

Mercersburg Borough Council Meeting
Borough Hall, 113 S. Main St., Mercersburg, PA
October 14, 2024
MINUTES

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

Absent: Member Paul Sipes and, and Engineer Lance Kegerreis

Guest(s)/Press: Mike Logsdon, 1601 Mountain Road, Mercersburg; Audrey Hua, Mercersburg Journal; Dean Severson, HRG York; Kristen Hubbard, 311 West 7th Street, Waynesboro.

Council President called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance, after which he opened the floor to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dean Severson, HRG York, was present to provide the board with an update on the Steering Committee's progress with the Comprehensive Plan. The board was provided with an electronic copy and was asked to provide feedback prior to the end of the month. Dean noted that a meeting was scheduled to be held on 10/23/2024 at 1:00 pm where final changes would be discussed. He invited the members to attend if possible or provide feedback to their representative. Manager Scheller noted that Paul Sipes was the appointed representative for Borough Council.

No other public comments were made.

MINUTES

MOTION: to approve the August 26, 2024, Meeting Minutes with two corrections the first was to correct the spelling of "Kalani" and the second was to add the word "act" so that it stated not act on the tax appeal was made by Heefner, seconded by Frisby, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve the September 9, 2024, Meeting Minutes with the correct spelling of "Kalani" was made by Craig, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MOTION: to approve the month ending September 30, 2024, Treasurer's Report with a notation that any deposits made for Fire Relief and Pension Proceeds be transferred to the proper organizations/accounts needed as required was made by Morgan, seconded by Frisby, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve the bills payable list for the month ending September 30, 2024, was made by Morgan, seconded by Frisby, all ayes, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor reported that he delivered a Proclamation since the last Council Meeting. Mayor reviewed that holiday banners had been ordered and should be received in time for this holiday season. He reviewed that the Police Department was still looking for candidates to fill the Police Officer vacancies.

POLICE REPORT

The police report was available to the members upon request.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Coccorese reviewed that his office has prepared a draft demolition RFP for the Property Committee to review at their next meeting. He also noted that agreement for the Lions Club was listed under New Business for approval if anyone had any questions or concerns.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Scheller provided an update on the parade and public assembly permits noting that the office received the approval from PENNDOT for the Halloween Parade. She provided an update on the new public works department employees and noted that the office was looking for alternative sites for a bulk pick up day.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Morgan reviewed the meeting information and noted that he liked Greencastle's budget which included sub budgets for other funds used. He reviewed that the Committee would work on creating budgets for those accounts and they would have more information at the next Council Meeting. It was noted that Council would need to authorize the advertisement of the 2025 Proposed Budget.

FIRE BOARD: President Stoner reviewed that the Fire Department needs to replace a roof on the community center. He also reported that correspondence was included regarding MMP & W By-Law Requirements.

HARB: Heefner reviewed the HARB Meeting information and noted that their recommendation was included under new business for action.

PERSONNEL: Scheller summarized the meeting information which touched on the new employee discussion, a review of implementing wage increases as the non—uniformed employee as they train and take on more responsibilities. She noted that there were two employees who she recommended that they receive salary adjustments. Those recommendations were listed under New Business.

STREETS: Burkot reviewed the Streets Committee meeting information which included lengthy discussions regarding parkin on Linden Avenue. He reviewed that they had a high amount of attendance at the meeting. He noted that there were no formal recommendations at this time, however, the Committee would continue to work on the items brought before the committee.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve Council President to sign the Professional Consultant Agreement and consider the proposed text amendment to the Mercersburg Zoning Ordinance to allow for Daycare Centers, as a principal use in the General Residential Zoning District was made by Craig, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve Council President to execute the Lease Agreement between the Mercersburg Lions Club and Mercersburg Lions Community Park Association and remit a one-time payment of \$30,000 payable from the UDAG Fund was made by Heefner, seconded by Craig, all ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: Approve HARB Application: COA 2024-10-01 for the property of 26 South Main Street with the request that warm bulbs be used vs. the blue-white type bulbs was made by Heefner, seconded by Craig, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the proposed plan for non-uniform hourly employees to receive salary adjustments correlating to additional job duties, weekend/on call coverage, completed training, degrees, and certificates obtained as recommended by the Personnel Committee was made by Heefner, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve proposed salary adjustment increases for both Don Keefer and Troy Hoover was made by Craig, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve authorizing the Borough Employees to carry up to 80 hours of unused vacation time from 2024 to use in 2025 was made by Frisby, seconded by Craig, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To accept the resignation of the Administrative Professional and authorize the Borough Manager to interview and hire someone to fill that vacancy was made by Heefner, seconded by Craig, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 25-24 appointing Joe Creighton and Preston Spahr to fill the Mercersburg Planning Commission vacancies was made by Heefner, seconded by Craig, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve to remit payment to the Mercersburg Library Association, Inc. for 2024 tax collected in the amount of \$16,992.62 was made by Heefner, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the Solicitor's 2025 rate increase indicated in the September 10, 2024, letter was made by Frisby, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

Borough Council reviewed the request to sponsor an application for the LSA Grant. The Cumberland Valley Breast Care Alliance made this request to acquire an Education Trailer. Council Members reviewed the request and asked questions as to if there was a planned number of days that the trailer would be available to the community and if they had received any other sponsorships for this project. Council Members requested additional time to review the request and adjusted the meeting November Borough Council Meeting to meet on November 4, 2024, rather than November 11, 2024. Council President requested that this item be added to the next meeting agenda.

Council President reviewed the correspondence and upcoming meeting schedule.

MOTION: to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm into executive session for personnel matters with no action to be taken and would not resume following that session was made by Morgan, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes have been transcribed with the use of her meeting notes and have been respectfully submitted for review and approval.

Date: _____ Motion: _____ Seconded: _____

Dawn L. Scheller, Borough Manager / Secretary / Treasurer

SEAL