

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 and Sherry Pruzinsky; Mayor Gail Cunningham; Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito. Absent were Councilman Ron Morris and Butch Sweka.

Visitors present were Pete Erickson, Sue Knarr, Jason & Elaine Cowan, Doug Kessler, Robyn Sonnie, Homer Scheffer, Travis Long (Engineer), Rick Fike, Brian Williams (Crew Foreman), Earl Campbell (Sykesville Police).

A motion was made by Vice President Elaine Fike and seconded by President ProTem Nate Alvetro to add to the agenda the signing of permits for the upcoming stormwater project. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Kurt Kister and seconded by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky to add to the agenda tax forgiveness (2022) of the bank building located at 2 East Main Street. Motion carried.

VISITORS CONCERNS:

Homer Scheffer and Robyn Sonnie informed Council that National Fuel Gas wants to extend their line on Van Ness Street and Dr. Fugate Drive. They informed that Right-of-Ways have been obtained, they just need permission from the Borough. Travis Long stated that the Borough should not have a problem approving this as long as there is full separation from the water line, easements with each property owner are obtained, and correspondence of any drawings should go through the Borough. Mr. Long presented his card and informed that he will review all the drawings and report back to the Borough.

Jason Cowan informed Council that he met with Travis Long and Foreman Brian Williams to review all the maps and walk the line (discussed last meeting). Mr. Long's recommendation at this point is to look/wait for upcoming grant opportunities (1st/2nd quarter of this year) and work to secure some easements with additional customers in that area. Mr. Long informed that the meter pit itself is located across from Murray Ford's main office and is east side of 119 and extends across the wet land and then goes into private property (5 homes). He informed that it is a 1-inch line and is currently under a lot of pressure (90 pounds roughly). He is aware of issues with leaks which is why the Borough should be entitled to future grants (help with fire protection and future expansion as well).

Mr. Long stated that he and his team can get estimates and present to the board to discuss different options.

Pete Erickson inquired about how long this would take to obtain a grant. Mr. Long informed that he could not guarantee a time frame, however, there will be grant opportunities in the spring. He also informed that the drawings and construction itself will be simple. Mr. Erickson asked if he could do away with the well on his property as it is an eye sore and not safe. Mr. Long stated he could do whatever he wanted with his well.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

A motion to approve February 6, 2023 minutes was made by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky and seconded by Councilman Kurt Kister. Motion carried.

Mr. Long informed Council that it has been a growing trend to establish a stormwater fee. He stated that stormwater is equally as important as water and sewer with maintaining. Basically a stormwater fee are Municipalities way of generating revenue for infrastructure of the stormwater. President Yamrick informed that the Borough will need to look back to see how much we spent on maintaining/repairing and then move forward with establishing a fee. Topic tabled until further information is obtained.

President Yamrick presented the approved PennDot permits for the Run/Walk for Someone Special event. A motion was made by Vice President Fike and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to close South Park Street to West Liberty Street, Paradise Road, London Street to Liberty Street, Dr. Fugate Drive (main-Long Alley), and Station Street to West Liberty Street on April 16th with the alternative date of April 23rd. Motion carried.

CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

Foreman Brian Williams requested to start another PennVest project (after the stormwater project) which would include replacing a water line from the Rhododendron to Springville. He informed the line has to be replaced because it is lead and also there are issues with valves. Council agreed to have Foreman Williams and Travis Long, Engineer, move forward with this project after the stormwater project is completed as this is included in the Borough's five-year plan.

Foreman Williams asked Council if they would like Reynoldsville to sweep the streets again this year. Council agreed to have Mr. Williams asking Reynoldsville to sweep the streets. President ProTem Alvetro stated to make 119 and Paradise Road a priority due to the Run/Walk event.

COMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works:

A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Kister to approve President Yamrick to sign all presented permits from Travis Long, JHA Companies, regarding the upcoming stormwater projects with PennVest. Motion carried.

President ProTem Nate Alvetro informed Council that there was another water leak last week on Sykes Street that was located a little further down from the last leak on Sykes Street. The leak was fixed on February 15th.

The Chevy dump truck is back in service as the Crew received all the parts.

The complaint (Rosman) from last meeting has been taken care of. The Crew filled the potholes on Sykes Street Alley and Kaufman Drive with millings. The millings will serve as a temporary fix until the Crew are able to purchase black top.

President ProTem Alvetro informed that he received a complaint from a resident on Station Street regarding a water issue that has since been taken care of by the Crew.

He also informed that he had the Crew clean up Don Reid's ditch today to hopefully help with his water issue. This will be a temporary fix until the upcoming stormwater project (this fall).

Finance/Personnel:

The January financial reports were presented to Council from Tuning Accounting. No questions or comments were made.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pruzinsky and seconded by Councilman Kister to approve Brian Williams paid time off for February 1st. Motion carried.

A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Kister to approve Michael Gamble's paid time off for February 10th (4 hrs.). Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Kister and seconded by Vice President Fike to renew Monica Walker's bond renewal (3/3/23-3/3/24) with Nicklas Insurance Group for a total cost of \$275. Motion carried.

Ordinance, Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Councilman Kurt Kister presented some information/history about Russell Kramer and Dr. Radu Mercea. He informed Council that he will be making a memorial bench for Russell Kramer (approved in December).

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Vice President Fike to advertise for a Part Time Police Officer. Motion carried.

Solicitor Gianvito:

A motion was made by Councilman Kister and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to request tax forgiveness for the Bank Building located at 2 East Main Street, Sykesville, for the year 2022 from the Commissioners, DuBois School District, and Sykesville Borough. Motion carried.

Solicitor Gianvito informed Council that he has not heard back from Peter Kennis regarding the Bank Building. He will send a certified letter and will also call him about closing on the building. He informed that if this does not close in 90 days from the bid award, the building will have to be rebid.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing to report.

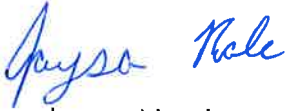
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No executive session took place.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Vice President Elaine Fike and seconded by Councilman Kurt Kister. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Jaysa Neale
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

