

Mercersburg Borough Council Meeting
113 South Main Street, Mercersburg, PA 17236
Monday, August 14, 2023

MEETING MINUTES
(Amended 8/28/23)

The meeting was called to order by President Stoner at 7 p.m.

Present were President Stoner, Vice President Heefner, council members Burkot, Minton, Morgan, and Sipes. Also present were Borough Manager Melissa Price and Solicitor Rachel Hepp. Mayor Pedersen and Councilman Frisby were absent.

Curtis Bryan led the Pledge of Allegiance at the request of President Stoner.

Stoner asked for a motion to take the agenda out of order.

On a Heefner/Minton motion, Council unanimously approved taking the agenda out of order to present the James Buchanan Award to Ronald Bryan.

Public Comment/Guest(s)

Ellen Bryan, 144 Loudon Road, asked about her water bill and Price said she would follow up with her separately.

Minutes

On a Heefner/Minton motion, Council unanimously approved the Meeting Minutes from July 10, 2023.

Morgan asked if the sign-in sheet referenced in the minutes and Price said she would send him a copy.

Treasurer Report/Bills Payable

On a Heefner/Sipes motion, Council unanimously approved the Treasurer Report/Bills Payable for July 31, 2023.

Morgan asked about the income budget numbers which Stoner addressed. Price reiterated to Council that they are to provide questions in advance of the meeting to allow her to have the information prepared for discussion when they convene.

Police Report: Included in Council packet.

Solicitor: Rachel Hepp said there was no prepared report.

Engineer Report: Not in attendance; no report.

Borough Managers Report

Price provided updates on the Seminary Street closure through September; Bulk Trash days, repairs at Main Street and Veterans Way and the light repair on Main and Park streets; livestock

and junk vehicle ordinances; and electricians to repair utility poles. Price also noted the great work being done by the Public Works team.

Minton suggested Price meet with Rockwell Construction for assistance with electrical work on the Borough poles.

Kelani Craig, 36 N. Fayette Street, representing the Chamber of Commerce, said that they were told the right side of Seminary Street would be opened for Townfest. Price said that all questions for Lockwood need to go through the Borough.

Sipes said a cease-and-desist letter could be sent to Rockwell Construction to complete the project and gather all their materials. Price said she would review the contract.

Department of Public Works Report: Included in Council packet.

Committee Reports

Act 537: None.

Finance: 8/22/23 at 1 p.m.

Fire Board: Stoner said he continues to see improvement.

HARB: July 11 meeting minutes included in packet.

Nominating: None.

Personnel: None.

Planning: None.

Property/Technology: None.

Police/Safety Committee: None.

Streets: Sites spoke on crosswalk updates from the Green-Light-Go program; revisited recommendations to remove meters at California Street and North and South of Hitching Post alley (24 total). Stoner asked Hepp if an Ordinance or Resolution is needed to address meter removal and she said she would find out.

Zoning Hearing Board: None.

Old Business

Price said the process of transferring the borough to a new bank is ongoing.

New Business

Mark Sanders, Fire Chief: Will work to clear schedule for Council meeting introduction.

On a Heefner/Minton motion, Council unanimously approved the installation of Breast Cancer Awareness Ribbons on meters for the month of October 2023.

On a Heefner/Minton motion, Council unanimously approved HARB Application COA 2023-07-01.

Minton provided project specifications for the HARB request for a new garage at 39 N. Main Street.

Stoner asked for updated information from Salzmann Hughes on the status of issuing the waste disposal contract RFP for the Borough.

Hepp stated that Council was instructed to decide whether to use the RFP from the

previous contract or make changes so that it can be advertised. She said that changes need to be sent to Steve Coccoresse individually, which Stoner seconded to Council members.

Morgan asked about adding provisions for missed pick-ups. Price said she would review the contract regarding collection times in the borough.

Approve Joe Creighton to the Mercersburg Sewer Authority via Resolution 2023.01S.

Price said this was not required to be authorized by Council as Creighton is filling a vacancy.

Stoner told Council that Saint Thomas Township Board of Supervisors have requested Fire Police support for a Make-a-Wish event on August 19 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. He added that because the fire police would be serving in another municipality, the borough would need to provide Worker's Compensation coverage.

On a Minton/Sipes motion, Council unanimously approved allowing the MMPW Fire Police to assist the Saint Thomas Township Fire Department Fire Police on August 19 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the Make-a-Wish Franklin County Truck Convoy.

Stoner asked Hepp about the status of a complaint he presented to Coccoresse, and she said he had not advised her for this meeting. Stoner said that would be discussed at a regular Council meeting.

Correspondence

A letter was sent to Herbruck's corporate office and copied to Waste Management regarding trucks not using the truck route.

Confirm Meetings

- Council: August 28, 2023, and September 11, 2023; 7 p.m.
- Finance: August 22, 2023, 1 p.m.
- HARB: August 1, 2023, 7 p.m.
- Nominating: TBA
- Personnel: September 18, 2023, 7 p.m.
- Planning: TBA
- Property: September 6, 2023; 7 p.m.
- Sewer: September 14, 2023; 7 p.m.
- Water: August 24, 2023; 7 p.m.-
- Streets: August 23, 2023; 7 p.m.

The Borough Secretary gave an update on the RFB for the alleys and parking lot.

A discussion followed among Stoner, Sipes, and Morgan as to when the parking lot paving was agreed upon and what was funding the cost. Stoner said the funding would need to come from either Capital Improvement Fund or the UDAG Fund, Another discussion started regarding the band storage building adjacent to the parking lot.

On a Sipes/Heefner motion to approve up to \$25,000 or as limited by prevailing wage from capital improvement funds to pave for the very first time in capital funds to re-pave the parking lot in the rear of the building.

- ZHB – TBA

On a Sipes/Minton motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna E. Irons-Zimmerman
Borough Secretary

**ALL GUEST/CORRESPONDENCE IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER PER REQUEST/RECEIPT*