



Town of Sykesville

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Town House

Stacy Link, Mayor

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager

Jennifer Livesay, Town Treasurer

Kerry G. Kavaloski, Town Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 25-06**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, April 14, 2025. Mayor Link called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Town House Council Chambers. Mayor Link led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Mayor Stacy Link, Council President Anna Carter, and Council Members Alan Grasley, Elizabeth Guroff, Leo Keenan, and Jeremiah Schofield.

ABSENT: Council Member Mark Dyer

STAFF: Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager
Kerry Kavaloski, Town Clerk
Shawn Kilgore, Police Lieutenant
Jennifer Livesay, Town Treasurer

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dan Andersen, 7411 Second Avenue, gave a public comment regarding the election and possible interference.

CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Minutes from March 24, 2025
- II. Reappointment of the Sykesville Parks and Recreation Commission for three-year terms, expiring April 2028

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned to approve the item on the Consent Agenda with the revision provided. Council Member Guroff seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- III. Consider/Discuss/Act on a Proclamation for Earth Day

MOTION: Council Member Keenan motioned to approve the Proclamation for Earth Day. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

- IV. Consider/Discuss/Act on a Proclamation for Arbor Day

MOTION: Council Member Schofield motioned to approve the Proclamation for Arbor Day. Council Member Keenan seconded the motion.

Council Member Schofield highlighted that trees in the community help lower temperatures, help with stormwater management, help lower cooling costs, and help improve mental health.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS:

- The next meeting is Monday, April 28, 2025.
- We have volunteer opportunities available as a Crossing Guard, on the Police Auxiliary, and on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.
- Staff Updates:
 - Mr. Cosentini thanked the Public Works Department for their work on Bulk Pick Up Day. 20 tons of trash were picked up on Bulk Pickup Day. Mr. Cosentini also thanked Area Refuse for their help on Bulk Pickup Day.

Mr. Cosentini announced that the Baldwin's Drive parking lot is closed and concrete forms are being placed this week. This project will cause a loss of four parking spaces, and four will be lost from the Station building kitchen expansion. There is a plan to extend the parking lot to the west.

Mr. Cosentini announced that Springfield Avenue is set to be striped this week.

The FY2025-2026 budget will be introduced at the April 28 meeting.

- Treasurer's Report
Ms. Livesay presented the March 2025 Treasurer's Report. She explained that BGE increased their rates on January 1, so utilities have been increasing. There was an expense in streets and roads due to a sinkhole that needed to be repaired. Parks and Recreation is over due to replacement of equipment such as swings, picnic tables, and the fence around the splash pad.
- Public Safety Report
Lieutenant Kilgore presented the Public Safety Report for the period of March 18 through April 6. There was a total of 743 reports, including 11 assist other agencies, 16 community policing events, 56 foot patrols, 404 patrol checks, and 67 traffic enforcement initiatives.

Council Member Schofield asked about additional police presence this past weekend, and if the Town would be warned if another agency came into Town to execute a warrant. Lt. Kilgore explained that there were no special events this past weekend that would account for any additional police presence. Lt. Kilgore also explained that if another

agency came in to Town to execute a warrant, they don't typically warn the Sykesville Police Department.

Council President Carter announced that the Police Department offers a house check service. The request forms can be found online or a person can call the Police Department to set it up.

Mayor Link thanked Officer Bond for his community policing efforts and traffic enforcement.

V. Council/Commission Reports

- Council Member Schofield announced that Planning Commission met on Monday, April 7, to finalize the recommendation for allowing an assisted living facility on Warfield Parcel B to the Board of Zoning Appeals, to approve a preliminary plan for the Enclave at Parkside, to introduce a site plan for the French Twist addition, and to approve a site plan for the Schoolhouse Road Apartments.
- Council Member Guroff announced that the Parks and Recreation Commission had a good turnout at their cleanup on April 12. Drew Rittenhouse, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, led a nature walk after the cleanup was finished. The Easter Egg Hunt is on April 18 at 10 A.M. in Millard Cooper Park.
- Council Member Grasley announced the Historic District Commission met on March 26 to discuss four applications, which were all approved. There was a discussion of color palette at the meeting.
- Council Member Keenan announced that the Green Committee has a garden planting session. There will be a walkthrough of 7611 Main Street for the Council on April 29 at 6 P.M. The Director and several others attended a workforce development training. Volunteer opportunities are available, and the signup links are on the Downtown Sykesville Connection website. Tickets are available for upcoming events. The Let Freedom Ring Parade will include the neighborhood Unity Float Showdown.

Council Member Keenan also acknowledged Alexandra Ries, candidate for Town Council, in the audience.

- Mayor Link gave a "Syke Out" to the Public Works Department for their thoughtful decisions and options on Bulk Pickup Day. Habitat for Humanity's ReStore was also having a donation drive on the same day, and they will take building and construction material as well.
- There will be a Candidate Forum on April 17 beginning at 7 P.M. It will be livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook and will be on local cable channels 19, 23, and HD1072.

RECESS: Council Member Grasley motioned to take a recess at 7:43 P.M. Council President Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned to return to open session at 7:49 P.M. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION:

The meeting is proposed to be closed pursuant to the General Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b): (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council President Carter seconded to go into closed session at 7:50 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Those in attendance were: Mayor Link, Council President Carter, Council Members Grasley, Guroff, Keenan, and Schofield, Town Manager Joseph Cosentini, and Town Clerk Kerry Kavaloski.

Items discussed were:

- **Pending Litigation – Warfield Lawsuits – no action**

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council President seconded to go back into open session at 8:21 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Grasley motioned and Council President Carter seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:22 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Kavaloski**