

Mercersburg Borough Council
113 South Main Street
Mercersburg, PA 17236
March 14, 2022
MINUTES

Attending: Donald Stoner Jr., Paul Sipes, Joseph Burkot, Tim Stanton, Raymond Minton, Anthony Frisby, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Sgt. Robert Wertz, Secretary/Treasurer Stacey Golden, Mayor Michael Pedersen & Solicitor Steve Coccoresse

Absent: Tom Heefner

Guests/Press: Lisa Minton, Preston Spahr

President Stoner called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Preston Spahr led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council moved onto public comments. Preston Spahr gave a report on MVSC (Mercersburg Vibrancy Steering Committee) stating there is a “nice balance” of \$76,000 in the account with \$4,500 allocated to beautification and the remainder dedicated to hiring a planner. Spahr listed three goals; 1. To complete capital campaign; 2. To complete branding; 3. To complete planner profile. Lastly, Spahr gave an update on the Johnny Mercer Music Fest stating the date will be September 24, 2022, the same date as Townfest. Spahr noted that the goal is to make \$10,000.00.

MOTION: To approve the February 14, 2022, meeting minutes as written was made by Tim Stanton, second by Joe Burkot. All ayes, motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report/Bills Payable.

MOTION: To approve the Treasurer’s Report and Bills Payable for month ending February 28, 2022 was made by Tim Stanton, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

Council moved into the Mayor’s Report.

Mayor Pedersen reported that Sgt. Wertz did a great job with the local egging. Mayor Pedersen reported that the police department is trying to get more coverage and suggested offering “more” to get part time hires, not raising taxes but offering more. Pedersen completed his report by saying he has regular meetings with the Chief of Police.

No Solicitor’s Report.

Police Report in Packet.

Council moved into the Borough Manager's Report.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy reported on the Summer Playground saying Mr. Anthony Frisby has graciously offered his services again for the program. Stoy noted that the Lion's Club is available and that the school district is willing to provide meals again this year. If approved by council, the borough will get insurance for the program and Manager Stoy said he would reach out to possible donors. The program will run June 14th through July 28th. Manager Stoy included a price from Cory Heinbaugh to repair the brick steps in front of Borough Hall. Mr. Heinbaugh also repaired the sidewalk in front of Borough Hall, the mortar will match the same mortar as the sidewalk. Stoy asked for a motion not to exceed \$5,000 to be paid out of the Capital Improvement Fund and said the price also includes redoing the bricks along the landing on both sides. Mr. Stanton had requested that the treasurer's report be uploaded to the borough website, Manager Stoy said after looking at several websites of both boroughs and school districts he could not see where they posted this information. Manager Stoy had listed in his report to hire a part time water plant operator but updated council that he received a phone call from the potential hire saying he would not be available for the position. Stoy had noted in his report that DEP is requiring the Water Authority to have a total of four people that can operate the water plant. Manager Stoy asked council to accept resignation letters from both Public Works employee Ray Mowen Jr. and Borough Secretary Stacey Golden. Manager Stoy spoke to council on installing a weather station/camera on the bell tower at Borough Hall. The camera would be accessed by ABC27 out of Harrisburg. The camera and installation would be free of charge with the only cost to the borough being the electricity to the station which according to ABC27 is \$5 per month. The Tuscarora Chamber Dinner will be held on April 12, 2022 at the Goldfish Barn in Fort Loudon with an 8-person table for \$275 or single seats at \$40 each. Stoy commented that "this is a great evening for networking and being able to talk with area business owner and their employees". Manager Stoy asked for approval of Resolution 10-22 to name Borough Manager Derek Stoy as the new Borough Secretary and Treasurer due to the departure of Borough Secretary Stacey Golden. Street sweeping will occur on Monday, April 18th and April 19th. Bulky Items Day is scheduled for June 3rd and June 4th at Leidy's Woodworking with more details to follow.

Councilman Tim Stanton asked what the dollar cut off amount was for quotes. Solicitor Steve Coccorese explained that "anything below \$11,800 requires no formal bidding or quote, anything between \$11,800 and \$21,900 requires three quotes and above \$21,900 requires full public bidding unless other exceptions apply, there's no thresholds".

Council moved into Committee Reports.

Mayor Michael Pedersen reported on Fire Board saying there was a public meeting that Council President Donald Stoner & Joe Burkot attended. Councilman Joe Burkot asked about when changes/updates to the charter were going to happen. President Stoner said he sat at a table with some other municipalities and the biggest things they wanted to change was the structure of the board. Stoner encouraged council members to attend the next meeting and stated it

was “enlightening”.

No Old Business.

Council moved into New Business.

President Donald Stoner Jr. thanked Anthony Frisby for running the Summer Playground Program last year. Councilman Tim Stanton commented that Anthony had positive feedback on social media.

MOTION: To proceed with Councilman Anthony Frisby overseeing the Summer Playground Program and for Borough Manager Derek Stoy to solicit for funds was made by Paul Sipes, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Cory Heinbaugh Masonry estimate not to exceed \$5,000 and to be paid out of the Capital Improvement Funds was made by Raymond Minton, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To put the financial report except the bank reconciliation on the borough website was made by Tim Stanton, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: Not approving payment of borough council members/employees attending the Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner on April 12, 2022, rather if someone wishes to attend they will have to self pay, was made by Raymond Minton, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve a weather station from Earth Networks, Inc. to be installed on the Borough Hall bell tower, paying the electricity to the equipment (monthly estimated at \$5) and allowing Borough Manager Derek Stoy to sign the agreement was made by Paul Sipes, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To accept Public Works employee Ray Mowen’s letter of resignation with regret was made by Paul Sipes, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To accept Borough Secretary Stacey Golden’s letter of resignation with extreme regret was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tim Stanton. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approving Resolution 10-22 appointing Borough Manager Derek Stoy as the Borough Secretary/Treasurer was made by Paul Sipes, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.

Councilman Tim Stanton said the Meeting Date Committee appointed to discuss alternate council meeting dates was not able to meet and asked council to reappoint the committee.

MOTION: To approve the Meeting Date Committee to convene and suggest alternate dates for 2022 and forward was made by Tim Stanton, second by Joe Burkot. Motion failed on a 4 to 2 vote. Tim Stanton-Yay; Joe Burkot-Yay; Donald Stoner-Nay; Paul Sipes-Nay; Raymond Minton-Nay; Anthony Frisby-Nay.

Council went over meeting dates.

MOTION: To adjourn into Executive Session at 8:00 PM for personnel matters not to reconvene was made by Anthony Frisby, second by Raymond Minton. 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: _____