

Dear

DRAFT

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2020 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NO. 2020-02

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, January 27, 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
Officer Lee Brandenburg
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Derek Shreves, Public Works Director

CONSENT

AGENDA: (2020-07) Minutes from January 13, 2020

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned to approve the item on the Consent Agenda. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC

COMMENTS: Patrick Boline was in attendance. He would like to see a mirror added at the bottom of Mellor Avenue and Sandosky Road. He explained that he lives on Mellor Avenue, and the intersection is dangerous. A mirror would help improve the visibility. Town Staff will look into the possibility of putting a mirror on the BGE pole there or placing a new pole to hold the mirror right next to the existing one.

NEW BUSINESS:

- I. **(2020-08) Introduction of Officer Lee Brandenburg, SPD**
Chief Spaulding introduced the newest officer, Lee Brandenburg. Officer Brandenburg came from Anne Arundel County Police and was a detective. Council welcomed Officer Lee to Sykesville.

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS:**

II. (2020-09) Public Hearing and Consider/Discuss/Act on Ordinance NO. 2020-01 for Public Utilities

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager, explained that the Ordinance has been updated from the one seen at the last meeting. The fines and fees have been added from the current ordinance and the shot clock application requirements were added from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

There were no public comments.

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to close the public hearing on Ordinance NO. 2020-01 for Public Utilities. Council Member Link seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Schofield voiced concerns over the size specifications of the small cell towers. Mr. Cosentini explained that the numbers were from the FCC; the towers will still need to comply with Town zoning regulations. An application will be received for each tower. There were questions about if the Town had consulted with MML staff or with other towns on the ordinance. Mayor Shaw recommended approving the current ordinance so there is something in place. Once staff talks with MML staff and with other towns about what has and hasn't worked with their ordinances, the ordinance can be amended.

MOTION: Council Member Schofield motioned to approve Ordinance No 2020-01 for Public Utilities. Council Member Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

III. (2020-10) Public Hearing and Consider/Discuss/Act on Ordinance NO. 2020-02 for the BG&E Franchise Agreement

The franchise agreement that was previously shown to Council still referenced the 1970s documents. That has been changed.

There were no public comments.

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to close the public hearing on Ordinance NO. 2020-02 for the BG&E Franchise Agreement. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to approve Ordinance NO. 2020-02 for the BG&E Franchise Agreement. Council Member Keenan seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

- Next Mayor and Town Council Meeting is on Monday, February 10, 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
 - o Mr. Cosentini announced that Jana Antrobus, Executive Assistant, is doing well after surgery.
 - o The BGE sample lights have been installed on Kalorama Road by the trailheads. Pole number 7410 is 3,000 Kelvins; pole number 7411 is 4,000 Kelvins. Staff was trying to get rid of the blue hue of the lights while maintaining the brightness.
 - o The MML Summer Conference will be held June 28 through July 1.
 - o Council thanked Town Clerk Kerry Chaney for her work with the Volunteer Breakfast. Mr. Cosentini talked with the S&P Railway members and would like to have a meeting with SPARC about Santa's Arrival.

Public Safety Report:

Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of January 6 through January 20. There was a total of 354 reports including 7 assist other agencies, three community policing events, 12 incident reports, 178 patrol checks and 28 traffic enforcement initiatives.

Chief Spaulding announced that the speed trailer has been deployed on Second Avenue. He will send the data to the Council. In 9-1-1 hang up incidents, an officer goes to the house or location to make sure everything is okay and to educate people on the proper use of the 9-1-1 emergency system. Unattended death means any death that a physician was not present at the passing. The unattended death in the incident reports was health related.

Chief Spaulding announced that during 2019, the Auxiliary Officers logged 948.5 volunteer hours with Jeff Queen logging the most hours. The Auxiliary is looking into getting grants to help with their programs and outfitting. Based on the number of hours volunteered, the Auxiliary unit has saved the Town \$24,000.

The Police Department yearly numbers are up overall. Officer Jason Kirkner has been named the Officer of the Year, Officer Mike Schlaerth has been named the Community Policing Officer of the Year, and Auxiliary Officer Jeff Queen has been named Auxiliary Officer of the Year.

Chief Spaulding announced that they have a camera that they found in storage. They are looking to get it working so they can use it to help deter and catch offenders in some of the "hot spots" for vandalism and graffiti. Also, during a traffic stop, Sergeant Kilgore found marijuana and spray paint in a teenager's car. The spray paint matches that on the buildings and in the tunnel. Staff will continue looking into getting the camera working and perhaps using a coating for the tunnel that will allow for easier cleanup of the graffiti.

Chief Spaulding also announced that the graffiti at Warfield has slowed down since they installed the fencing. There were plans to put up security cameras, but the developer has not installed them yet.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

- **Raincliffe Home Owners' Association (HOA)** – Council Member Schofield announced that the HOA had their annual meeting on January 15. Mr. Cosentini attended the meeting and helped from a Town side of things. The HOA was looking at their landscaping contract and didn't know who maintained a portion of land. The Town Public Works Department will take over the maintenance of it.
 - o MML Legislative Committee – Council Member Schofield announced that there were meetings every Wednesday through the end of February.
- **Historic District Commission (HDC)** – Council Member Carter announced that the next HDC meeting is Tuesday, January 28, and they will be reviewing one application for new flags for the DSC.
- **Museums** – Mayor Shaw announced that the Homework Club is thriving. He is planning on visiting sometime soon.
 - o Mayor Shaw also announced that the Board of Directors voted to have the Fall 2021 MML Conference at Turf Valley.
- **Merchants** – Council President Grasley announced that the merchants will be meeting Friday, January 31. **They have a full agenda, so there will be a Mayor and Town Manager meeting with the merchants on Friday, February 21 at 9 A.M. at the Town House.**
- **Downtown Sykesville Connection (DSC)** – Council Member Keenan announced that the Promotions Committee is working on creating a golf tournament and working on the Fourth of July Parade. The DSC retreat will be on February 8, and they are still looking for a new Events Coordinator.
- **Planning Commission** – Council Member Dyer announced that the next Planning Commission meeting will be on February 3.
- **Sykesville Parks and Recreation (SPARC)** – Council Member Link announced that the January SPARC meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will be February 27 where they will discuss events and support from Carroll Community Bank.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council President Grasley motioned and Council Member Link seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:06 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney