



Town of Sykesville

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townofsykesville.org

Town House

Stacy Link, Mayor

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager

Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer

Kerry G. Chaney, Town Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2022 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 22-07**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, April 11, 2022. Mayor Link called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Town House Conference Room. Mayor Link led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

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

ABSENT: Council Members Elizabeth Guroff and Leo Keenan

STAFF: Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager
Police Sergeant Shawn Kilgore
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Derek Shreves, Public Works Director
Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer
Karen Ruff, Town Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Minutes from March 28, 2022
- II. Appointment of Dominic Capparuccini to SPARC for a 3-year term expiring April 2025

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

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- III. **Consider/Discuss/Act on American Rescue Plan Act Funding Allocations**
Mayor Link explained that the first allotment of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding was received by the Town, and guidance about what the funding can be used for was also received. Staff recommends an initial allocation of ARPA funding through the Government Services category of the approved uses. The three initial items are a premium pay policy for staff, an expansion of the Façade Improvement program for fiscal year 2022, and reimbursement to the Downtown Sykesville Connection for COVID-19 related expenses during the 2021 Beer Fest.

Council Member Schofield asked about the language in the premium pay policy regarding COVID-19. He is concerned that the language puts a limit on the funding that wasn't intended. Town Manager, Joe Cosentini, explained that the premium pay policy was modeled after the hazard pay policy, and the COVID-19 language could be removed.

Mr. Cosentini also explained that there was a minor typo in the premium pay policy regarding the end time for the policy. It will end at the end of calendar year 2023.

The hazard pay ended in 2020; this premium pay would go into effect in 2021, retroactively.

Council Member Schofield asked if there was enough of a delta between full-time personnel and part-time personnel. He explained that he would be open to a higher amount for full-time personnel and thinks \$2,000 would be his initial suggestion.

Council Member Dyer asked if it would be possible to prorate the premium pay based on the number of hours worked. There was discussion regarding the additional paperwork required and the hours worked by part-time employees.

MOTION: Mayor Link motioned to approve the funding request as proposed with the amendment that full-time employees will receive \$1,500 and part-time employees will receive \$750. Council President Carter seconded the motion.

Council Member Grasley amended the motion to include the removal of references to COVID-19 from the premium pay policy and to end the policy at the end of calendar year 2023.

Mr. Cosentini explained that a fiscal impact from the increase would be minimal. Council Member Schofield further explained that the Town received over \$3,000,000 from ARPA funding, and this increase would not detract from other projects.

The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Report on Strategic Planning

Mayor Link explained that the Council and Town Manager held a half day strategic planning session, and the report from that session was provided. Mayor Link thanked Mr. Cosentini for the easy to follow and comprehensive strategic planning report.

Mr. Cosentini further explained that as priorities are assigned and worked through, the appendix will be filled in. Updates can be provided to the Council on a quarterly basis, if they would like.

Mayor Link explained that the overarching goals for the Town include Economic Development, Quality of Life, Accessibility and Connectivity, Environmental, Stewardship, Fiscal Integrity. The report will be added to the website. Projects were prioritized, so as projects are completed, items will be moved up the list.

MOTION: Council Member Schofield motioned to approve the Strategic Planning Report for 2022 as presented. Council Member Dyer seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

V. Set Public Hearing Date – Warfield Complex Zoning Text Amendment

Mr. Cosentini explained that this is a continuation of an ongoing item. Planning Commission made a recommendation to the Council to deny the amendment as proposed. A public hearing is required by Town Code, and newspaper advertisements are required as well. Staff suggests May 3 at Sykesville Middle School for the meeting. Staff is working with the Community Media Center to livestream or at least record the hearing. Mr. Cosentini explained that the developers could withdrawal their request at any time.

MOTION: Council Member Schofield motioned to set the public hearing date for May 3 at 7 PM, likely at Sykesville Middle School. Council President Carter seconded the motion.

Council Member Guroff is able to attend on that date. Council Member Keenan has not indicated he would not be available.

Mayor Link explained that the Planning Commission recommended denial of the petition because it is inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan and the established Planned Employment Center zoning. Planning Commission gave the developers an opportunity to come back with revisions to the submitted amendment, but the developers had not provided any additional information since the special meeting held by Planning Commission in March.

The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

- The next meeting is Monday, April 25, 2022
- We have volunteer opportunities available on the Historic District Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Police Auxiliary, and Crossing Guard. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.
- Staff Updates
 - Treasurer's Report
Town Treasurer, Craig Weaver, presented the March 2022 Treasurer's Report. There was nothing out of the ordinary from March's transactions. The donation for the Volunteer Fire Department is slotted for the next week or so; Mayor Link will deliver the check. The Raincliffe trash reimbursement will be done soon as well. It is typically done within the first quarter of the calendar year.
 - Public Safety Report
Sergeant Kilgore presented the Public Safety Report for March 22 through April 23. There were 329 reports including nine assist other agencies, 10 community policing events, seven foot patrols, 195 patrol checks, and 28 traffic enforcement initiatives.

Council Member Schofield announced he was personally one of these incidents, and the police and fire department both showed up at his house. Officer Kirkner

was the responding officer. Council Member Schofield thanked everyone for everything they did during the incident.

Sergeant Kilgore highlighted two incidents. Officer Kirkner stopped a man for driving without a license in 2021. The gentleman did not show up for his court date, so a warrant was issued. Officer Darby executed the warrant, and after Officer Darby drove the man home since he was without a car.

Officer Kirkner pulled over an Amazon driver for driving with suspended tags. He helped her complete her delivery.

Officer Revelo is working day shift and is learning everything about the Town. He had a hit and run incident and referred the driver for mental health treatment. Officer Young is still field training with Officer Kirkner, however she had her first arrest. A warrant apprehension turned into a search for the subject. Officers Kirkner and Young were on perimeter control, and Officer Young was brought in for the final arrest.

- Council/Committee Reports
 - Council Member Dyer explained that he would like Dr. Whack to come in for a presentation regarding better broadband for Sykesville.
 - Mayor Link announced that the Bulk Pickup Day is April 23, and Habitat for Humanity will be driving around as well. They will be picking up anything that could be donated to them. Public Works will still be around to pick up any other items. Acceptable items for Habitat for Humanity can be found on their website, www.cchabitat.org.
- Town Manager, Joe Cosentini, announced that there is a SPARC Easter Egg Hunt and Scavenger Hunt on April 15.
- Mr. Cosentini also announced that Town Clerk, Kerry Chaney, will not be at the next meeting, however she will be back as Kerry Kavaloski, as she is getting married on April 22.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Dyer seconded to adjourn meeting at 7:54 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Kavaloski**