

**Mercersburg Borough Council  
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA  
March 2, 2015  
MINUTES**

**Attending:** President Tom Suddeth, Treasurer Catalin Bonciu, Donald (Dusty) Stoner, Jonathan (Jon) Kittredge, Lisa McCoy, Amy Burkot, Assistant Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Solicitor Steve Coccoresse, Engineer Lance Kegerreis and Police Chief John Zechman

**Absent:** Mayor James Zeger, Borough Manager Dawn Scheller

**Guests/Press:** See Sign-in Sheet

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with the President leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

No public comment was received.

**MOTION: to approve the February 2, 2015 meeting minutes as presented was made by Jeff Main, second by Donald Stoner, all ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: to approve the Treasurer's Report for month ending January 31, 2015 and month ending February 28, 2015 was made by Jeff Main, second by Amy Burkot. Jeff Main, Tom Suddeth, Donald Stoner, Amy Burkot, Catalin Bonciu, Aye, Opposed Jon Kittredge and Liza McCoy, on a 5-2 vote motion carried.**

**MOTION: to approve the Bills Payable / Invoice List as presented was made by Donald Stoner, second by Catalin Bonciu all ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To transfer \$50,000 from the General Fund Reserve Account to the General Fund Operating account was made by Jeff Main, second by Donald Stoner. All Ayes, motion carried.**

With Mayor Zeger absent, Chief Zechman relayed to the council Mayor's wishes to recommend the Buchanan Lioness' be awarded the James Buchanan Award for 25 years of dedicated service.

Police Chief John Zechman presented his report for the month of February; 75 complaints and service calls, 7 criminal investigations, 3 Accident Investigations, 17 Traffic Citations, and 71 Parking Tickets, along with the money turned over to the Borough.

There was nothing from the Solicitor at this time.

Borough Engineer Lance Kegerreis deferred his time to when the streets committee report was to be presented.

With the absence of Borough Manager Dawn Scheller, her detailed report was reviewed. Jon Kittredge asked where the Workman's Comp refund and the dividend check from Insurance agent Tom Moore were to be deposited. Assistant Manager Derek Stoy advised these funds would be deposited to the General Operating Fund Account.

Jon Kittredge stated he is against the MacWell trail proposal through borough property off of Oregon St. Council discussed the status of the proposed plan as to the submittal to DEP. Council advised that the plans will be submitted to DEP to be reviewed.

**MOTION: To send the proposed trail plans back to the Property Committee for further review was made by Donald Stoner, second Amy Burkot. All ayes. Motion carried.**

Derek Stoy presented his report which included a reminder for the HARB training on March 17 at 7:00 p.m. Also he gave an update as to the status of the parking meters from Chambersburg. Chambersburg advised the meters should be ready for pick up no later than April 1. He also stated Columbia Gas has 2 crews working in the borough and progress is going well. Mr. Stoy also explained that state Representative Jesse Topper will be holding a satellite office at borough hall. The first date will be March 23 from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Senator Eichelberger is looking to do the same in the future. A Zoning Hearing Board Hearing is scheduled for April 2 at 7:00 p.m. at boro hall. This is for the VFW wanting a variance of use for its property. Discussion ensued about the status of the zoning at the VFW and its adjoining parcels. Discussion went to an existing outdoor furnace in the boro and its status of its use being "grandfathered" in if the property changes ownership. The solicitor advised he would look into this matter. Mr. Stoy continued with is report with advising the council about a recent planning commission meeting where the commission approved (pending all comments are addressed by the engineer and soil conservation district) the Mercersburg Academy's Alumni Center Building plans. This plan will be brought to council for final approval once all comments are addressed.

The Public Works Department was included in the packets for review.

The Personnel Committee report was given by Jeff Main. He stated the committee is recommending approval to pay a \$500 deductible toward an accident involving the International Dump Truck and a passenger vehicle while plowing snow. Moderate damage was done to the passenger vehicle while little damage was done to the Dump Truck. Mr. Main continued his report stating that both Water and Sewer Authorities are in discussions in reference to pension reimbursement back to the borough. The committee also is discussing scenarios in which the borough can save money on health insurance costs.

**MOTION: To pay \$500 deductible for the Snow Plow Accident with the passenger vehicle was made by Donald Stoner, second by Catalin Bonciu. All Ayes, motion carried.**

Property committee chairperson Catalin Bonciu presented the property committee report. Around 15,000 13 gallon garbage bags were found in the blue building. Also Mr. Bonciu requested that quotes be received for a possible planter in front of boro hall. He also stated that Dawn's laptop computer will need to be replaced and Derek will need a projector and screen to host webinars for the safety committee.

