



Town of Sykesville

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townofsykesville.org

Town House

Ian Shaw, Mayor

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager

Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer

Kerry G. Chaney, Town Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF February 8, 2021 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 21-03**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, February 8, 2021. 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
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer
Jana Antrobus, Executive Assistant

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Trefor Evans, resident, gave a public comment asking the Council to reconsider allowing chickens in residential backyards.

Surrianna, resident, also gave a public comment asking the Council to reconsider allowing chickens in residential backyards.

CONSENT AGENDA

I. Minutes from January 25, 2021

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

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

II. Public Hearing on Ordinance NO. 2021-01 FY 2021 Budget Revisions

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned to open the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2021-01 FY 2021 Budget Revisions. Council President Grasley seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

There were no public comments.

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to close the Public Hearing. Council Member Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

III. Consider/Discuss/Act on Ordinance NO. 2021-01 FY 2021 Budget Revisions

MOTION: Council President Grasley motioned to approve Ordinance NO. 2021-01 FY 2021 Budget Revisions. Council Member Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

IV. Downtown Sykesville Connection Quarterly Presentation

Julie Della-Maria presented a quarterly update to the DSC's operations. Dana Alonzi, DSC Board President, presented updates from the DSC's branding and marketing study that was conducted by Platinum PR. One of the main points was there was confusion between the Town and the DSC. The branding efforts of the two organizations should be complementary and work to explain the partnership between the Town and the DSC.

V. Consider/Discuss Election Documents and Process

Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk, presented this item. She explained that the Town is taking steps to keep the Town Election as safe as possible. Voters will be able to vote-by-mail and there will be a ballot drop box securely located at the Town House for residents to return their ballot. Vote-by-mail applications can be turned in starting February 9, but ballots will not be released to voters until after the nominations are accepted.

There will also be a new way to nominate a person this year. Ms. Chaney presented a nomination form that was created. There are places for a motion and a second as well as contact information for the nominees. Nominations will still be taken on March 22, but use of the form is encouraged due to the virtual meeting setup and confusion that may occur during the process. Forms can be submitted via email to town@sykesville.net up until 4 PM on March 22. All nominations received via form will be announced at the meeting on March 22.

VI. Introduction of Resolution NO. 2021-01 for Annexation of the Schoolhouse Road Property

Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, presented this item. He explained that the entire area to be annexed is zoned Conservation. The petitioner has requested the property be classified in the Conservation District under the Town's Zoning Code. The four parcels that are currently split zoned would remain split zoned. Upon successful annexation, the large piece of

property will be developed into five residential lots, as allowed by Town Code.

The property would be serviced by well and septic. There is an existing walking path that goes through the property. The property owners said it was too early to commit to developing the path, but it will be noted on the plan for future discussion.

MOTION: Council Member Keenan motioned to accept Resolution NO. 2021-01 for the Annexation of the Schoolhouse Road property. Council Member Schofield seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

- Next Mayor and Town Council Meeting is on Monday, February 22, 2021. This will be a Zoom meeting.
- 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.
- The Town is looking for individuals to serve on the Board of Election Supervisors. Email town@sykesville.net for more information.
- Staff Updates
 - Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, acknowledged all the hard work by the Public Works Department and thanked them for their snow clearing efforts.
 - Public Safety Report
Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of January 21 to February 2. There was a total of 303 reports including five assist other agencies, one community policing event, 20 foot patrols, 192 patrol checks, and 23 traffic enforcement initiatives.

Chief Spaulding lauded Sergeant Kilgore and PFC Kirkner for responding to a report of a person at E.W. Beck's who was in cardiac arrest. When they arrived, Sergeant Kilgore took over compressions from a citizen and PFC Kirkner found and utilized an AED. The person was transported to the hospital and is recovering well.

- Council/Committee Reports
 - Council President Grasley announced that a Merchant's meeting was held on January 29. A new business, Natural Aesthetic Med Spa was in attendance. The next event is the Shiver Shuffle on February 28, sponsored by the Eldersburg Road Runners. On March 20, there is a Get Lucky on Main Street event. They also discussed the holiday decorations and their desire to have décor that stretches across Main Street. The next meeting is February 26.
 - Council Member Schofield announced there was no Raincliffe Home Owners' Association meeting. There have been Maryland Municipal League Legislative Committee meetings to discuss Highway User Revenues and Police Reform.

- Mayor Shaw announced he attended the Maryland Mayors Association meeting which also included a discussion on Police Reform. Vaccine information was provided that will be shared with Town staff to add to the website. The MML conference is scheduled for in person, and the yearly “If I were Mayor, I would...” essay contest is occurring. There were no updates from the Schoolhouse or the Gate House Museum.
- Council Member Keenan announced there is no DSC meeting in February, but they will be holding their virtual retreat in March.
- Council Member Link announced the Sykesville Parks and Recreation Committee (SPARC) met on January 28. The 2021 event schedule was mostly finalized. There was a discussion of the on-day music festival for later in the summer. There was a request to allow a paid yoga class in a Town park. In response to this request, Town staff asked SPARC to provide input regarding the use. There were no objections from SPARC, so staff will create a permit for for-profit use of Town parks and will present it to SPARC at a later meeting. A local Girl Scout Troup collected nearly 200 pounds of plastic bottle caps that they will be trading in for a bench. They have asked to place the bench in a Town Park. Town staff is working with them to complete this request.
- Council Member Dyer announced a Planning Commission meeting was held on February 1. Michael Baker International provided an update to the Comprehensive Plan. Council Member Dyer also announced that Carroll Community College’s Democracy Lab will be hosting a candid and civil exchange of ideas regarding police and police reform. Chief Spaulding has agreed to attend and is helping to recruit other County Police Chiefs as well.
- Council Member Carter expressed her gratitude for the Town and all its amenities, including the Police Department, Public Works, and the DSC. She announced that there was not a Historic District Commission meeting in January, and the next meeting is scheduled for February 23.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Keenan motioned and Council President Grasley seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:50 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney**