

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 Gabriel "Butch" Sweka; Mayor Gail Cunningham. Absent was Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito.

Visitors present were John Sedor, Mollie Harris, and Brian Williams (Crew Foreman).

VISITORS CONCERNS:

John Sedor informed Council that he spoke with Marc Skarbek (PennDot) about the turn coming down by Soldier, jake breaks, and the traffic light. Mr. Sedor stated that Mr. Skarbek can suggest/get any signs that the Borough may need. Mr. Sedor was also informed that PennDot is going to be looking at the traffic light in town to make sure it is working properly. He suggested going to LED lighting for cost efficiency.

Mr. Sedor also reiterated about Nick Yamrick's pay. He thinks that he should be given a consultant wage and a labor wage. He also stated that Brian should be writing a detailed "log" justifying Mr. Yamrick's time.

John Sedor also informed Council that he is working on obtaining a quote to replace a pit liner (Sewer Plant).

Mollie Harris (108 West Main) informed Council about some issues she had with her water meter. She informed that Michael Gamble checked to see if she had a leak and he also tested the chlorine and sewage. She informed she has a plugged drain which results in water laying under her meter. Last week she had no water. Mr. Gamble changed her meter and informed her that it was \$150 to replace the meter. She informed that National Fuel had moved her gas meter without marking her main line. She doesn't feel that she should pay \$150 because she was not negligent in keeping the basement/meter warm. Foreman Williams will test her old meter to see if it was defective and will also locate her line after a PA One Call is made.

Ms. Harris also requested that the flag pole be replaced in front of her house as it is leaning. Council stated that it will be done this spring.

CORRESPONDENCE:

President Michele Yamrick presented to Council a sample of a Veteran Flag Banner.

President Yamrick presented to Council a list of 2022 PSAB classes/meetings. The booklet will be located at the Borough Office.

President Yamrick presented a letter of interest for the Council vacancy from Sherry Pruzinsky. A motion was made by Councilman Ron Morris and seconded by Councilman Kurt Kister to accept and approve Mrs. Pruzinsky's letter of interest. Motion carried.

A letter was presented from the Jefferson County CDBG Grant program. All eligible projects must be submitted by 4:00 PM on May 20, 2022. President Yamrick stated that all Council Members should come up with ideas of what projects to apply for.

OLD BUSINESS:

A motion to approve February 7, 2022 minutes was made by Vice President Elaine Fike and seconded by Councilman Ron Morris. Motion carried.

President Yamrick informed that last meeting, a motion was made to hire Jerry Gamble for the Borough Laborer position. When he was offered, he turned down the job. A motion was made by Councilman Butch Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Nate Alvetro to re-advertise for the Borough Laborer position for three days. Motion carried.

President Yamrick asked Foreman Brian Williams if he had come up with a list of streets so that the No Parking Ordinance (during winter months) could be drafted. Mr. Williams gave a list of streets that includes Shaffer Street, lower area of Grant and Edith Street, Hill Street, and Station Street. Secretary Neale will email a list to Solicitor Gianvito.

President Yamrick presented a quote from DWC on pre-employment drug test/physicals for \$75 and a post-accident drug test for \$30. She informed Council that MedExpress would charge \$136 for a pre-employment drug tests/physicals and \$49.50 for post-accident drug tests. She informed Council that QCare only offers physicals, D. McAllister only offers drug testing, and TrueCare did not return our calls. A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Sweka to open an account with DWC as the Borough's new pre-employment/post-accident facility. Motion carried.

CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

Foreman Brian Williams presented a quote from All Traffic Solutions, Inc. for an electric traffic speed sign (portable). These signs are cloud based and reports of traffic/speed/etc. can be printed out to see the progress of speeders. The total cost of one sign is \$3,240. Secretary Neale informed that the money can be taken out of Liquid Fuels and also the police budget. Council had a brief discussion on whether a flashing sign would help with speeders or if it would just get damaged. Councilman Alvetro stated that OIC Campbell needs to be the one sitting at multiple spots to control speeders. Councilman Morris suggested that he keeps a log of places (and how long) that OIC Campbell patrols. Council decided to table the signs until next Council Meeting.

Foreman Williams informed Council that he had to spend roughly \$2,000 more on the generators back at the plant (will be on the next Council Meeting agenda). This is a DEP must have. President Yamrick stated that anything that has to deal with the DEP must be fixed/taken care of ASAP.

Foreman Williams also informed that Michael Gamble received his water licenses(s) on Saturday.

Secretary Neale informed Council that Marc (PennDot) had the traffic unit come to the Borough to test the traffic light. OIC Campbell was told by them that if something was wrong, they would call the Borough Secretary. A call was never received.

COMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works:

Nothing to report.

Finance/Personnel:

The January 2022 financial reports from Tuning Accounting was emailed to all members. No questions or comments were made.

A motion to approve and pay Tuning Accounting's monthly (January) retainer fee of \$1,160.85 was made by Vice President Fike and seconded by Councilman Kister. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Councilman Kister to approve Brian Williams paid time off for January 11. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Councilman Morris to approve Jaysa Neale's paid time off for January 17. Motion carried.

A cyber security renewal premium quote was presented for \$2,366 from George Heigel (Swift Kennedy & Co.). A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Vice President Fike to accept and approve the premium quote of \$2,366 for cyber security. Motion carried.

President Yamrick informed Council that she will have a new Committee List at the next Borough Council Meeting.

Ordinance, Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Councilman Kister informed Council that he has not heard from Brooke Chewing about helping out with the park.

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

Councilman Alvetro presented Council with the 2021 Sykesville Fire Department and Henderson Township report. The full report will be located at the Borough Office for review.

Mayor Cunningham stated that next meeting OIC Campbell will be present and asked if Council would direct all comments/questions about police business to him.

Solicitor Gianvito:

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Foreman Williams informed Council that Travis Long is drafting a letter about the backflow preventers to send to all residents in town. Residents that received a letter on backflows are to call the number on that letter.

Vice President Fike stated that she received multiple complaints about 232 West Main Street. The house is burnt and now the porch and roof are falling apart. Vice President Fike informed that she called John Witherite of PennSafe and he stated that he would condemn the property and then it will be up to the Borough Solicitor to move forward. Vice President Fike asked if the fire department would want it or even if the Borough can tear it down with the COVID relief money. Councilman Alvetro will ask Kevin Yamrick if the fire department would want it. The COVID relief money can also be used for all infrastructure. A motion was made by Councilman Kister and seconded by Councilman Sweka to allow John Witherite to start the process of condemnation of 232 West Main Street. Motion carried.

Councilman Alvetro also informed Council that the yellow building (Andy Ferut) on London Street was hit by a truck and "ripped out" a lot of the block. He stated that "someone might want to look into this issue."

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session to discuss personnel matters at 8:03 P.M.

ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council reconvened from executive session at 8:29 P.M.

A motion was made by Vice President Fike and seconded by Councilman Sweka to hire Monica Walker as a Part Time Secretary starting at \$12.50 an hour contingent on bondage and a pre-employee physical/drug test. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Vice President Elaine Fike and seconded by Councilman Butch Sweka. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Jaysa Neale
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

