



## *Town of Sykesville*

7547 Main Street, Sykesville, MD 21784

p: 410.795.8959 f: 410.795.3818

[www.sykesville.net](http://www.sykesville.net)

## *Town House*

*Ian Shaw, Mayor*

*Dawn M. Ashbacher, Town Manager*

*Linda S. Quinn, Town Treasurer*

*Janice M. Perrault, Town Clerk*

**APPROVED**

### **OFFICIAL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 24, 2014 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** **NO. 14-03**

The regular Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on February 24, 2014. Mayor Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Meeting Room at the Town House. Mayor Shaw led the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Ian Shaw, Council Members Leo Keenan, Julia Betz, Anna Carter, Stacy Link and Al Grasley

**ABSENT:** Council President Frank Robert

**STAFF:** Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager  
Sgt. Shawn Kilgore, Interim Police Chief  
Janice Perrault, Town Clerk  
Ivy Wells, Main Street Manager

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:** A resident expressed concern about the trees overhanging roads and sidewalks. Another resident inquired as to whether or not the Town has explored selling recyclables.

**MINUTES:** January 27, 2014

**MOTION:** Council Member Betz motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to approve the minutes as written.

The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT:** Sergeant Kilgore reported on the period from January 23 through February 19. There were a total of 180 calls for service which included 31 assists to other police agencies/departments outside the Town.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** November and December 2013

**MOTION:** Council Member Betz motioned and Council Member Link seconded to approve the November and December Treasurer's report as written.

The motion carried unanimously.

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 24, 2014

Cont.

### COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Main Street Association Board** – Council Member Keenan reported the Board will hold their next meeting on March 4.
- **Historic District Commission** – Council Member Link announced the next meeting will be held on March 25. She mentioned the Gate House Museum will host a discussion on Oakland Mills at the Town House on Thursday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. There is also a new display about Springfield Hospital Center at the Gate House Museum.
- **Warfield Development Corporation** – Mayor Shaw announced the next meeting for WDC is scheduled for March 5.
- **Planning Commission** – Council Member Betz announced the next meeting is scheduled for March 3. At the February 3 meeting the Planning Commission approved two concept plans for 7526 Main Street and for Old Historic Carriage House II and rejected a text amendment to allow age-restricted housing as a conditional use in the Conservation District.
- **Main Street Association, Promotions Committee** – Council Member Grasley announced the next meeting is scheduled for March 5.
- **Parks & Recreation Committee** – Council Member Carter reported the next meeting will be held on February 27.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Part time employee** – On January 27, in closed session, the Mayor and Town Council approved hiring Jesse Wilson as a part time driver for Public Works Department with a pay rate of \$20.00 per hour contingent on successfully passing a physical and drug screen. Jesse Wilson worked for several weeks and then accepted another position and no longer works for the Town.

**Meet and Greet Police Chief Candidates** – On Friday, February 28, between 6:30 and 7:00 p.m. the Town is hosting a Meet and Greet the Police Chief candidates at the Town House.

**Maryland Municipal League** – On March 6, the Town of Manchester will host the Carroll County Chapter dinner.

**Maryland Municipal League** – the Carroll County Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League will offer three \$1,000 scholarships to Carroll County high school students. Applicants must live in one of the eight municipalities and adhere to the listed criteria on the application. The application is due May 2.

**Mayor and Town Council retreat** – the Mayor and Town Council retreat is scheduled for Saturday, March 29.

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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Cont.

**Composting facility** – On Thursday, February 27 at 7:00 PM, a meeting will be held at Friendship Baptist Church, 1391 Sykesville Road, to discuss the Turf Farm on Sykesville Road becoming a composting facility.

**If I were a Mayor** – On March 3, Mayor Shaw will go to Piney Ridge Elementary School to talk to the fourth graders about engaging your community for the Maryland Municipal League “If I Were a Mayor” contest.

**Monsters and Mysteries** – On Friday, February 28 at 10:00 PM EW Beck’s Restaurant will have a viewing party of Destination America’s “Monsters and Mysteries in America” featuring the suspected sighting of bigfoot in Sykesville in the 1970’s.

### BUSINESS:

- 1. Donation of the Blue Caboose to Howard County Farm Museum** – Mayor Shaw announced the donation of the Blue Caboose was discussed at the January 27 meeting, and it was tabled to allow for research on the speed limit on the track. Joe Moltz contacted CSX and he presented information to the Mayor and Town Council regarding the speed limit from Ellicott City to Gaither Road. Mr. Moltz indicated the speed limit is 25 mph and is strictly enforced and the location of the Blue Caboose does not have an effect on the speed of an oncoming train. In addition he mentioned the crossing gate for the train track at Main Street will need to be addressed through the State Highway Administration and there are criteria to determine if the Town qualifies.

### MOTION:

**Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to approve the donation of the blue caboose to Howard County Farm and Antique Machinery Museum with a request to have a plaque that the caboose was donated by the Town of Sykesville, once the caboose is refurbished.**

**The motion carried with Council Member Link opposed.**

- 2. Program Open Space (POS) update** – The Town would like to sell the property at 732 Oklahoma, and to do that the covenant on the deed must be removed. To accomplish this, the Town must provide other Open Space that is equal or greater in size, financial value, and recreational value than the land being replaced. The Mayor and Town Council have approved the Little Sykes Railroad Park, but the Planning Commission requested Ms. Ashbacher continue to look at the Patapsco Valley Overlook. The Mayor and Council agreed that Ms. Ashbacher should ask POS officials one more time if the Patapsco Valley Overlook could possibly meet the conversion criteria. Information will be provided at the next meeting on Monday, March 10.

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

February 24, 2014

Cont.

**MOTION:** Council Member Grasley motioned and Mayor Shaw seconded to take a five minute recess at 8:10 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

**CLOSED  
SESSION:**

Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Betz seconded to go into closed session at 8:30 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was proposed to be closed pursuant to the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 10-508(a) to discuss (1)(i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, designation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction, (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals, (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

**Those in attendance were: Mayor Shaw, Council Members Betz, Carter, Grasley, Keenan, Link, Town Attorney, Dennis Hoover, and Town Manager Dawn Ashbacher.**

**Council President Robert – arrived at 9:05 PM**

**Items discussed were:**

- Consult with legal counsel to discuss Warfield contract negotiations – No action
- Consult with legal counsel to discuss waste oil contract negotiations – No action
- Consult with legal counsel to discuss legal requirements for impact fees – No action
- Personnel--Appointment of employee – confidential personal information - Action
- Personnel—Police Chief Search—confidential personal information – No action

**MOTION:** Mayor Shaw motioned and Council Member Carter seconded to go back into open session at 11:02 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**February 24, 2014**

**Cont.**

**MOTION TO**

**ADJOURN:**

**There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Betz seconded to adjourn meeting at 11:03 p.m.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Janice Perrault**

**Town Clerk**