

**Mercersburg Council Meeting
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
December 12, 2022
MINUTES**

Council President Dusty Stoner call the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Councilpersons present: Dusty Stoner, Tom Heefner, Mayor Michael Pedersen, Paul Sipes, Joe Burkot, Raymond Minton, Secretary Melissa Price, Solicitor – Steve Coccorese

**Absent: N/A Anthony Frisby
Guest/Press Presents - Preston Spahr, Andy Able**

Public Comment – Preston Spahr

Public Comment. Preston Sparr speaks. Reports on the Franklin Co Planning open houses last month, how informative they were. Talked about the possibility of partnering with them through MVSC submitting for a \$25k matching grant to hold a public planning/hearing process. He reached out to Melissa and received some positive feedback. Preston would like the council to partner them with this. Projects would be prioritized by the borough. Process results in a whole suite of goals and plans for a variety of projects. He would like our approval to submit the grant application on behalf of the borough in partnership with MVSC. **He requests an agenda item for the next meeting for this. ** Discussion with Solicitor about this idea. Preston says he will bring it to the January meeting. He also says that MVSC will match the funds for the grant.

Minutes – MOTION: To accept the November 14, 2022, by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Jacob Morgan, All Favored – Motion Carried.

Minutes – MOTION: To accept the November 28, 2022, by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Jacob Morgan, All Favored – Motion Carried.

Treasures Report/Bills Payable – to accept the November 30, 2022, Treasure Report/Bills Payable was made by Raymond Minton, 2nd by Tom Heefner, All Favored – Motion Carried.

Mayor’s Report: - Michael discussed a meeting with Quentin McDowell for increased partnerships between the borough and the academy. Also, he fielded some calls and emails about police coverage, residents wanting more coverage and are concerned about an uptick in crime. He noted that the Chief would be here to answer some questions on some crosswalk issues.

Police Report – Enclosed in Packet

No Solicitor’s Report N/A

Public Works Report – Attached

Borough Manager Report - NA

Committee Reports

Act 537 – No Meeting

Finance – TBA

Fire Board- no new business – need a bill for our portion of hiring to settle before the end of the year.

HARB- NA

Personnel- executive session matters

Planning-NA

Property- NA

Police/Safety- N/A

Streets – N/A

Zoning Hearing Board- NA

Council moved into Old Business –

Equipment purchases - Dusty says this should come from the Joint Equipment Fund, if there are not enough funds in the Joint Equipment Account each entity will have to contribute.

2023 Budget – to discuss in Executive Session, as well as personnel matter.

Motion: to go into Executive Session @ 7:25pm to discuss personnel matters with action to be taken later made by Raymond Minton, 2nd Tom Heefner, All Ayes – Motion Carried

Motion: to come out of Executive Session @ 7:45 pm was made Paul Sipes, 2nd by Tom Heefner, All Ayes – Motion Carried.

Budget 2023 – Under Expenses: line item – 401-10 “Administrative Wages” decrease this from \$47K – \$40K – Line item 401.11 “Contracted Services” decrease this from \$8K to \$6K, Line Item – 439-45 “Street Improvement Fund” increase this from \$94.690 to \$102.690, Line Item 458.03 “Beautification” add \$1K to the Budget.

Motion to approve the Budget as modified was made by Paul Sipes, 2nd by Jacob Morgan, All Ayes – Motion Carried –

Motion to extend an offer of employment to Melissa Price for the position of Borough Manager, while waiving the requirement for college degree, based on previous experience starting January 1, 2023, at a salary of \$49K was made by Paul Sipes, 2nd by Tom Heefner, All Ayes – Motion Carried.

Motion to reach out to a interested candidate and extend an offer of employment for the Borough Secretary Position was made by Paul Sipes, 2nd by Raymond Minton, All Ayes – Motion Carried.

Confirm Meetings

- A. COUNCIL: 12.26.22 & 01.09.23 @ 7pm
- B. FINANCE: TBA
- C. FIRE BOARD: TBA
- D. HARB: 01.03.23 @7pm
- E. NOMINATING: TBA
- F. PERSONNEL:01.16.23 @7pm
- G. PLANNING: TBA
- H. PROPERTY: N/A
- I. SEWER: 01.12.23 @ 7pm
- J. WATER: 01.19.23 @ 7 pm
- K. STREETS: 01.25.23 @ 7pm
- L. ZHB – TBA

Motion to advertise the Meeting dates for 2023 was made by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Raymond Minton, All Ayes – Motion Carried

**Council meeting 2nd & 4th Monday
Fire board last Thursday
HARB is first Tuesday
Nominating is TBA
Property is 1st Wed if needed
Sewer is 2nd Thursday
Water is 3rd Thursday.
Streets is 4th Wednesday.
Zoning is TBA as needed.**

Motion for Adjournment made by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Raymond Minton, All Ayes, Motion Carried.

These meeting minutes have been transcribed and respectfully submitted for approval by Melissa Price with the use of her meeting notes and audio recording.

Date approved: 12-29-22 **Motion:** Tom Heefner **Second:** Raymond Minton

Melissa Price