

No 38

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2016 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NO. 16-16

The Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on Monday, October 24, 2016. 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 Leo Keenan, and Council Members Julia Betz, Anna Carter, William "Chip" Bleadon, and Stacy Link.

ABSENT: Council Member Chris True

STAFF: Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk
Dennis Hoover, Town Attorney
Police Chief Spaulding
Julie Della-Maria, Main Street Coordinator

PUBLIC CONCERNS: LeAnne McFadden and Bob Murray were present from the American Cancer Society to ask for feedback on the Relay for Life event from the past year and for suggestions for next year's event. See Open Session # 4.

MINUTES: October 11, 2016

MOTION: Council Member Link motioned and Council Member Betz seconded to approve the October 11, 2016 minutes.

The motion carried unanimously with Council Member Carter abstaining.

PUBLIC SAFETY

REPORT: Police Chief Spaulding presented the Public Safety Report for the period of October 1 through October 18, 2016. There were a total of 270 reports.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

REPORTS:

- **Historic District Commission (HDC)** – Council Member Link announced that the next HDC meeting is on October 25 at 7:00 P.M.
- **Sykesville Parks and Recreation (SPARC)** – Council Member Carter announced that the next SPARC meeting is November 17 at 7:00 P.M. at Beck's.
- The Mayor attended the fall Maryland Municipal League Conference
- **Planning Commission** – Council Member Betz announced that the next Planning Commission meeting is on November 7.

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- **Streetscape** – Council Member Bleam announced that the Carroll County Maryland Department of Transportation Consolidation Program Annual Tour was on November 3.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- At the October 11 meeting, Michael Schlaerth was appointed as a Police Officer.
- Halloween on Main Street, October 27, 5 P.M. – 7 P.M.
- The last day of the year for the Farmers' Market and the Little Sykes Railway is October 30.
- Halloween trick or treating throughout the Town will be Monday, October 31, 6 P.M. – 8 P.M.
- Chili and Beer Festival, Saturday, November 5, 12 P.M. – 5 P.M.
- Town Offices closed for Veteran's Day, November 11.

OPEN SESSION:

1. Swearing in of new Police Officer

Michael Schlaerth was officially sworn in by the Mayor.

2. Appointment of Ken Johnson to the Board of Zoning Appeals

MOTION: Council Member Betz motioned and Council Member Bleam seconded to appoint Ken Johnson to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a three year term that expires on September 30, 2019.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Introduction of Ordinance NO. 297 to amend Chapter 140, Article I, §140-2 (Exhibit A) of the Code of the Town of Sykesville to designate an additional Snow Emergency Route - Willow Bottom Road.

Mayor Shaw introduced this Ordinance to add Willow Bottom Road to the Snow Emergency Routes. The Town will advertise for public input at the next meeting on November 14.

4. Feedback on 2016 Relay for Life in Sykesville

LeAnne McFadden is a coordinator for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life events. It was decided to move the Relay for Life from Liberty High School to the McElroy parking lot for the 2016 event. The event raised \$60,000, and they would like to host the 2017 Relay for Life here again. The event will be on June 10, 2017, from 3:00 P.M. to 12:30 A.M. One of the major concerns brought to the Council's attention after the 2016 event was the lack of information to the downtown residents; they were not aware of the parking lot closure and where to park instead of the lot. Julie Della-Maria now distributes information packets to all businesses and residents in advance of every event notifying them of closures and parking information. Council Member Bleam saw more community involvement when the event took place downtown; the event organizers are open to ideas to get the merchants involved and direct foot traffic towards the stores. Ms. McFadden was made aware of the Town Special Events Permit and the possibility of closing a small portion of Oklahoma Avenue for the event.

5. Presentation of FY 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Program Requests

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The Capital Improvement Program Requests for Fiscal Year 2018 – FY 2022 were presented. The police car replacement schedule is two years on, one year off. There are some big ticket items, such as the purchase of 714 Sandosky and the Streetscape project. Evelyn Sweet, Town Treasurer, and Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager, are working on the budget schedule and prioritization of this list.

6. Authorization to purchase an HVAC unit for the Post Office

There was \$9,000 in the budget to install snow stops on the Post Office. The actual cost of the stops was \$1,585, leaving \$7,415. Expenditures under \$5,000 do not qualify as a capital item. The HVAC unit stopped working during the summer and needed immediate replacement.

MOTION: Council Member Betz motioned and Council President Keenan seconded to authorize the purchase of the HVAC unit for the Post Office in the amount of \$5,420.

The motion carried unanimously.

7. Authorization to participate in the Circuit Rider Program

This program allows for an employee to circulate between the towns involved and help with the specified work. Each town decides what work it needs done and creates a work plan for the Circuit Rider. Dennis Hoover, Town Attorney, expressed his concerns over who would be the employer of the Circuit Rider. The Mayor and Town Council requested more information and a work plan to be drawn for review.

MOTION: Council Member Betz motioned and Council Member Carter seconded to take a five minute recess at 7:50 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Betz motioned and Council Member Bleam seconded to go back into open session at 7:55 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION:

The meeting is proposed to be closed pursuant to the General Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b): (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

MOTION: Council Member Betz motioned and Council Member Carter seconded to go into closed session at 7:56 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Those in attendance were: Mayor Shaw, Council President Keenan, Council Members Betz, Bleam, Carter, Link, Town Attorney Dennis Hoover, and Town Manager Dawn Ashbacher.

Council Member True was absent.

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Items discussed were:

- Consult with Legal Counsel – Trash removal obligations – no action
- Consult with Legal Counsel – Warfield Contract negotiations – no action

MOTION: Council Member Betz motioned and Mayor Shaw seconded to go back into open session at 9:07 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Betz motioned and Council Member Bleam seconded to adjourn meeting at 9:08 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Town Clerk Kerry Chaney