

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; Nate Alvetro, President ProTem; Council Members: Sherry Pruzinsky, Don Reid, and Gabriel "Butch" Sweka; Mayor Gail Cunningham. Absent were Vice President Elaine Fike, Councilman Ron Morris, and Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito.

Visitors were Tracy Taylor, John Sedor, and Brian Williams (Crew Foreman).

VISITORS CONCERNS:

Tracy Taylor was present to find out what steps need to be taken for water/sewer services for 399 East Main Street since the sewer was capped. President ProTem Nate Alvetro went into detail for Council of what happened. He informed that when the Taylor's moved out of the house, they cut the sewer pipe and capped it themselves per a Borough employee (they were not being charged for sewage from April-July). President ProTem Alvetro stated that he spoke with Travis Long (engineer) regarding this matter and his recommendation was to charge the Taylor's the minimal sewer fee of \$35 for the months they were not billed or waive the fees completely. However, because they did not go through the Borough Office and it was not capped by the Borough, it is not justifiable to charge the \$2,000 uncapping fee. President ProTem Alvetro stated that all other past balances (besides minimal sewer from April-July) and the \$50 water turn on fee were paid, and the water is currently on. After a brief discussion, Council decided to discuss further in executive session.

John Sedor was present on behalf of the Water and Sewer Authority. He stated that in the July 7<sup>th</sup> (found out it was July 21<sup>st</sup>) meeting minutes it was stated that President Yamrick informed that the Authority was going to fund \$50,000 for everyday use for each account (water and sewer). Mr. Sedor stated he talked with Rick Fike and they both agreed that \$50,000 is not a bad idea to be used but he wanted to make it clear that it is not \$50,000 for sewer and \$50,000 for water. Mr. Sedor thought that \$50,000 was going to be put into an account for daily uses for sewer but he doesn't have an issue adding water to that (neither did Rick). He stated that this money is for everyday funding of water and sewage (tools, pipes, etc.). He also stated that it is to be understood that the \$50,000 is not going to be a "gift" every year and that it will have to be revisited in the Authority's January meeting. Mr. Sedor stated that "for the \$4,000 usage per month, we want to go with repair and replace of anything taken over \$500 and anything over \$500 is to be recorded and given to the Authority at their meetings." Mr. Sedor stated that the Authority would like "Sykesville for this

month, what the uses were, what money came in, what the expense were, what the total was, and if there were any lost payments. And what was talked about the \$50,000 would go along with this."

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

President Michele Yamrick presented an invitation to Council for a watershed awareness workshop held by the JCCD (Jefferson County Conservation District) on September 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M. Full details will be at the Borough Office.

President Yamrick presented the January 1, 2023-December 31, 2024, Liquid Fuels Audit to Council. The full report will be at the Borough Office for review. She informed that there were two findings.

1. Inadequate Internal Control Procedures. This was due to the financial reports/checks for Liquid Fuels not being approved by Council (even though they are presented monthly to Council).
2. Electronic imaging of canceled checks from the bank did not include the back of the checks. This is due to the bank not providing the canceled checks with the statements (even though Secretary Neale printed online the canceled checks and presented them to the Auditors, somehow it still was a finding).

#### OLD BUSINESS:

A motion to approve August 4, 2025, Council minutes was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by President ProTem Nate Alvetro. Motion carried.

President Yamrick presented an invitation from the Clarion, Forest, & Jefferson Counties Borough Association Meeting held on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 P.M. (presented last meeting as well). Details will be at the Borough Office.

President ProTem Alvetro stated that Dave Roman Excavating are finding pipes and tie ins everyday day but are moving along with the stormwater project. President ProTem Alvetro informed that the baseball field is completely tore up due to Roman Excavating leveling/redoing the entire field. Dave Roman is donating everything for the baseball field project (time, materials, etc.). Councilman Don Reid stated that this should be put into the newspaper.

Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky informed Council that the SCIA has cancelled the Block Party for this year and will no longer need Stahl Park reserved, or any roads closed. This was decided due to the ongoing construction for the stormwater project.

CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

Nothing to report.

COMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works:

President ProTem Nate Alvetro informed that the traffic lights are here and will possibly be installed next week.

Finance/Personnel:

A motion was made by President ProTem Nate Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Butch Sweka to approve Michael Gamble's paid time off for August 8<sup>th</sup> (4 hours) and August 15<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

An invoice for \$12,705.85 was presented from JHA Companies for the upcoming stormwater project. A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to transfer \$12,705.85 from the Sludge Removal Account to the General Fund Account and pay that amount to JHA Companies from the General Fund. Motion carried.

President Yamrick presented the 2026 Financial Requirement and Minimum Municipal Obligation for both uniform (\$39,458) and non-uniform (\$5,710) pension plans. A motion was made by Councilman Reid and seconded by Councilman Sweka to accept and approve the 2026 MMO for both uniform and non-uniform pension plans. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to reimburse Mo Kovalchick (tax collector) \$21.19 for purchase of a new deposit stamp and the approval to purchase new checks (\$190.99) and deposit slips (\$67.99) for a total of \$258.98 (make the amount refundable to Mo upon final receipt). Motion carried.

July 2025 financial reports were presented to all members from J&M Accounting (emailed and distributed 8/15). No questions or comments were made. A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to approve all financials. Motion carried. A copy of the reports will be available to review at the Borough Office.

Ordinance, Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Utilities:

Councilman Reid stated that there are a few streetlights out on North Park Street. Councilman Sweka will look into this.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Secretary Neale informed Council that the last day for opening/closing the park restrooms daily will be August 31<sup>st</sup> unless there is a rental. Council agreed.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to close and winterize Stahl Park October 1<sup>st</sup> unless there would be a scheduled rental between now and then. Motion carried.

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

Councilman Don Reid requested an executive session.

Mayor Gail Cunningham inquired if a new mirror has been ordered for Station Street (discussed last meeting). President ProTem Alvetro stated that he would ask Brian on if one was ordered.

Solicitor Gianvito:

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing to report

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into an executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters at 7:36 P.M.

ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council reconvened from executive session at 8:25 P.M.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pruzinsky and seconded by Councilman Sweka to request payment from the resident who resides at 399 East Main Street of \$140 (discussed earlier in the meeting). Motion carried. Secretary Neale will call Ms. Taylor tomorrow.

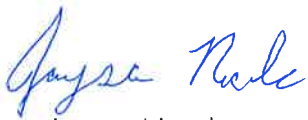
A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to increase Michael Gamble's hourly wage by .25 cents effective August 17, 2025. Councilman Reid opposed. Motion carried.

Councilman Reid opened discussion to hire a part time police officer. President Yamrick informed Secretary Neale to let Solicitor Gianvito know that Council is looking at option 1 to further discuss. Council went into another brief executive session at 8:28 P.M. to discuss personnel matters and reconvened at 8:35 P.M. with no outcome.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky and seconded by Councilman Butch Sweka. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Jaysa Neale  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

