

Dear

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2020 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NO. 2020-03

Prior to the Council Meeting, the Council had an Emergency Operations Plan Tabletop Exercise Debrief with staff from the Emergency Operations Department of Carroll County.

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, February 10, 2020. 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 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
Derek Shreves, Public Works Director

CONSENT AGENDA

(2020-11) Minutes from January 27, 2020
(2020-12) Appointment of Chad Bederka to the HDC

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

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC

COMMENTS: There were no Public Comments.

NEW BUSINESS:

- I. **(2020-13) Funding Request for South Branch Park**
Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager, explained that the Town received a request from Howard County for assistance in funding a shortfall for the new parking lot. Howard County completed engineering on the creation of 46 hard surface parking spaces and stormwater and sidewalk improvements. They are requesting \$50,000 from the Town.

There is \$50,000 in the Town's Capital Outlay fund that is designated for renovations to the Apple Butter Building in South Branch Park. Mr. Cosentini recommends using this money for the parking lot, and money can be put back in the budget for next year for the Apple Butter Building. Howard County has not committed to a dollar amount that they will contribute to the renovations of the Apple Butter Building.

Council Member Link explained that the Hive has donated approximately \$130,000 of in-kind work and time. Work is being done, and plans are being created to improve the Apple Butter Building. She doesn't want the progress to be lost due to a lack of funding. There was also a concern about the need for heavy machinery to get to the Apple Butter Building for any renovations. Staff will check the specs for the weight limit of the pavement.

Water and sewer for the building would be behind the building and out of the floodplain. The parking lot would not need to be dug up for the installation. Staff will ask Howard County to place conduit under the parking lot for electricity and other utilities for the Apple Butter Building.

Construction will begin in Spring and will last for six months. Council Member Keenan asked for the construction to start after the Art and Wine Fest on May 3. This way the area can still be used for vendor parking during the festival.

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to approve the reallocation of the capital expenditure of \$50,000 from the renovations of the Apple Butter Building to the construction of a parking lot and stormwater improvements at South Branch Park. Council Member Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AND REPORTS:

- Next Mayor and Town Council Meeting is on Monday, February 24, 2020.
- We have volunteer opportunities available on the Historic District Commission, BZA, SPARC, Police Auxiliary, and Crossing Guard. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.

STAFF UPDATES:

Mr. Cosentini announced the following:

- The Requests for Qualifications for a firm to complete the Master Plan are due Wednesday, February 12.
- The Requests for Proposals for the Splash Pad are due Thursday, February 13.

- He has a conference call with Farm and Home Services and Total Environmental Concepts regarding the phase II study that was done on the site.
- The meeting on February 24 will be televised by the Carroll Media Center.
- Budget amendments are being worked by staff and will be before Council soon.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT:**

Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer, presented the December 2019 Treasurer's Report. He explained that there wasn't anything too alarming in the report.

MOTION: **Council Member Link motioned to approve the December 2019 Treasurer's Report. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.**

The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT:**

Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of January 21 through February 3. There was a total of 294 reports including 10 assist other agencies, four community policing events, 14 incident reports, 132 patrol checks, and 25 traffic enforcement initiatives. Chief Spaulding explained that the violations of protective orders resulted from a domestic abuse incident. The person was arrested, and the significant other obtained the protective order. The person called over 60 times and texted over 80 times, violating the protective order. The person was arrested again, and, while in jail, had his bunkmate's wife call the person with the protective order, which resulted in another violation.

Chief Spaulding announced that Officer Kirkner is working on fixing the surveillance camera. Once it is operational, the camera might be placed on Second Avenue and Oklahoma Avenue. There have been two incidents at that location recently involving people in a UHaul attempting to steal motocross bikes. Residents' Ring Doorbell video shows the UHaul but license plates or UHaul truck numbers are not visible. Both incidents have occurred when the police department is not staffed at night. Temporarily, the officers have extended their shifts to cover the unstaffed times.

Chief Spaulding also announced that the teen who was found with spray paint in his car and who confessed to some of the graffiti will be cleaning the tunnel of the graffiti and will be repainting Tom's Automotive. Mark Onheiser, Special Projects Coordinator, is working on getting products to remove the graffiti.

The Jr. CSI Camp will be held again this year. It will take place on September 15, 22, and 29, and October 6. The targeted age group is middle schoolers.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

- **Raincliffe Home Owners' Association (HOA)** – Council Member Schofield announced that there was no HOA meeting. The next meeting is in March.
 - o **MML Legislative Committee** – Council Member Schofield also announced that the MML Legislative Committee is continuing its meetings every Wednesday.
- **Historic District Commission** – Council Member Carter announced that the HDC met on January 28 and approved new flags on the light poles for the Downtown Sykesville Connection. The next HDC meeting is February 25.
- **MML Mayor's Conference** – Mayor Shaw announced he attended the MML Mayor's Conference. Howard County and Baltimore County are trying to get Community Parks and Playgrounds money that MML is opposing. There is also a push to get the Highway User Revenues sunset provision removed and tie the amounts to the Consumer Price Index.
- **Merchants** – Council President Grasley announced the merchants voted on a new mission statement. The Cocoa Crawl is on February 15, and mugs are on sale at Patapsco Distillery. There is a Merchant's meeting with the Mayor and Town Manager on February 21 at 9 AM at the Town House.
- **Downtown Sykesville Connection (DSC)** – Council Member Keenan announced that they are interviewing people for the Event Coordinator position soon. There was a retreat on Saturday, and Maryland Main Street documents were worked on.
- **Planning Commission** – Council Member Dyer announced that Planning Commission met on February 3. They discussed many aspects of the Master Plan with Joe Cosentini, Town Manager.
- **Parks and Recreation (SPARC)** – Council Member Link announced the next SPARC meeting is on February 27 at 7 PM.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President Grasley motioned and Council Member Carter seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:03 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney