

Dear

DRAFT

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2020 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NO. 20-07

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, April 13, 2020. Mayor Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom.us. Mayor Shaw led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Mayor Ian Shaw, Council President Alan Grasley, and Council Members Anna Carter, Mark Dyer, Leo Keenan, Stacy Link, and Jeremiah Schofield.

STAFF: Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager
Police Chief Michael Spaulding
Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Jana Antrobus, Executive Assistant
Mark Onheiser, Special Projects Coordinator
Derek Shreves, Public Works Director
Dennis Hoover, Town Attorney

OPEN SESSION:

CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Minutes from April 6, 2020
- II. Appointment of Keith Mathis to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a Term ending April 2023

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Business:

- I. **Introduction of Ordinance NO. 2020-04 – Disturbing the Peace**
Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, explained this ordinance came about from complaints of people urinating in public during the Beer Fest in 2019. There is not an ordinance in place currently allowing the Police to enforce no urinating in public. This would be an enforcement tool for the Police.

Council Member Schofield asked if there was data on the number of urinating in public complaints, and if this ordinance covers noise violations as well. Chief Spaulding explained that they do not have actual numbers from over the year. This ordinance is strictly for urinating in public.

Mayor Shaw and Council Member Carter both expressed interest in having a noise ordinance.

Mr. Cosentini explained that the violation section of the ordinance will be moved so it encompasses the whole Disturbing the Peace chapter. It is a flat fee per occurrence rather than an increasing fee with each occurrence. There is wiggle room for enforcement from the Police Officers depending on the situation.

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned to introduce Ordinance NO. 2020-04. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

II. Consider/Discuss/Act on a Sick Leave Donation Policy

Mr. Cosentini introduced this policy. He explained that this was raised when an employee was off for a medical procedure and received an advance on sick leave.

Council Member Dyer asked why the advancement would be removed with the donation policy. Mr. Cosentini explained that it was removed to make it apparent as to when the employee is allowed to use the donated leave. There is no pressure for anyone to donate any leave to the bank.

Mayor Shaw wondered about staffing shortages if an employee is out for a full 12-months. That would be handled on a case to case basis.

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to approve the Sick Leave Donation Policy with a clerical correction of changing Section 4A, I, to read “of a member of their immediate family”. Council Member Keenan seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

- Next Mayor and Town Council Meeting is on Monday, April 27, 2020. This will be a Zoom.us meeting.
- Spring Cleanup Day has been postponed. A new date will be announced after the State of Emergency has been lifted.
- We have volunteer opportunities available on the Historic District Commission, SPARC, Police Auxiliary, and Crossing Guard. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.
- Staff Updates

Mr. Cosentini announced that there will be a budget workshop sometime next week via Zoom.us.

- o **Treasurer's Report**

Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer, presented the February 2020 Treasurer's Report. He explained that the budget amendments are not reflective in this report as they were adopted in March. Almost all of the property tax has been collected for this fiscal year. He is not sure when the income tax money will be collected. Highway User Revenues will be lower than expected. The current Town operations should not be affected by the \$2.8 billion shortfall at the state level, but Mr. Cosentini anticipates some intergovernmental impact.

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to approve the February 2020 Treasurer's Report. Council Member Link seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

- o **Public Safety Report**

Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of March 9 through April 7. There was a total of 820 reports including 19 assist other agencies, 8 community policing events, 37 foot patrols, 562 patrol checks, and 12 traffic enforcement initiatives. Chief Spaulding explained that there are many more patrol checks and less traffic enforcement initiatives due to COVID-19. The officers are patrolling the Main Street businesses while many are closed.

Chief Spaulding explained that the officers are doing temperature checks and screenings but are still going into homes and arresting suspects. They have a cleaner for their cars and can use the Carroll County Sheriff's Office transport van if it is available.

- **Council/Committee Reports**

- o Council Member Schofield thanked Public Works for the sign at the Raincliffe playground and asked if they could put a sign at the gazebo as well.
- o Council Member Link announced that the Parks and Rec have a virtual egg hunt on Facebook.
- o Council Member Keenan announced there was a Downtown Sykesville Connection (DSC) meeting via Zoom. The Art and Wine Festival has been rescheduled for September 12. There is an open DSC board seat and applications are being accepted. There is a DSC board meeting via Zoom on Monday, April 20.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Keenan motioned and Council Member Link seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:02 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney**