

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

Visitors were John Sedor, Larry McGuire (Punxsutawney Spirit), and Brian Williams (Foreman).

VISITORS CONCERNS:

John Sedor informed Council that he spoke with Travis Long about the sewer rate increases for Troutville Borough and Winslow Township. Mr. Long suggested sending letters stating that the rate will increase after so long if there are no correspondence attempts made from the Municipalities. Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito informed that he will be discussing this further in his report. Solicitor Gianvito informed that he has contact with Winslow Township, however, he does not have any contact with Troutville Borough. Secretary Neale hand delivered the information to Troutville Borough via their "Sewer Box", however, no one ever seems to be at the building. Solicitor Gianvito has sent letters to Troutville Borough in May and July. The current letter Solicitor Gianvito has drafted to send to Troutville basically states, "if you don't respond, you leave us no choice, and the Borough would have to contact the American Arbitration Association."

Mr. Sedor complained that the alley by his house was blocked off (Legion-McDermitt's) on September 28th by his neighbor. President ProTem Nate Alvetro informed that he received a call regarding this and was told it was blocked off because someone was speeding down the alleyway. He stated that he was told the sign was moved and that someone spoke to John about the situation (he was not present at the party). President Michele Yamrick stated that if this is to happen again, then someone from Council needs to go down themselves and address the issue.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

A motion to approve September 15, 2025, Council minutes was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by Councilman Ron Morris. Motion carried.

Foreman Brian Williams informed that the Post Office is finished other than the trenches being paved (looking at Spring to fully pave). Once the permits are received, 119 will go down to a one traffic lane in front of the Post Office.

A cost estimate of \$111,264.90 was sent by AJ Coval for the construction, design, permitting, bidding, and CM of the proposed storm sewer on Rte. 119 (Borough abandoned/unopened alley stormwater). Foreman Williams informed that this project could not be added on to the current storm sewer project as the site is too far from the current project site. Mr. Coval informed that one of three things could be done:

1. "Try to put in for a LSA grant, even though we will be submitting the sewage treatment plant. As they are different types of projects, that is ok to do that."
2. "Pay for it out of the Borough funds. We could get started and a slight possibility of it getting in this year."
3. "Try to find another grant source (CDBG or others), since the LSA grant would not be awarded until late 2026."

After further discussion, Council decided to not move forward with this project.

CREW FOREMAN REPORT:

The floors in the Borough building (lobby, office, police office) will be getting replaced during the week of Thanksgiving. (Approved late last year/early this year).

The Borough Crew will be going through Christmas lights to see what works and the Christmas tree will be placed at Town Square on November 21, weather dependent. Foreman Williams informed that the lights at the park are too small, and the Crew will purchase needed lights.

COMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Works:

President ProTem Nate Alvetro informed Council that all the traffic lights are replaced.

Finance/Personnel:

President Michele Yamrick presented Council with the UPMC 2025 renewal which increased 3.5% (increased 11.1% last year). Also included was another option for Highmark PPO Blue coverage. After a lengthy discussion, Council decided to table this matter until next meeting so that everyone has time to review all the information and numbers. Tabled. Detailed information will be at the Borough Office.

A motion was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by President ProTem Nate Alvetro to renew the Borough Council Association membership dues (PSAB) for a total cost of \$242 (1/1/2026-12/31/2026). Motion carried.

A motion was made by President ProTem Alvetro and seconded by Councilman Reid to renew the Association of Mayors of the Boroughs of PA (2026) for a total cost of \$60. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Don Reid and seconded by Councilman Ron Morris to accept and pay J&M Accounting & Tax Services Inc. \$1,240.94 for their monthly retainer for September 2025. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Morris and seconded by Councilman Reid to approve Jaysa Neale's paid time off (bereavement) for September 22nd-September 24th. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Reid and seconded by President ProTem Alvetro to approve Brian Williams paid time off for September 19th and October 3rd. Motion carried.

Ordinance, Health & Safety

Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky informed that there is a house that has a porta john in the yard and has been there a while. The house is supposed to be getting remodeled. It was questioned if there is an ordinance regarding this. Secretary Neale will look.

Utilities:

Councilman Don Reid stated that there are a lot of streetlights out. He asked if Brian would get pole numbers.

Parks, Recreation and Planning:

Nothing to report.

Police, Mayor, Fire, Code Enforcement:

Mayor Cunningham informed Council that she contacted the Sheriff's Department about having someone in Sykesville for Trick or Treat on October 26th, she has not heard back yet. She suggested putting in the paper to have the parents watch after the kids. President ProTem Alvetro informed that a Fire Truck with lights on will be located at 814 Hardware. A suggestion was made to ask the Sykesville Ambulance for assistance.

Solicitor Gianvito:

Solicitor Nicholas Gianvito informed that Winslow Township's engineer is supposed to be getting in contact with Mr. Long about the increase in sewer rates and he has not got anything back from Troutville Borough. He will try again to get in contact with someone from Troutville as President ProTem Alvetro gave a contact number tonight. He informed that in 2013, the Water & Sewer Authority enacted a resolution to increase Winslow Township's sewer rates from \$4.49/gal. to \$5.49/gal., however, this was never implemented (that is the reasoning for a \$2 jump).

Solicitor Gianvito stated that he can draft a resolution for the increased rates and have the Water & Sewer Authority agree, have the Borough Council enact (since the agreement(s) are with the Borough not the Authority), and then start billing Winslow and Troutville their new rates. Council agreed to have Solicitor Gianvito draft a resolution for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council went into an executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters at 8:16 P.M.

ACTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council reconvened from executive session at 8:40 P.M.

A motion was made by Vice President Elaine Fike and seconded by Councilman Don Reid to increase Sandra Ballard's hourly wage by .25 cents effective October 6, 2025, and to also give her 2-3 hours through the week when extra cleaning is needed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Ron Morris and seconded by Vice President Elaine Fike to re-advertise (3 times) for a part time/temporary police officer "Sykesville Borough is seeking a Part Time/Temporary Police Officer. Starting wage for this position is set at \$18.00/hr. Applications can be picked up at 21 East Main Street, Sykesville, PA 15865, Monday-Friday from 8 AM-4 PM or you can call the office at 814-894-2406. Applications are due November 17, 2025, at 4:00 P.M.". Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Sherry Pruzinsky and seconded by Vice President Elaine Fike. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Jaysa Neale
Borough Secretary/Treasurer

