



Town of Sykesville

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Town House

Stacy Link, Mayor

Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager

Craig Weaver, Town Treasurer

Kerry G. Kavaloski, Town Clerk

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 27, 2023 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING **NO. 23-18**

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, November 27, 2023. Mayor Link called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Town House Council Chambers. Mayor Link led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

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

STAFF: Joseph Cosentini, Town Manager
Police Lieutenant Shawn Kilgore
Kerry Kavaloski, Town Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

I. **Minutes from November 13, 2023**

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

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

II. **Update on Station Progress – Dante Liberatore – Stazione, Inc.**

Dante Liberatore and members of the Stazione, Inc. team were present to discuss this item. Mr. Liberatore explained that they are working on making plans using period-appropriate materials. They know they have to have changes approved by both the Maryland Historical Trust and the Sykesville Historic District Commission.

One of the larger changes they want to make is to enclose the rear porch to create a temperature-controlled area for people to dine all year. The kitchen is also inadequate for their needs, so a new kitchen area would need to be built that is larger but still cohesive to the exterior look of the building. They also would like to lower the floor of the freight room, on the right side of the building, to eliminate steps and create a more accessible restaurant overall.

They would also need some other changes, such as an increase in electrical capacity and a moved telephone pole.

The Town Council indicated that they are in support of the changes proposed. Stazione, Inc. will finalize their plans to include colors and materials and will start the process of receiving approval from the Maryland Historical Trust and the Sykesville Historic District Commission.

III. Consider/Discuss/Act on Millard Cooper Park Pedestrian Bridge Rehabilitation Contract

Joe Cosentini, Town Manager, presented this item. He explained that the funding would come from a Project Open Space grant that the Town received. The bridges are previous Eagle Scout projects that need rehabilitation. The project was put out to bid, and one bid was received in an amount more than anticipated.

Council President Carter and Mayor Link both expressed a desire to see a sustainable option instead of pressure treated lumber used for the bridges. Council Member Guroff also expressed a desire to have the paths redone when the trails are redone.

The bridges are currently closed to the public. Mr. Cosentini explained that the Council can opt to have a new bid process occur, and Town staff can include language to allow for alternative recyclable materials.

MOTION: Council Member Keenan motioned to put the Millard Cooper Park Pedestrian Bridges Rehabilitation project out for rebid with an option for alternative recyclable materials. Council President Carter seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

The grant has a two-year timeframe, and the bid will be redone in enough time to have work completed before the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

- The next meeting is Monday, December 11, 2023
- We have volunteer opportunities available on the Historic District Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, and Police Auxiliary. Email town@sykesville.net for more information about volunteering with the Town.
- Staff Updates
 - Town Manager Update
Mr. Cosentini announced that the work on Springfield Avenue has been delayed until after the holidays.
 - Public Safety Report
Lt. Kilgore presented the Public Safety Report for the period of November 7 through November 20. There was a total of 391 reports including nine assist other agencies, five community policing events, 16 foot patrols, 12 incident reports, 187 patrol checks, and 21 traffic enforcement initiatives. He explained that incident #264 did not involve

a trip to Kansas City, it was all handled via phone calls. He also announced that catalytic converter thefts are still ongoing. They are a chronic issue seen everywhere in the state currently. The Police Department still has steering wheel locks available for anyone interested. He also explained that the serious accident that occurred at Route 32 and College Avenue was due to a possible overdose while driving. The driver was given Narcan and taken by helicopter to the hospital where he was able to walk away safely.

- Council/Committee Reports
 - Council Member Dyer announced that he was told the internet outages should be late at night and cause no disruptions to the Main Street merchants.
 - Council Member Schofield announced that the Planning Commission will meet next on December 4 at 7 P.M. to continue the discussion on the Joy property.
 - Council Member Guroff announced that Santa's Arrival is on Saturday, December 2, from 3 P.M. to 6 P.M.
 - Council Member Grasley announced that the Historic District Commission has a meeting on November 29 at 7 P.M.
 - Council Member Keenan announced that there was a garden cleanup on November 18, the Snallygaster event was well attended, and the Indian Culture celebration is fully booked. He also announced that there is currently a Shop Small campaign, and the Happy-Thon fundraising is still ongoing. He also announced that he will not be in attendance at the December 11 meeting.
 - Council decided to have the Holiday Decorating Contest on December 18 at 6 P.M.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Grasley motioned and Council Member Schofield seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:37 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Kavaloski