash of \$50.00. Motion carried.

A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Sackash to approve the March Financials Statements. Motion carried.

### Ordinance, Health & Safety

Councilman Reid noticed that the vascar lines have been painted. This was done by Mayor Pisarcik and Officer Campbell.

Councilman Reid also commented on the street lights that are still out. They were summited.

Councilman Reid asked Crewman Gamble if the speed bumps were in yet. Crewmen Gamble stated that yes they are.

Councilman Sackash is going to defer to Councilman Morris on the status of the smoke detector project funding. Councilman Morris states that we need to come up with a total of what we need. We are not going to get a blank check from Symmco. We need a total of what to ask for. There are no meetings. They don't have people or time for meetings. We will take the letter and they will call John Bean and get him the letter. Councilman Sackash gave the floor to President ProTem Alvetro to inform Council of the status of the Fire Department meeting on the request of the \$500.00 split. At the meeting the Fire Department voted to spend \$500.00 to the Borough to send out the letter. The status on the ordinance is with Solicitor Gianvito and he will be at the next meeting.

Councilman Sackash will follow up with Nupp Printing. We went through the letter at the last meeting and did not have any negative comments. "I do want to put the supporters, when we get them on the letters as well, so that the Community knows who donated the money. I will work with Nupp Printing and get that mail out arranged".

#### Utilities:

Councilman Gearhart informed Council that he attended the Water/Sewer Authority meeting and they have a couple concerns. They want to know where the money that was borrowed from them is and where it is sitting. They are wondering why it is not back in their Sludge Account? Michelle from J&M is looking into this as well.

A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Sackash to purchase a TMG-2000 for \$4105.00 flow meter out of the Sludge Fund to replace the one at the plant that needs replaced. Motion carried.

It was brought to Council to raise late fees on water and sewer bills from \$5.00 to \$50.00. Also to raise the shut off fees from \$50.00 to \$100.00. President Yamrick asked Travis Long if there is anything that we have to do legally like a resolution or anything like that. Travis Long states all that you have to do is make a motion to approve it and update your accounts. John Sedor states what it boils down to is if you look at the end of the budget it was like 20 grand in each one that we are loosing. This will include the places that are abandoned. There is also a one time forgiveness for a family or personal disaster that Secretary Walker will be able to decide. If she can't, it will be up to the Water/Sewer Authority. A letter will be sent to all the residents before it takes effect. A motion was made by Councilman Reid and seconded by Councilman Sackash to approve the fee changes. Motion carried.

It has been brought up a few times of getting a flow meter for when hydrants are being flushed. This will let the guys know how much water is being used. President ProTem Alvetro states that we would be able to borrow one from DuBois or to purchase one. No one knows how much one will cost. Maybe borrow one until we see how things work out. We could check with a few places for pricing. President ProTem Alvetro looked up prices for a flow meter and they are around \$1000.00. A motion was made to purchase our own flow meter by Councilman Reid and seconded by Councilman Gearhart. Motion carried.

The intake and the F-fluent tank will need pumped out and 2 of the transfer tanks. We checked with Roman's and he states that he can do it, but would have to get permits to haul it and permits to dump it and they take about three months to get. Travis Long has sent me the name of someone that has a

contract with someone in Punxsutawney and he can haul it to Punxsy per load. The price would be per load depending on how big the tank is. He is coming on Wednesday to give me a quote. This would be maintenance so would not have to go out for bid. A motion was made by Councilman Reid and seconded by Councilman Morris to pump maintenance. Motion carried.

A fee to place a meter pit for new construction will be \$2000.00 and then another \$2000.00 to hook into the meter for service. We will have to look into our agreement before we can change this.

John Sedor would like to have an account opened for future projects. This would alleviate the issue of transferring to cover funds before the project funds start, and not worry about paying the Sludge fund back.

The Water/Sewer Authority brought to Council an agenda from a meeting that was held with JHA. This is to clarify roles and responsibilities between Borough and Authority to ensure compliance, transparency and operational effectiveness. The first part of this is legal and it was given to our Solicitor to review. The second part is governance, processes and best practice that we need to be doing here. This does give us some options. Their committee did not pin it down to one option they favor, but somehow we need to take a look at this and adopt something. "That was a great summery Mike" said Travis. "Essentially it was asked of me to do a quick audit evaluation of where both entities stand. It was just best industry practices and guidelines finding that I saw that could help both entities up for success by way of some procedures and housekeeping and do diligence and other options. They can be mingled to best fit the Authority and the Borough. There were some disconnects in the links that I saw when I did the evaluation on both. I would like to see you guys succeed. I wanted to put something in writing so that you can see the options that are available". Councilman Sackash suggest option one with some hybrids from option two, but basically keep it as is but clean up the recording. Some good financial practices. We need to have a written agreement. They say that it is here, but they don't know where. This is not just Travis's opinion. It has come from his experience and the way that you are supposed to be doing it in the Pennsylvania Statutes, it goes into the powers of the commission. Councilman Gearhart also agrees with option one. Councilman Sackash states that what The Water/Sewer Authority need to do is decide what they want out of the options and then present it to Council. Councilman Sackash states that we don't need to act on anything until they send us their proposal.

John Sedor would also like to have the Water/Sewer Authority meet four times a year in January, April, July, October, not just twice a year. He would also like to have at these meetings an update on all their financial accounts (Water and Sewer). A motion was made by Councilman Gearhart and seconded by

Councilman Reid to place the advertisement in the paper to change the announcement for the Water & Sewer meetings from two meetings a year to four meetings at 6:00 p.m. at the Borough Office, 21 East Main Street, Sykesville, PA 15865. Motion carried.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Councilman Sackash had asked at the last meeting about a contract for the mowing and can we find it or is it verbal? President Yamrick states that she believes it is signed. Is there a plan for opening and closing the park? In the past Secretary Walker did it and Councilman Reid recommended someone. Then it got into a discussion with the lawyer. "Do we need to advertise for it and a whole bunch of stuff that what I think is low level. According to this unless you are spending 18 grand on something that you don't need to go through all that rigmarole. I defer that I would like some suggestions on how to get things done. We have a guy that is still interested. So do you have a rate or a motion"? Councilman Reid states that "we have a rate of \$13.00 an hour and a discussion on what his duties were going to be and I said to open and close the restrooms and clean". Councilman Sachash asked what do we need to do to move on that topic? President Yamrick ask the technical question, Is he technically going to be an employee of the Borough? Vice President Fike states that it was always volunteer. The only ones that got paid were Secretary Neale and Secretary Walker. When we did it, it was always the Committee that took care of it. If he were to be a sub-contractor he would have to have his own insurance or be a Borough employee. Hours would depend on the rentals throughout the summer.

Councilman Sackash wants to keep advocating that we look at our website into getting it updated so that people can pay bills, check messages, pricing to rent the park. Councilman Sackash suggested to have Carlson's do a website and automate that. All we have to do is ask him for a proposal. Councilman Sackash suggested that he come to the next meeting to discuss it.

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

Nothing to report.

Solicitor Gianvito:

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Secretary Walker informed Council of a request from the library for baby changing stations in the restrooms. A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Reid to purchase three baby changing stations. One for our public restroom and two for the park. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No executive session was needed.

ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by President ProTem Nathan Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Reid. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Monica Walker  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer