

**Mercersburg Borough Council**  
**113 South Main Street**  
**Mercersburg, PA 17236**  
**April 11, 2022**  
**MINUTES**

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

**Absent:** Paul Sipes, Tim Stanton

**Guests/Press:** Lisa Minton, Preston Spahr, Tom Suddeth, Andy Abel, Sahand Miraminy

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

Council moved onto public comments. Tom Suddeth commented that volunteers are hard to find today, and he wished to serve on the General-Purpose Authority. Andy Abel from the Mercersburg Journal stated he agrees that the Mercersburg Borough Council shouldn't change meeting dates just for his business but again stated that it is tough finding employees to cover both meetings since they are at the same date and time. He once again asked if the council would be willing to change the meeting dates.

**MOTION: To approve the March 14, 2022, meeting minutes as written was made by Anthony Frisby, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report/Bills Payable.

**MOTION: To approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable for month ending March 31, 2022 was made by Tom Heefner, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.**

Council moved into the Mayor's Report.

Mayor Pedersen reported that he is trying to get better at attending public events. He introduced Sahand Miraminy who is willing to host social media pages for the borough free of charge. Mr. Miraminy stated the borough website is not adequate to post current events on. With his background in marketing, he feels he can make Mercersburg a viable destination through social media.

Police Report in Packet. Sgt. Wertz stated the department is busy and the need is still there for part time officers. He also stated that the computers in the cruisers are not compatible with the nationwide 5G upgrade and will need replaced.

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No Solicitor's Report.

Council moved into the Borough Manager's Report.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy reported on numerous items including the General-Purpose Authority. Stoy noted that only 2 of a possible 5 positions of the authority are currently filled. The authority will need to meet later in April and that was the need for filling the positions. Stoy went on to note that the borough hall security pricing is up for review. Glessner's, the company that currently supplies security for the borough submitted a price of \$6,323.59 to provide the requested cameras and monitoring system. He spoke about the need to close the borough office on April 15<sup>th</sup> for four hours due to not having a bathroom available to employees because of the flooring installation. Stoy also wants council to approve the solicitor to assist him in creating a paving RFP for Jailhouse and Meyers Alley along with adding an alternate bid to pave the borough hall parking lot. He also reviewed numerous personnel matters that will be voted on under new business. He also announced amended street sweeping dates. They are now Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, the engineer provided 3 renderings of potential front door replacements to borough hall. Council will need to decide which direction to go with it.

Council moved into Committee Reports.

The Fire Board reported that the proposed charter amendments could be voted on at the next fire board meeting. The council members went around the room, and each discussed their opinions on the proposed changes. It was noted that the current board members are to vote no when the charter vote happens due to concerns over representation.

Both the Personnel and Streets committee had recommendations under new business for review.

Council moved onto Old Business.

Members reviewed the 3 renderings for the borough hall front door replacement project.

**MOTION: To have the engineer proceed with design of option #1, providing 2 doors was made by Tom Heefner, second by Joe Burkot. All Ayes, motion carried.**

Council moved into New Business.

President Donald Stoner Jr. moved on to new business. First was discussion on the request by Mr. Miraminy to provide social media content of behalf of the borough. Discussion ensued with Solicitor Coccoresse explaining that social media posts could be public record and also if multiple council members commented on items, that it could violate the Sunshine Act.

**MOTION: To have the solicitor draft a social media policy to present to the council at the May meeting was made by Anthony Frisby, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.**

Discussion was held as it pertained to the reasoning behind not asking Tom Suddeth to be on the General-Purpose Authority. Mr. Stoy advised that he did not call Mr. Suddeth and to ask him. Mr. Heefner stated Mr. Suddeth wouldn't attend fire board meetings when he was on the board years ago.

**MOTION: To approve Resolutions 11-22, 12-22,13-22 naming Dusty Stoner, Michael Pedersen and Avery Cook to the General-Purpose Authority was made by Raymond Minton, second by Tom Heefner. Raymond Minton aye, Tom Heefner aye, Dusty Stoner aye, Anthony Frisby aye, Joe Burkot no. Motion passed on a 4-1 vote.**

The borough hall security camera proposal was next on the agenda. Joe Burkot asked why the proposal did not show cloud storage as opposed to hard drive storage.

**MOTION: To have the borough manager contact Glessners to obtain pricing on saving the camera video storage to an offsite cloud system was made by Raymond Minton, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To provide 4 hours paid time off to the billing clerk for the April 15<sup>th</sup> office closure was made by Tom Heefner, second by Raymond Minton. Tom Heefner aye, Raymond Minton aye, Anthony Frisby aye, Dusty Stoner aye, Joe Burkot nay. Motion passed on a 4-1 vote.**

**MOTION: To approve the solicitor to work with the borough manager to create a paving RFP for Meyers and Jailhouse Alley adding an alternate bid to obtain pricing for paving the borough hall parking lot was made by Tom Heefner, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To accept Public Works employee Corey Cordell's letter of resignation affective April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, was made by Tom Heefner, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve hiring Glen Wingert as a full-time public works employee at \$20 per hour was made by Tom Heefner, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To bring all accounting services including payroll back in house upon completion of employee training was made by Tom Heefner, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve a pay increase to \$22.50 per hour for Donald Keefer Jr. was made by Tom Heefner, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To hire Ronald Starliper as a part time public works employee to provide mowing services only for \$15 per hour was made by Raymond Minton, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve a pay increase to \$19.50 per hour for Lucinda Piper was made by Tom Heefner, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve a handicap parking spot application at 11 West Seminary Street with the sign stating it is handicapped parking from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday with the applicant being required to reapply for the spot by January 1, 2023, was made by Anthony Frisby, second by Joe Burkot. All ayes, motion carried.**

Mr. Heefner spoke in reference to the previous discussion about potential council meeting date changes. In his opinion he felt misled as to why the council was being asked to change the dates after a recent email he received.

**MOTION: To go into executive session for personnel matters at 8:42 pm was made by Raymond Minton, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.**

Regular session resumed at 9:30 pm.

**MOTION: To hire Melissa Price as borough secretary at the rate of \$18.00 per hour was made by Anthony Frisby, second by Raymond Minton. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To adjourn at 9:32 pm was made by Raymond Minton, second by Joe Burkot. All ayes, motion carried.**

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

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