



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 AUGUST 11, 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 25-13**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, August 11, 2025. Mayor Link called the meeting to order at 7:02 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 Mark Dyer, Elizabeth Guroff, Leo Keenan, Alexandra Ries, and Jeremiah Schofield.

STAFF: Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager
Kerry Kavaloski, Town Clerk
Michael Spaulding, Police Chief
Jennifer Livesay, Town Treasurer

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chris Bushman, 532 Oklahoma Avenue, provided a public comment about the Sykesville Police Department and how he is impressed with the Police's response to the different cases.

MOTION: Council Member Schofield motioned to extend the time allotted to Mr. Bushman for his public comment. Council Member Guroff seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Busman thanked Chief Spaulding for continuing to recognize his officers and submit them for awards and accomplishments.

Ian Cornelius-Rommel, 7272 Norris Avenue, provided a public comment about how bags are not allowed in curbside recycling.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- I. Minutes from July 14, 2025**
- II. Reappointment of Ted Ludvigsen and Mike Scheiner to the Planning Commission for five-year terms, expiring July 2030**
- III. Reappointment of Al McEvoy to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a three-year term, expiring August 2028**

MOTION: Council President Carter motioned to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Council Member Dyer seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

IV. Consider/Discuss/Act on Resolution NO. 2025-02: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SYKESVILLE ACCEPTING A DEED OF ROAD DEDICATION CONVEYING THE SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO THE TOWN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING THE TOWN TO MAINTAIN THE ROADWAY

Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, explained that Schoolhouse Road is a privately owned roadway that has functioned as a public road for years. The Town has provided routine maintenance and snow removal services, and the road was resurfaced in 2019 as part of the completion of the Schoolhouse Road pumping station by Carroll County Utilities. The roadway itself is built to the Town's public standard, it lies within a 50-foot right-of-way, has curbing, and includes a sidewalk on the south side.

Council President Carter asked if Schoolhouse Road would be the access to the small development proposed to be built on a parcel off of Schoolhouse Road. Having a private road be accessed from a private road is not a best practice.

Council Member Schofield asked approximately how much road resurfacing would cost for Schoolhouse Road. It would be around \$100,000 to \$125,000, and the Town can use Highway User Revenue to fund the resurfacing.

MOTION: Council Member Keenan motioned to adopt Resolution NO. 2025-02: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SYKESVILLE ACCEPTING A DEED OF ROAD DEDICATION CONVEYING THE SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO THE TOWN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING THE TOWN TO MAINTAIN THE ROADWAY. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS:

- The next meeting is Monday, September 8, 2025.
- We have volunteer opportunities available as a Crossing Guard and on the Police Auxiliary. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.
- Staff Updates
 - Mr. Cosentini announced that the Town is doing stormwater inspections, and if residents have a concern, they should reach out to the Town.

Carroll County Utilities is starting utility work on Talon Lane and Wimmer Lane replacing water meters and some service lines.

Streetscape is moving forward with pavers being placed on the roadway on Oklahoma Avenue. The island behind French Twist will be expanded, and staff is coordinating with French Twist for their addition. No complaints have been received about Oklahoma Avenue being

closed, but Farm and Home Services is not able to access their lot as easily as before. The Baldwin Drive and Main Street intersection is not the final layout. It will be completed during Phase 3, which is expected to be in January or February. Phase 3 will be done during the winter months so as to not disturb the different events in the area.

The street closure and layout for Sippin' on Summer has been changed due to the closure on Oklahoma Avenue.

Mr. Cosentini explained the annexation process as it is currently dictated in State law. He explained that this annexation process would have to be followed even for property identified as part of the Town's growth area in the Comprehensive Plan.

○

○ Treasurer's Report

Jennifer Livesay, Town Treasurer, presented the July 2025 Treasurer's Report. She explained that the Town has received \$291,000 from the Town County Agreement and \$450,000 from property tax. Annual expenses include insurance and subscriptions; percentages on the Treasurer's Report may be close to 100% for these categories because they are single payments each year. The Town bought a new hybrid police vehicle. Revenues and expenses are similar to Fiscal Year 2025.

○ Public Safety Report

Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of July 6 through August 3. There was a total of 983 reports, including 19 assist other agencies, 19 community policing events, 92 foot patrols, 24 incident reports, 500 patrol checks, and 86 traffic enforcement initiatives.

Chief Spaulding explained that the firearm in incident report #000103 was reported as lost, not stolen. It has been entered into the nationwide database, so if its serial number is ever run through the system, it will be flagged.

Council Member Dyer suggested members of the public check their credit and their property records for free using legitimate services.

Mayor Link asked about the mini bikes that have been seen throughout Town recently. She mentioned that they are possibly in violation of the Town's noise ordinance. Lieutenant Kilgore explained that the officers have increased their patrol checks in the Schoolhouse Road area and have not noticed anything that would rise to the level of a noise ordinance violation. Chief Spaulding explained that there has been an increase in unregistered motor vehicles, particularly mini dirt bikes, typically driven by juveniles without helmets. He has instructed his officers to keep an eye out for them and to stop and cite where appropriate. To date, they have stopped and disciplined three operators. It is important to note that the Town ordinance only addresses public property, Town roads, and if the mini bikes are being

operated on private property, the Police cannot cite them under the Town ordinance.

Chief Spaulding announced that a subject vehicle and subjects descriptions have been identified in the Millard Cooper Park thefts from vehicles. They suspects are related to 13 other incidents in surrounding jurisdictions.

Chief Spaulding announced that National Night Out was very well attended. He thanked Paula Shilo from the Sykesville Freedom District Volunteer Fire Department for coordinating and organizing the event.

Chief Spaulding presented data from calls for service at Birch Manor retirement home. He explained that from January to July there has been 117 Fire and Emergency Medical Services calls and six Sykesville Police Department calls. The Police Department calls are down quite a bit, with there being 39 calls in 2019.

Chief Spaulding announced that Lieutenant Kilgore has been named Agency Instructor of the Year by the Maryland Police and Correctional Officers Training Commission.

- Council/Commission Updates

- Council Member Dyer announced there is a meeting of the Carroll County Cable Regulatory Commission on Thursday. If there is an issue that affects multiple people, he is happy to bring it up to the Commission.
- Council Member Schofield announced that the Planning Commission met on August 4 and approved a site plan and amended plat plan for Lib's Grill. He also announced that the applicant for the Warfield Center submitted comments regarding the minutes from the July 7 meeting.

Council Member Schofield thanked the police for going to the end of every case and for making the community safe.

- Council Member Guroff announced that the Historic District Commission approved a wall sign for Uncle Joe's at 7611 Main Street and a porch repair at 7330 Springfield Avenue.
- Council Member Ries announced that SPARC showed The Sandlot and the world premier of Skate of Hide, a movie created by resident Steve Polites. She explained that at the July SPARC meeting, the Commission asked her to bring the daycares at the splash pad issue to the Council's attention. She would like to request staff to continue researching the issue and possible solutions.

Drew Rittenhouse, Parks and Recreation Coordinator, has reached out to local daycares in an effort to coordinate daycare days. Staff can certainly look at the actual numbers of buses. A redesign of the parking lot is in the works.

- Council Member Keenan announced Sippin' on Summer is on Saturday; tickets are available online. The Farmers' Markets continue every Sunday. There was an Art at the Garden event that was a success.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Keenan motioned and Council President Carter seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:04 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Kavaloski