

Mercersburg Borough Council
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
February 10, 2020
MINUTES

Attending: President Donald (Dusty) Stoner Jr., Vice-President Jeff Main, Dr. Michael Pedersen, Tom Heefner, Sean Grove, Anthony Frisby, Paul Sipes, Sgt. Wertz, Mayor Roger Defibaugh, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Borough Secretary Stacey Golden and Solicitor Steve Coccorese

Absent: None

Guests/Press: Raymond & Lisa Minton, Preston Spahr, Rachel Nichols, Amy Burkot, Terry Sirk, Dr. Elizabeth George

President Donald Stoner called the meeting to order at 7 PM and asked the Mayor to lead in the pledge of allegiance.

President Stoner opened up the floor to public comments. Preston Spahr updated council on the Vibrancy Steering Committee. Spahr discussed branding of Mercersburg and noted that the three words that represent Mercersburg are Passionate, Community and Distinct. Spahr invited council members to the next meeting. Amy Burkot asked about including Hugh Mercer in the branding and asked if Spahr could talk to the Historical Society to consider. Mayor Defibaugh commented that he was approached from the Conococheague Institute about putting a statue of Hugh Mercer in front of the Town Hall building.

Amy Burkot had a discussion with council regarding a feasibility study that was previously approved by council.

MOTION: To approve the January 6, 2020 minutes was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the Bills Payable and Treasurer's Report A & B for months ending December 31, 2019 and January 31, 2020 was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

Council moved onto the Mayor's Report.

Mayor Defibaugh reported that Officer Keith Culbertson is back for duty full time. Mayor Defibaugh brought up a concern that there was no signage on the door in the Town Hall for cancelled meetings. Borough Manager Derek Stoy welcomed phone calls to the office to confirm meetings and said that a better job would be done going forward.

Nothing to report from the Solicitor.

Council moved onto the Borough Manager's Report.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy reported on Johnston's Run Trail noting that the benches are with the Mercersburg Academy and James Buchanan school district students and if all goes well should be installed by the end of the month. Stoy said Parking Ordinance 1-35 has been advertised and will need final approval. The Personnel Committee did not meet due to lack of a quorum, Manager Stoy said the revised employee handbook was on the agenda for approval. The new truck was delivered on Wednesday, February 5th, Stoy commented that it is in service and thanked Keystone Ford and US Municipal. Stoy noted the annual schedule of fees resolution is listed under new business. Borough Manager Derek Stoy requested that \$95,000 be transferred from the general fund to the Capital Improvement Fund due to a

surplus in the budget. Stoy requested approval for advertisement for sealed bids for both the 1997 Ford F-350 and the 2008 Ford Interceptor cruiser. Manager Stoy explained that Lena Eckstine was appointed to Zoning Hearing Board but due to residency outside of the borough she is ineligible. A new resolution, 13-20 appointing Raymond Minton will need to be approved for the Zoning Hearing Board to correct the error. Manager Derek Stoy provided pricing to alarm the upstairs for the police department along with a new door leading to the fire escape. Stoy asked council if they wanted to continue the Summer Playground Program and said he heard from one of last years coordinators and they are willing to work the program again this year. A written request was provided from Mrs. Rhodes to hang black balloons on certain parking meters for Overdoes Awareness/Black Balloon Day on March 6th to promote overdose awareness, Stoy noted that this has been approved the past two years. Manager Stoy said that President Stoner would need to appoint committees. A request for financial support for the Franklin County Drug Task Force was presented in the amount of \$753.62. Manager Stoy concluded his report saying that auditors were at the office all last week and that there was a sewer backup in the town hall building basement which resulted in losing 12 boxes of files. Stoy spoke to ServePro about freeze drying the documents and was given a price quote of \$5200. Manager Stoy said after talking to DCED they are not worth keeping and a resolution to destroy contaminated boxes would be needed. The office was shut down for a total of three hours for repairs/cleanup. Stoy stated that invoices will be submitted to the insurance company for reimbursement. Manager Stoy was questioned by Mayor Defibaugh about only getting one quote, Solicitor Steve Coccoresse stated that three quotes weren't needed if the project was under \$10,000.

No Committee Reports.

President Donald Stoner appointed committee members with the first person listed as the chair.

The authority moved into New Business.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 12-20, Annual Schedule of Fees, was made by Tom Heefner, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 13-20 appointing Raymond Minton to the Zoning Hearing Board was made by Paul Sipes, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve moving 95K from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund was made by Tom Heefner, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve alarm pricing quote recommended by the borough police department from Glessner's in the amount of \$4490.36 was made by Jeff Main, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

Vice-President Jeff Main explained MMPW procedures in the event the alarm goes off.

MOTION: To approve advertisement for sealed bids for the 1997 Ford F-350 and the 2008 Ford police cruiser was made by Jeff Main, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

Sgt. Wertz commented that the radio, light bar and markings would have to be removed from the 2008 Ford police cruiser.

MOTION: To approve a new door purchase from Metcalfe in the amount of \$2975 to be used upstairs of the Town Hall building leading to the fire escape was made by Tom Heefner, second by Jeff Main. All ayes, motion carried.

Michael Pedersen asked where the funds would come from for the door purchase, council agreed for the purchase to be paid out of Capital Improvements.

MOTION: To approve Parking Ordinance 1-45, revised Ordinance 1-35, which would revise parking along South Park Avenue and also allow the Mercersburg Police Department to implement vehicle booting was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the Summer Playground Program and give Borough Manager Derek Stoy approval to ask for donations was made by Jeff Main, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the "Black Balloon Day" request from Mrs. Rhoades for hanging balloons on parking meters on March 6, 2020 for one day to promote overdose awareness was made by Jeff Main, second by Sean Grove. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve paying the Mercersburg fee of \$752.62 to the Franklin County Drug Task Force was made by Tom Heefner, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the quote from Valley Track for rubber track for the mini excavator in the amount of \$1950 was made by Jeff Main, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.

Vice-President Jeff Main commented that the old rubber track that is taken off needs to be stored for emergency use, Borough Manager Derek Stoy concurred.

MOTION: To retroactively approve the employee handbook effective January 1, 2020 was made by Michael Pedersen, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy commented that there were four meetings to complete the revisions to the handbook. Vice President Jeff Main thanked solicitor Steve Coccorese for all his work. Solicitor Coccorese offered to answer any questions council may have concerning the handbook.

Council President Donald Stoner confirmed committee meeting dates.

Regular session resumed at 9:30 PM.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM was made by Jeff Main, second by Tom Heefner. 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: _____