

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: Ron Morris, Gabriel Sweka, and Don Zimmerman; Mayor Gail Cunningham. Absent were Councilman Kurt Kister and Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito.

Visitors present were Nick Yamrick and Brian Williams (Crew Foreman).

VISITORS CONCERNS:

Nick Yamrick updated Council on the camera installation at the Borough Maintenance Building. He informed that they are installed and can be accessed on any smart phone anytime if set up. He will finish wiring the cameras tomorrow and informed that four cameras are installed and one camera is on back order. Signs will need to be ordered stating that there are cameras. Mr. Yamrick also informed Council that a backup Act-Pak has been ordered (mandated by the DEP).

CORRESPONDENCE:

President Michele Yamrick presented an invitation to a lunch and learn for Municipalities from the Jefferson County Conservation District held on November 17 from 12-2:30 P.M. For anyone interested, registration is due by November 8<sup>th</sup>. The invitation will be located at the Borough Office.

The Sykesville Civic Improvement Association (SCIA) is requesting permission to close Dr. Fugate Drive at the Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church to Main Street, Main Street to Sykesville Town Hall for their annual Halloween parade on Sunday October 31<sup>st</sup>. The lineup will begin at 1:00 P.M. and the parade will begin at 2:00 P.M. A motion was made by Councilman Ron Morris and seconded by Councilman Gabriel Sweka to close the requested roads for October 31<sup>st</sup>. Motion carried. President ProTem Nathan Alvetro stated that the SCIA may have to get a special permit from PennDot to close SR 119 since it is a state road.

EMC Insurance presented a Broker of Record form and updated supplemental EMC renewal applications. A motion was made by President ProTem Nathan Alvetro and seconded by Vice President Elaine Fike to sign the documents from EMC. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Don Zimmerman and seconded by Councilman Ron Morris to approve Jaysa Neale to sign a resolution between the Borough and PennDot for the Multimodal Transportation Fund grant of \$195,983 to be used for paving of Borough roads. Motion carried.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

A motion to approve October 4, 2021 minutes was made by Councilman Don Zimmerman and seconded by President ProTem Nathan Alvetro. Motion carried.

President Yamrick presented an email to Council from Solicitor Gianvito informing that the EIT cannot increase above the current rate of 1%. The only way that the EIT could be increased is if one of the six circumstances apply (none of which apply to Sykesville):

1. Home rule municipalities.
2. Municipalities declared financially distressed.
3. Municipalities with financially distressed municipal pension systems.
4. Municipalities where voters approve an additional tax for open space purposes.
5. School districts where voters approve increased earned income taxes under Act 50.
6. School districts and municipalities where voters approve increased earned income taxes under Act 24.

A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Sweka to rescind the motion from last meeting to increase the EIT. Motion carried.

The UPMC Health Plan renewal is quoted at a 3.5% increase starting December 1, 2021-November 30, 2022. A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Zimmerman to accept and approve UPMC's renewal. Motion carried.

After a brief discussion on the UPMC health coverage, a motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Vice President Fike that spouses can only be added to the Borough's insurance only if the spouse does not have access to their own insurance. Motion carried.

#### CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

Foreman Williams updated Council that the catch basins are in on Edith Street.

President Yamrick asked if PennVest had set up a meeting with the Borough to start the stormwater projects. Foreman Williams informed her that Travis Long (JHA) will be here next week for an update.

Foreman Williams asked Council if the Borough is required to help residents with moving items to the dumpster for fall cleanup. Council stated that the Borough is not required in helping. He also asked if the dumpsters could be hauled away early if they fill up before 4:00 P.M., Council confirmed that they could.

#### COMITTEE REPORTS:

##### Public Works:

President ProTem Alvetro informed Council that the Borough Crew placed more millings in the Municipal parking lot and also informed that a curb was placed in front of Mr. Withrow's house (attended 2 meetings ago). Mr. Withrow said that it helped but there are still some issues with the water. The Borough Crew will place millings.

President ProTem Alvetro also stated that Brian and him will be looking at a tree later tonight as complaints were made of it leaning.

##### Finance/Personnel:

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

Mo Kovalchick requested to be reimbursed \$21.19 for a Borough of Sykesville Tax Collector Deposit Only Stamper. A motion was made by Councilman Zimmerman and seconded by Councilman Morris to reimburse Mrs. Kovalchick \$21.19. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Vice President Fike and seconded by Councilman Sweka to accept and pay Tuning Accounting \$1,035.67 for their September retainer fee. Motion carried.

An invoice for \$6,678.75 was presented from JHA Companies for the upcoming stormwater project. A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Morris to transfer \$6,678.75 from the Sludge Removal Fund to the General Fund in order to pay JHA Companies. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Vice President Fike to approve Jaysa Neale's paid time off for October 22. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to approve Brian Williams paid time off for October 6 (4 hours). Motion carried.

Ordinance, Health & Safety

Councilman Zimmerman mentioned changing the burning ordinance from 12 P.M. to 9 P.M. daily besides Sunday's. He also mentioned burning from 4 P.M. to 9 P.M. The scheduled out-of-door burning times are currently Monday through Saturday of each week at the following times:

1. April 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup> – 6:00 P.M. through 9:00 P.M. prevailing time.
2. November 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> – 4:00 P.M. through 8:00 P.M. prevailing time.

Council decided not to change the times but stated that this topic can be continued to be discussed if necessary.

Utilities:

Nothing to report.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Council discussed last meeting to combine the Park General Account and the Park Fundraising Account. A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Sweka to table this until more information is gathered. Motion carried.

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

Nothing to report.

Solicitor Gianvito:

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Borough received a total of \$116,706.18 from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 due to COVID. President Yamrick informed Council that the money could be used for the Borough employees for working through COVID. A motion was made by Councilman Sweka and seconded by Councilman Morris to pay the full time employees (Earl Campbell, Mike Gamble, Karl McCracken, Jaysa Neale, and Brian Williams) \$2,000 each out of the American Rescue Plan Act. Motion carried. Council informed that this will be a "one-time only deal."

Vice President Fike informed Council that Kermit Tuning and the Personnel Committee will meet on Wednesday at 6:30.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into executive session to discuss personnel matters at 8:00 P.M.

ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

No outcome was made.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Gabriel Sweka and seconded by Vice President Elaine Fike. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Jaysa Neale  
Borough Secretary/Treasurer