**MOTION: To donate the garbage bags to the Tuscarora School District as well as the residents of the borough. 50% of the total will be given to the School District with the remaining 50% to be distributed to borough residents at the borough office. Residents are to receive only 1 pack of bags per visit was made by Donald Stoner, second by Catalin Bonciu. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To obtain quotes and send the planter idea to the Beautification Committee for review was made by Donald Stoner, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To allow borough management to purchase a laptop with a price not to exceed \$1800 as well as a projector and screen to not exceed \$510. Also to send this motion to both the Water and Sewer Authorities for possible reimbursement by both entities made by Donald Stoner, second Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.**

The Streets Committee chairman Jeff Main presented his report by first turning it over to borough engineer Lance Kegerreis. Mr. Kegerreis explained that the possible drainage easement across Mr. Dani Martin's property has met a stipulation that no water be taken off of Park Street and drained through this right of way. With that being said, the right of way issue is at a standstill. Mr. Kegerreis expressed cost concern in spending an abundant amount of money to drain a dead end street only. The street paving project was discussed. The following streets will be repaved this year, Linden Ave., S. Fayette St. East Seminary St. E. California St., and West Seminary St. Mr. Stoy advised that curb notices will be sent out the week of March 2 to advise residents on those streets that curb repair is mandated.

Discussion took place in reference to the McConnell Alley vacation/Constitution Ave replacement. Mrs. Vicki Kieffer expressed concern over traffic issues to the rear of her residence if this proposal was to move forward. She stated she sees no reason for the borough to give up the "dog leg" of Constitution Ave. Mr. Lester Kieffer advised the council that he was afraid the Mercersburg Academy wants to "take over the entire town." President Suddeth advised Mr. Stoy to keep the Kieffer family up to date with any new information as it comes forward.

Parking permits were the next items on the report. The committee recommends a contractor permit be sold for \$40 a year per vehicle with no limit as to how many a contractor can purchase. It was also recommended that a residential permit be sold at \$120 per year with a limit of 1 per family.

**MOTION: To have Dennis E. Black Engineering to prepare bid documents for the street paving project slated for 2015 was made by Donald Stoner with a second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To offer contractor parking permits of \$40 per permit (no limit to the amount of permits per year) and a residential permit for \$120 per year with a limit of 1 per residence for a 90 day trial period was made by Donald Stoner, second by Jeff Main. Donald Stoner and Jeff Main Aye. Jon Kittredge, Catalin Bonciu, Tom Suddeth, Liza McCoy and Amy Burkot opposed. Motion fails on a 5-2 vote.**

**MOTION: To approve Robert D. McCulloh Excavating & Paving to replace the boxes and pipe on East Seminary St as presented was made by Donald Stoner, second by Catalin Bonciu. Donald Stoner, Jeff Main, Catalin Bonciu, Tom Suddeth, Amy Burkot and Jon Kittredge Aye. Liza McCoy opposed. Motion carried on a 6-1 vote.**

**MOTION: to Authorize the uniformed and non-uniformed pension plan ordinances to be advertised by Donald Stoner, second Jeff Main. Donald Stoner, Jeff Main, Tom Suddeth, Catalin Bonciu, Liza McCoy, Amy Burkot all aye. Jon Kittredge opposed. Motion carries on a 6-1 vote.**

**MOTION: to approve resolution 08-15 and 09-15 appointing Chief Administration Officer for the uniformed and non-uniformed Pension Plans made by Jeff Main, second by Donald Stoner. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: to approve resolution 10-15 appointing Jeff Main to fill the vacancy on the Mercersburg General Purpose Authority. Also recognizing all check signers and filling the following positions: William Keefer as chairman, Thomas Suddeth as treasurer and Jeff Main as secretary made by Donald Stoner, second by Jon Kittredge. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: to approve resolution 11-15 naming Karen Ramsburg to the Zoning Hearing Board made by Jeff Main, second by Catalin Bonciu. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To Nominate Harold and Dorothy Paylor for the James Buchanan Award. No other nominations. All ayes. Motion Carried.**

**MOTION: To approve \$40 for the Paylor's to attend the awards dinner at the Mercersburg Historical Society meeting was made by Jeff Main, second by Donald Stoner, All ayes. Motion carried.**

**MOTION: To advertise an ordinance authorizing Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the Borough of Chambersburg was made by Donald Stoner, second by Jeff Main. All aye, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve \$35 for a ticket to attend the Tuscarora Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner by Jeff Main, second by Jon Kittredge. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: to enter into executive session for real estate and personnel matters at 9:17 pm was made by Catalin Bonciu, second by Jonathan Kittredge, all ayes, motion carried.**

Jeff Main left the meeting at 9:36.

Resumed regular session at 9:50 pm

**MOTION: To advertise the sealed bid sale of the tannery lot being 3.03 acres and located on Oregon St. with bids to be submitted to the borough office no later than May 1, 2015 at 4:00 pm. Was made by Donald Stoner, second by Amy Burkot. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: to adjourn at 9:56pm was made by Jon Kittredge, second by Dusty Stoner, all ayes, motion carried.**

*These meeting minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Derek J Stoy with the use of his notes for Council approval.*

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion made by: \_\_\_\_\_ Second by: \_\_\_\_\_