

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2018 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NO. 18-01

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018. 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 and a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Mayor Ian Shaw, Council President Julia Betz, and Council Members Anna Carter, Alan Grasley, Chris True, and Stacy Link. Council Member Leo Keenan arrived during the Treasurer's Report.

STAFF: David Deutsch, Interim Town Manager
Police Chief Michael Spaulding
Police Sergeant Shawn Kilgore
Evelyn Sweet, Town Treasurer
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Derek Shreves, Public Works Director
Jared Schumacher, Circuit Rider

PUBLIC CONCERNS: None

MINUTES: December 11, 2017

MOTION: Council Member True motioned and Council President Betz seconded to approve the minutes with the revisions provided.

The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: November 2017

Evelyn Sweet, Town Treasurer, reported that there will be budget adjustments at the next meeting. She also announced that Catonsville Homes, LLC stopped paying their invoices. They have not been billed since they stopped paying. She and Mayor Shaw will discuss how to proceed.

MOTION: Council Member True motioned and Council Member Link seconded to approve the November 2017 Treasurer's Report.

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

REPORT: Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of December 8, 2017 through January 4, 2018. He explained how the new breakdown of the report worked. There was a total of 648 reports including 30 foot patrols, 17 incident

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reports, 355 patrol checks, and 53 traffic enforcement initiatives. Chief Spaulding explained that he is still working out the bugs in the system, which is why there are 21 incidents detailed and only 17 reported.

Chief Spaulding explained that the bullet found at Sykesville Middle School was not a live round and had been previously fired. It was found by staff and disposed of by the Police Department.

He also explained that the vandalism at Warfield continues even with the patrol checks done by officers. Sergeant Kilgore found a man spray painting the tunnel leading from Millard Cooper Park to the Warfield Complex. He had the young man clean off the spray paint instead of being charged.

Chief Spaulding announced that today is Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. The Mayor and Council thanked the Chief and his officers for everything they do to help keep Sykesville a safe town. Council Member Grasley thanked them for their quick response to his call.

Chief Spaulding is working on compiling the yearly stats to report to the Mayor and Town Council. It is the first year entirely with the Records Management System.

The open police officer has been advertised for and 40 applications were submitted. Chief will be bringing in the top applicants for interviews soon.

There were no major incidents during the ice event that occurred. The officers try to contact owners of cars parked along snow emergency routes to give them a chance to move the car before getting ticketed or towed.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

REPORTS:

- Written reports were provided

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Christmas Tree Pickup, January 10 and 17
- Town Offices will be closed on January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Mayor Shaw announced that Aretha Adams was hired as the new Town Manager. She will begin on February 5. He and the Council thanked all of the staff and citizens involved in the thorough interview process.

OPEN SESSION:

Business:

1. **Public Hearing on Ordinance NO. 301 – to amend, adopt, and enact sections of the Town Code of Sykesville to: (1) Amend Chapter 51 to reference the existing section as Article I and update the references therein to the County animal regulations; and (2) Adopt and enact a new article II in Chapter 51 regarding animals at Town events**

Chief Spaulding explained the ordinance to those in attendance. This ordinance was also requested by Julie Della-Maria and the Downtown Sykesville Connection to increase safety by not allowing pets at events.

There were no public comments.

MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to close the public hearing.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Consideration of Ordinance NO. 301

Council President Betz provided a revision to Ordinance NO. 301. In the bold section under the whereas recitals, in the third line, it should say "Section 51-1 as set forth..."

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to adopt Ordinance NO. 301 – to amend, adopt, and enact sections of the Town Code of Sykesville to: (1) Amend Chapter 51 to reference the existing section as Article I and update the references therein to the County animal regulations; and (2) Adopt and enact a new article II in Chapter 51 regarding animals at Town events with the revision provided by Council President Betz.

The motion carried unanimously.

The Downtown Sykesville Connection will work on signs to be placed at the entrances to the events about pets not being allowed to enter.

3. Approval to apply for the MHT Capital Improvement Grant

Jared Schumacher, Circuit Rider, was in attendance to answer questions about this item. The due date for the Letter of Intent to Apply was moved to February 1, 2018. Funds should have a fairly quick turnaround because of the upcoming end to the fiscal year. There is a one for one match with the grant funding, however, labor can be used as part of the match. Mr. Schumacher has discussed with Jack White, Curator of the Gate House Museum, how to use volunteer hours and work for the labor portion.

The Mayor and Council agreed and gave their consent for Mr. Schumacher to move forward with the grant process.

4. Consideration of Resolution NO. 2018-01 allowing alcohol to be sold at Downtown Sykesville Connection events

The Downtown Sykesville Connection provided this resolution with all of their events listed so they do not have to come back to the Mayor and Town Council for a resolution for each individual event. Council President Betz provided some corrections for this resolution. In the Farmers' Markets bullet, the September dates should be September 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. In the Craft Beer Festival bullet, the word "Saturday" should be inserted before November.

MOTION: Council Member True motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to approve Resolution NO. 2018-01 allowing alcohol to be sold at the Downtown Sykesville Connection events with the revisions provided by Council President Betz.

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The motion carried unanimously.

5. Development Fee Schedule Update

David Deutsch, Interim Town Manager, explained that he has been researching this and checking with surrounding jurisdictions about their fee schedules, as the Town's hasn't been updated in a long time. He explained that there are some fees that he can't find out when they were last updated. He is putting together a list of all fees, not just development fees, so it will be easy to review each year and update as needed. He will present this at the next meeting.

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned and Council Member Keenan seconded to take a five minute recess at 7:42 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to go back into open session at 7:51 P.M.

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): (1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals, (3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition, and (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to go into closed session at 7:52 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Those in attendance were: Mayor Shaw, Council President Betz, Council Members Carter, Grasley, Keenan, Link, and True, Interim Town Manager David Deutsch, Town Attorney Dennis Hoover, Town Treasurer Evelyn Sweet and Public Works Director Derek Shreves for the personnel item, and Robert Morris and Ken Johnson for the Warfield Contract Update.

Items discussed were:

- **Real Property** – 714 Sandosky Road
- **Personnel** – Confidential Personal Information
- **Consult with Legal Counsel** – Warfield Contract Update

MOTION: Council President Betz motioned and Council Member Grasley seconded to go back into open session at 10:21 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

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MOTION: Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Link seconded to approve three separate actions on grading and stormwater management easements at Warfield. This motion covers all three actions.

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member True motioned and Council President Betz seconded to adjourn meeting at 10:23 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney