

Mercersburg Borough Council Meeting

Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA 17236

June 10, 2024

MINUTES

Attending: Council President Donald E. Stoner, Mayor Dr. Michael Pedersen, Council Vice President Anthony Frisby, Member Kelani Monismith-Craig, Member Jacob Morgan, Member Tom Heefner, Member Joe Burkot, Member Paul Sipes, Police Chief John Zechman, Borough Manager Dawn Scheller, and Solicitor Steve Coccorese

Absent: Engineer Lance Kegerreis

Public/Press: See sign in sheet.

Council President called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Stoner opened the floor for general Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Preston Spahr, 101 South Main Street, provided an update regarding the Steering Committee and thanked Council Member Morgan for his assistance with providing additional population data. He invited everyone to attend or provide their thoughts at the next scheduled meeting which was scheduled to take place on June 20th at 1:00 pm in Borough Hall.

Vice-President Frisby brought forward a concern he had heard regarding parking meters on Main Street and noted that the Streets Committee had been discussing the removal of some of the parking meters. It was noted that the Solicitors office was reviewing the Ordinances and that the Streets Committee needed to note which meters they wished to be removed.

MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: to approve the Meeting Minutes from May 13, 2024, as presented, was made by Heefner, seconded by Frisby, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT / BILLS PAYABLE:

MOTION: to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable list for the month ending May 31, 2024, as presented was made by Craig, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Council President asked for the Mayor's Report.

Mayor Pedersen invited everyone to attend the upcoming events on June 22nd which included a Garden Tour from (10 am-2 pm) and a Celebration of Life for former Mayor Jim and Linda Zeger.

POLICE REPORT:

Council President moved to the Police Report. Chief Zechman was present to answer any questions on the report provided to Council. President Stoner thanked Chief for his efforts and Chief left the meeting at 7:12 pm.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Council President moved to the Solicitor’s Report.

Solicitor Coccoresse had nothing to report on at this time.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT:

Council President moved on to the Borough Manager’s report.

Manager Scheller noted that two land-use permits were issued in May and that she had just received the burn permit for the Lions Club Fireworks display. The audit was still in progress as there were outstanding items that the accountant’s office needed to assist with obtaining copies of. Mrs. Scheller reviewed that she would keep Council informed of the progress. She reviewed that two individuals were on the agenda for hire, one as the Billing Clerk and the second as an Administrative Professional. Manager Scheller provided an update regarding the funds received for ½ of 2023 Health Insurance Cooperative Reimbursement, this check would be split between Water/Sewer/and the Borough accordingly.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

A report was included in the packet for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FIRE BOARD: President Stoner provided an update on the M.M.P. & W. Fire Company and noted that there is never enough money to fund all the items that they wish to fund.

HARB: Member Heefner reviewed the notes from the June 4th HARB meeting and noted that the recommendation was listed under New Business on tonight’s agenda.

PERSONNEL: Member Heefner reviewed the notes from the Personnel Meeting which included a recommendation to hire to fill the two positions listed under New Business on tonight’s agenda.

STEERING COMMITTEE: an email and attachments from Preston Spahr were included in the Council Members meeting packet for their review and consideration.

STREETS COMMITTEE: Member Sipes noted that the Streets Committee met on May 22nd, but they did not have any recommendations for Council at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Stoner moved on to the items listed under New Business.

MOTION: to authorize hiring of three Seasonal Part-time Employees for the 2024 Summer Playground Program at an hourly rate of \$13.00 per hour was made by Vice-President Frisby, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve HARB application COA: 2024-06-01 provided that the material is the approved standing seam panel, or 5 v crimp style as recommended by the Consultant was made by Heefner, seconded by Sipes, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to authorize hiring a Full-time Billing Clerk, Patrice Brownell, and a Full-time Administrative Professional, Jaimie Renfrew, each at an hourly rate of \$20.00 per hour, with the ability to accrue eight (8) hours of vacation for each calendar month they work not to exceed eighty (80) hours cumulatively per calendar year beginning their start date was made by Heefner, seconded by Frisby, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve Resolution: 23-24 Amending and updating the Mercersburg Holiday Policy contained within the Employee Manual was made by Sipes, seconded by Burkot, all ayes, motion carried.

Council chose not to consider creating a policy/procedure for dedication of Borough buildings/property at this time.

Council discussed any viewpoints that Council wishes to be shared at the next Steering Committee Meeting scheduled for June 20, 2024, at 1:00 pm re: historic preservation, economic development, housing, human services' needs, or any other topics. Some of the items that Council Members highlighted to discuss at the June 20th meeting include topics of Police/Fire/EMS, transportation and coordinating a realistic truck route with the surrounding municipalities, affordable housing needs, improving the walkability and bike ability of the community, improving the borough parking lots and lighting, and upgrading/providing water/sewer to new customers as needed.

No other items were brought before Council to discuss.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Council President reviewed the meeting schedule for the next few weeks.

MOTION: to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. was made by Heefner, seconded by Sipes, all ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes were transcribed by Dawn Scheller, Borough Manager, with the use of her meeting notes and have been respectfully submitted for approval.

Date approved: 7/09/2024 Motion by: Heefner Seconded by: Sipes


Signature

SEAL

