

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

Visitors were Kevin Yamrick (Sykesville Fire Chief) and Larry McGuire (Punxsy Spirit).

VISITORS CONCERNS:

Kevin Yamrick was present to discuss the current fuel budget for the Fire Department. One of the Street Department's fuel cards was switched with the Fire Department's (three years). After further review of all prior fuel invoices, President ProTem Nate Alvetro and Secretary Jaysa Neale determined that the Sykesville Borough owes the Sykesville Fire Department \$5,453.19 (split borough/sewer/water). The budget (s) for the fuel has been adjusted accordingly, and the cards were switched back to the appropriate departments. A motion was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by Councilman Butch Sweka to pay the Fire Department \$5,453.19 for fuel expenses that was used by the Street Department due to a mix up in cards. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

An LSA Grant Application was presented to Council from JHA Companies (Ryan Gatto). If this grant is awarded, the Borough will be capable of purchasing and installing a new headworks screen, UV disinfection unit, and lagoon aeration blowers and diffusers (for sewer plant). This was discussed at a prior Water and Sewer Authority Meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky to sign and apply for the LSA grant. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

A motion to approve November 17, 2025, Council minutes was made by Councilman Don Reid and Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky. Motion carried.

Vice President Elaine Fike opened discussion for the 2026 proposed budgets. There were no comments/questions made.

A motion was made by President ProTem Nate Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Butch Sweka to advertise for the proposed 2026 General Fund budget. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by Councilman Butch Sweka to advertise for the proposed 2026 Water Fund budget. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky and seconded by President ProTem Nate Alvetro to advertise for the proposed 2026 Sewer Fund budget. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Butch Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Nate Alvetro to advertise for the proposed 2026 Liquid Fuels Fund budget. Motion carried.

Vice President Elaine Fike opened discussion on the phone/internet quote presented by Carlson Technologies at the previous meeting. After further review and discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to switch the Borough's phone/internet from Comcast to Carlson Technologies. Motion carried.

Council will discuss payment of mileage during executive session.

Vice President Fike opened discussion on repairing/replacing the fence at the water tank that was discussed at the previous meeting. Councilman Reid stated that he forgot to look at the fence and will make it a priority to look before next meeting. President ProTem Alvetro stated that he would also obtain other estimates. Tabled.

The employees presented a request/proposal letter to Council. Council will discuss it later in executive session.

President ProTem Alvetro informed he received a text from Dave Roman informing that his crew will not be working during buck season or the week between Christmas and New Years. Work will resume on January 5th.

CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

Nothing to report.

COMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works:

President ProTem Nate Alvetro informed that Councilman Reid brought extra bulbs for the Christmas tree tonight which were donated by Sykesville Fox's.

The floors are completed in the lobby, office, and police office.

Roman got all the cross drains in and patched areas with black top making the road ready for the winter.

President ProTem Alvetro informed that the Borough Crew will be starting their workday at 4:00 A.M. tomorrow since it is supposed to snow.

Finance/Personnel:

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to accept and pay J&M Accounting & Tax Services Inc. \$1,219.09 for their monthly retainer for November 2025. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pruzinsky and seconded by Councilman Reid to reimburse Maureen Kovalchick \$35 for a Tax Collecting training meeting. Motion carried.

The data input form for tax year 2026 was presented to Council. A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to keep the tax rates the same as the tax year 2025 (12.9 mills municipal real estate tax and 1.5 mills fire protection). Motion carried.

A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Reid to renew the extended listing membership directory (2026) with PSAB in the amount of \$40. Motion carried.

A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Sweka to renew the PA State Mayors' Association membership dues (2026) in the amount of \$70. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to approve Brian Williams paid time off for December 4th-5th. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pruzinsky and seconded by Councilman Sweka to approve Brian Williams paid time off for January 2nd. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to approve Jaysa Neale's paid time off for November 18th. Motion carried.

Ordinance, Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Utilities:

Nothing new to report.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Nothing to report.

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

Mayor Cunningham requested an executive session.

Solicitor Gianvito:

Solicitor Gianvito submitted a letter to Council asking to be reappointed at the reorganizational meeting on January 5, 2026. A copy of his letter was presented to all members. He also informed that he will most likely not be present at the reorganizational meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into an executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters at 7:32 P.M.

ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council reconvened from executive session at 8:44 P.M.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pruzinsky and seconded by Councilman Reid to pay Secretary Jaysa Neale .70 cents a mile (IRS rate) to travel once a week to J&M Accounting and Farmer's National Bank (DuBois). Motion carried. Secretary Neale is also required to keep a logbook of her milage. If an extra trip

is needed, Secretary Neale is to call a member from Council and ask for permission.

A motion was made by Councilman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to offer a buyout of 40% of the health insurance total premium of the rate that the current employee is under. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to increase the total number of sick days earned a year from five days to eight days and to allow the employees to carry over 45 sick days instead of 30 sick days. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to add Christmas Eve and New Years' Eve as paid Holidays for all full time non-uniformed employees which will take effect this year (2025). Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Butch Sweka and seconded by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Jaysa Neale
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

