

**Mercersburg Borough Council  
113 South Main Street  
Mercersburg, PA 17236  
February 8, 2021  
MINUTES**

**Attending Via Zoom :** President Donald (Dusty) Stoner Jr., Dr. Michael Pedersen, Sean Grove, Paul Sipes, Tom Heefner, Anthony Frisby, Raymond Minton, Mayor Roger Defibaugh, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Borough Secretary Stacey Golden and Solicitor Steve Coccorese

**Absent:** None

**Guests/Press:** Andy Abel-Mercersburg Journal, Melissa Stuff, Tom Suddeth, Amy Burkot and unidentified others.

President Donald Stoner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and read over virtual meeting public comment instructions.

President Stoner opened up the floor for public comments. Amy Burkot questioned council when in person council meetings would resume and why the public has to go through the Borough Manager to attend a virtual meeting. Solicitor Steve Coccorese replied to Mrs. Burkot's question by explaining that it was more secure to go through the Borough Manager. Mrs. Burkot also inquired about snow removal and ordinances regarding snow.

**MOTION: To accept the January 11, 2021 minutes was made by Tom Heefner, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve the Bills Payable and Treasurer's Report A & B for months ending December 31, 2020 and January 31, 2021 was made by Tom Heefner, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

Council moved onto the Mayor's Report.

Mayor Roger Defibaugh reported that the police department is not running tickets until all the meters are certified. Mayor Defibaugh said since the last meeting there was a video on Facebook from a council member recording a police officer and then later criticizing the officer's actions with profanity. Mayor Defibaugh suggested having the council member apologize publicly. A comment was made on the incident and explained that the officer perhaps acted in an aggressive manner and could have handled the incident differently. President Stoner advised that if any council members had an issue with anything in the future that they would address it with him and asked council to conduct themselves in a professional manner on social media.

Council moved into the Solicitor Report.

Solicitor Steve Coccorese said he had one item to address in regards to Logan Financial Group and said it could be addressed under New Business.

Council moved into the Borough Manager's Report.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy stated that there was a surplus of \$11,719 in the 2020 year end budget and that he would like to take it out of General Fund and move it into the Capital Improvement Fund. Stoy thanked each employee with being careful with the budget and stated he was "incredibly pleased". Manager Stoy moved onto the Summer Playground Program asking council's permission to solicit for funding. Stoy said a request was made again this year for Black Balloon Day to increase public awareness about addiction, balloons will be placed on every other parking meter in the square on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Manager Stoy gave an update on the snow removal from the storm that hit Sunday through Wednesday. Stoy said that with the trail being put in they lost the ability to dump snow since that was a significant amount of property and noted there may be a need to clear a half-acre to dump snow in the future. Manager Stoy concluded his report by saying that there is currently not enough people to have a zoning hearing board, Stoy said he listed the vacancies on the website and that there is also a vacancy on both the Water and Sewer Authorities.

**MOTION: To give the Borough Manager Derek Stoy the authority to make calls to have snow removed by outside contractors when necessary was made by Raymond Minton, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

Council moved into the Committee Reports.

Tom Heefner reported on the February 2, 2021 HARB meeting and application COA 2021-02-01.

**MOTION: To approve HARB application COA 2021-02-01 submitted by Melissa Stuff on behalf of her parents, Donald and Connie Stuff, to replace existing shingle roof with new imitation standing seam metal roof at 26 North Main Street with a request also from the HARB Committee to install snow guards was made by Raymond Minton, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

There was not a Property Committee meeting but the packet was included in the council packet for review. The next meeting will be March 3, 2021.

Council moved into Old Business.

Council discussed the handicap application for 105 ½ South Main Street. Mayor Defibaugh said the Police Department did not have any issues with it.

**MOTION: To approve placing a handicap sign in front of 105 ½ South Main Street (Gordon's Barber Shop) was made by Michael Pedersen, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.**

Council moved into New Business.

**MOTION: To approve Musselman's Plastering, LLC quote of \$800.00 to repair plaster on the second floor of the Borough Hall building and to use Capital Improvement Funds to pay the invoice was made by Paul Sipes, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve "Black Balloon Day", placing black balloons on every other parking meter on the square on March 6, 2021 for one day, submitted by Victoria Rhodes was made by Michael Pedersen, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve moving forward with the Summer Playground Program and to seek necessary funding was made by Tom Heefner, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To authorize the proper borough official to be committed to submit the revised vendor form allowing Langan Financial to change their broker to Cambridge Investment Research was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.**

Sean Grove spoke to council about Ordinance 10-10-2001 regarding skateboarding. Council President Dusty Stoner advised addressing it at the next meeting.

**MOTION: To adjourn regular session at 8:22 PM was made by Raymond Minton, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

*These meeting minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted for approval by Stacey Golden with the use of her meeting notes and audio recording.*

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Second by: \_\_\_\_\_