



Town of Sykesville

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Town House

Stacy Link, Mayor

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager

Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer

Kerry G. Kavaloski, Town Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2023 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 23-16**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, October 23, 2023. 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, Mark Dyer, Leo Keenan, and Jeremiah Schofield.

STAFF: Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager
Police Chief Michael Spaulding
Police Lieutenant Shawn Kilgore
Kerry Kavaloski, Town Clerk
Derek Shreves, Public Works Director
Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- I. **Minutes from September 25, 2023**
- II. **Municipal Government Works Month Proclamation**

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

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- III. **Consider/Discuss/Act on Resolution NO. 2023-06 proclaiming October 20, 2023, as Community Media Day.**
Mayor Link introduced Richard Turner, Executive Director of the Community Media Center (CMC), and Theresa Bethune, Board Chair of the CMC. Mr. Turner announced that the CMC recently won a national award for excellence in programming for a new award category of virtual programming.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned to approve Resolution NO. 2023-06 proclaiming October 20, 2023, as Community Media Day. Council Member Guroff seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Sykesville Police Department – Officer Promotions

Chief Spaulding promoted Michael Schlaerth to the rank of Sergeant.

Chief Spaulding also promoted Annelise Barrett to the rank of Corporal.

V. Consider/Discuss/Act on replacement of the Town Data Server

Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, explained that the current server is running on an operating system from 2012, which will soon be unsupported by Microsoft. Staff worked with the Town's IT company, SelTec, for a proposal for a data server, and a cloud-based server was recommended. Council Member Dyer asked about the amount of storage, 100 GB. Mr. Cosentini explained that 100 GB is per email account, not for the entire storage. SelTec would continue maintaining the server, and they would be able to work on it remotely. Having it cloud-based will also help with retention in case something happens at the Town House or with the physical server. Staff will also be able to log into the server remotely, allowing for the ability to work remotely.

MOTION: Council Member Dyer motioned to approve the replacement of the Town Data Server. Council President Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Consider/Discuss/Act on a Capital Purchase for a new Dump Truck Bed

Mr. Cosentini explained that the existing truck bed has been worn down to the point of not being able to be fixed. The capital item line for Public Works is currently under what was budgeted due to more cost-effective options being found by Derek Shreves, Public Works Director. The frame of the truck is still good and could even last longer than the replacement truck bed. The bed should last 15-20 years.

Mayor Link gave Mr. Shreves a "Syke-Out" congratulations for finding options for the other capital purchases.

MOTION: Council Member Keenan motioned to approve the Capital Purchase for a new Dump Truck Bed. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS:

- The next meeting is Monday, November 13, 2023
- We have volunteer opportunities available on the Historic District Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Police Auxiliary.

Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.

- Staff Updates
 - Town Manager Update – Joe Cosentini
 - Carroll County has finished the lining repair on Main Street, though they have a few more minor repairs that they will finish after the State replaces the base layer of asphalt. The minor repairs will not require additional digging through the base layer. The State does have some stormwater repairs that they will do after the base layer repaving. The Town has requested the stormwater repairs begin after the holidays, as they will require bracing of utility poles and blocking of the sidewalks.
 - Springfield Avenue work was supposed to continue, and surveyors were out earlier in the day.
 - The mini Linear Trail project has been completed.
 - Trick-or-Treat is on October 31, from 6 PM to 8 PM. If you wish to participate, please turn your porch lights on.
 - Treasurer's Report

Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer, presented the September 2023 Treasurer's Report. Revenues exceed expenditures, and additional real estate taxes have been received. They will be shown on the next Treasurer's Report. He also announced that he is hoping for the audit to be done by the end of the month.
 - Public Safety Report

Mayor Link announced that Chief Spaulding participated as the only law enforcement member on a fentanyl and community response panel at the Maryland Municipal League Fall Conference.

Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of September 18 through October 15. There was a total of 715 reports, including 23 assist other agencies, 20 community policing events, 34 foot patrols, 18 incident reports, 328 patrol checks, and 31 traffic enforcement initiatives. He explained that a fourth degree burglary is with the intent to steal, but a third degree burglary involves a storehouse, garage, or outbuilding.

The police and auxiliary are all training in the use of Naloxone, and a Naloxone cabinet will be installed in the Police Department where individuals can obtain Naloxone for free. Individuals are covered under the Good Samaritan Law, so they cannot be arrested or charged just for picking up Naloxone. A community event for Naloxone training is also being planned. Council Member Guroff also announced that there is a mobile health RV that travels through the county providing care.

Chief Spaulding explained that there has been an uptick in stolen vehicles and thefts from vehicles in the entire area. He reminded everyone to lock their cars and not to keep anything of value in their cars.

Council Member Grasley thanked Sgt. Schlaerth for performing CPR during incident 233. The family on scene was very thankful for the response. Council Member Keenan thanked Officer Lacy for giving gas to someone in need. Overall, the department was thanked for their community policing events.

Chief Spaulding also announced that there is a DEA Drug TakeBack Day on October 28. The lobby will be open from 9 AM to 2 PM, however the prescription drop off box is always in the Police Department lobby.

- Council/Committee Reports
 - Council Member Schofield thanked the Town for the speed sign on Oklahoma Avenue, however, he asked if additional deterrents could be researched.
 - Council Member Guroff announced that the Parks and Recreation Commission finished their summer season. Their next event is the Santa event in December. The Skate Jam event will be in the spring. She also thanked Mayor Link and Julie Della-Maria for their participation in her Leadership Maryland.
 - Council Member Grasley announced the Historic District Commission meeting for October has been cancelled as there is no applications to review.
 - Council Member Keenan announced that the Fall Fun Festival was on October 21 and was a success. The Trick-or-Treat on Main Street event is Saturday, October 28, from 3 PM to 5 PM. The Beer Festival is on November 4, the Snallygaster Family Fling is on November 19 in Freedom Park, and the Happy-Thon fundraising is currently ongoing. He also announced that a post will be made on the DSC Facebook page soon regarding Sykesville Station gift cards.
 - Mayor Link announced that she attended the Fall Conference held by the Maryland Municipal League, and the Governor of Maryland announced he will be meeting with all Mayors in quarterly meetings. She also announced that the Town has received their Sustainable Maryland designation, which is because of sustainable actions taken by the Town, and it will open grants and other opportunities for the Town.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Grasley motioned and Council President Carter seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:14 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Kavaloski