

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: Sherry Pruzinsky, Don Reid, and Gabriel "Butch" Sweka; Mayor Gail Cunningham; Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito. Absent was Councilman Ron Morris.

Visitors present were A.J. Coval (JHA Companies), John Sedor, Michelle Moore & Sarah Johnson (J&M Accounting), Girl Scouts (Reynoldsville/Sykesville Jr. Troop 20608), Justin Felgar (Punxsy Spirit), Ben Destefan (Courier Express), Brian Williams (Crew Foreman), and Earl Campbell (Police).

VISITORS CONCERNS:

John Sedor stated that in January of last year, Travis with JHA Companies was asked to present the Authority rates on Troutville and Winslow and asked for an update. Secretary Neale informed Mr. Sedor that no new information has been received. Secretary Neale will call for an update. Mr. Sedor also recommended that Council adopts an ordinance that wouldn't allow "homesteaders" to enter our Borough without residency. President Michele Yamrick informed him that Council is already looking into the matter and has a drafted ordinance.

Beth Sawyer (a leader of the Scouts) informed that the Jr. Troop 20608 is present so that they can obtain their democracy badge. They are in attendance tonight to learn about how their local government operates.

Michelle Moore and Sarah Johson presented the proposed 2025 budgets to Council (a Finance Committee Meeting was held 10/30). Council decided to table advertising until the next meeting (11/18) so everyone can further review. J&M presented their contact information if there are any questions.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

A motion to approve October 21, 2024, Council minutes and October 28, 2024, Special Council minutes was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by President ProTem Nate Alvetro. Motion carried.

President Yamrick informed Council that the Borough has received \$3,661,000 in grant funding with PennVest. This amount was calculated due to Act 16 of 1988 which makes the Borough's funding limited to \$1,000 per resident being served or \$10 million, whichever is less (maximum amount that can be offered). As it stands the difference between the full project cost and the PennVest funding amount leaves \$1,337,867.03 remaining to be funded. If the scope of work is adjusted to exclude replacements on Grant and Washington Streets, the outstanding amount to be funded would be \$995,334.40. The minimum monthly debt service payment is \$3,500 based on a twenty-year term. If the term is longer, PennVest will recalculate the minimum monthly debt service.

The Borough has three options: Consult with local lenders, reject the current offer and reapply, which has risks such as getting a lower offer and will still include a minimum debt service of \$3,500/month, or apply for a grant and additional outside funding (debt service will still have to be met). If the Borough were to reject and reapply, the next cut off date is February 5, 2025, and the award date would be April 23, 2025.

A.J. Coval informed Council that the \$3,661,000 is the highest offer that the Borough will receive and stated that if this is rejected and reapplied, less money will be granted. Mr. Coval stated that JHA Companies suggests and recommends reaching out to local lenders and requesting proposals for a \$1,000,000 to \$1,400,000 loan. If the resulting monthly payment (debt service) is too high, JHA will need to trim the scope further. Mr. Coval stated that based on 400 customers (guess), the \$3,500 debt service would be around \$875.

Mr. Coval informed Council about possibly applying for an LSA Grant (Local Shared Account) to help with funding of this project which is the gaming money funds (casinos). This application is due November 30th and will not be awarded until around this time next year. It is a \$25,000-1 million grant (recommends applying at the highest offer). Mr. Coval informed that actual construction for this project is projected around July (advertise, bidding, etc.).

President Yamrick informed that Brenden Linton and PennVest will need a brief written update 60-90 days. Once a decision is made, PennVest will schedule a conference call. Four conference calls will be set up. The first call will be getting the project out for bidding. The second call will be after the bids are received. From there, a settlement check list will be provided. The Borough will not have to go through LAGUNA for this project.

Solicitor Nicolas Gianvito inquired on whether the Borough were to use some of their own funds, would the debt service decrease? Mr. Coval informed that the debt service would have to remain at \$3,500/month no matter what.

A motion was made by Councilman Butch Sweka and seconded by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky to move forward with request for proposals from different local lenders. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky to apply for an LSA Grant for stormwater improvements. Motion carried. JHA Companies will apply for the grant and the cost to apply is \$100.

Mr. Coval informed Council that the Act 57 rate study is near completion and stated that the Borough Office should have the study in about three weeks.

President Yamrick opened discussion and reviewed all estimates for the library ceiling repair (previous meetings). P.D.M. presented new estimates of \$3,201.16 (includes lighting) and \$1,873.17 (lighting not included). After a brief discussion, a motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilwoman Pruzinsky to have the Borough Crew purchase tiles (roughly \$93) to replace only the damaged areas and to replace the lights that are burnt out. The Borough Crew will replace the lighting and tiles needed. Motion carried.

President Yamrick presented an estimate from P.D.M. Repair & Remodel, LLC of \$2,745.49 for renovating the office (floor, ceiling tiles, and paint). She informed that renovating the office has been mentioned in the past. Also presented was an estimate of \$1,666.98 to renovate the lobby. Council decided to revisit this in the new year.

CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

Foreman Brian Williams informed that the Crew installed the last catch basin on Mary's Alley for Dr. Fugate Drive.

The Borough Crew are currently tarring and sealing cracks around town.

COMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works:

President ProTem Alvetro informed Council that the new waterline is installed and in service on Hepburn Road as of Thursday (10/24).

President ProTem Alvetro requested an executive session later for legal.

Finance/Personnel:

A motion was made by Vice President Fike and seconded by Councilman Sweka to approve Jaysa Neale's paid time off for October 31st. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to renew the PA State Mayors' Association membership for \$70. Motion carried.

Ordinance, Health & Safety

Nothing to report.

Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Nothing to report.

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

Attached is the October 2024 Police Summary Report.

Councilman Reid asked OIC Campbell if he got a picture of the car caught speeding by the Stahl Park. OIC Campbell stated that he is waiting to hear back from Jamie Meholick to see if he has a better picture of the vehicle as he does not have a good visual on Malinky's camera.

Vice President Fike informed OIC Campbell that a guy is obstructing traffic on Station Street by having himself and tools on the roadway working on vehicles (mostly seen on the weekends). OIC Campbell will research traffic violations for this matter and also check the area.

Solicitor Gianvito:

Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito informed Council that Winslow Township accepted the compromise that the Borough offered regarding their penalties. A motion was made Vice President Fike and seconded by Councilman Sweka to allow President Michele Yamrick to sign the agreement with Winslow Township. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Pruzinsky and seconded by Councilman Reid to advertise the proposed ordinance, "Recreational Vehicle Siting and/or Storage Ordinance". Motion carried. The ordinance can be enacted and adopted at the December meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session to discuss legal matters at 8:05 P.M.

ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:


Council reconvened from executive session at 8:31 P.M.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Butch Sweka and seconded by Vice President Elaine Fike. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Jaysa Neale
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

Sykesville Borough Monthly Police Summary October 2024

Incidents Handled	15
Traffic Citations Issued	12
Criminal Citations Issued	0
Borough Ordinance Violations/Warnings	1
Written Warnings Issued	17
Parking Tickets Issued/Warnings Issued	0
Summary Offenses	12
Misdemeanor Offenses	0
Felony Offenses	0
Charges Filed at Magistrates	12
EMS/Police/Fire/Assist	4
Court Hearings	0
Miles Patrolled	623