

Mercersburg Borough Council Meeting
Borough Hall, 113 South Main Street, Mercersburg, PA 17236
November 4, 2024
MINUTES

Attending: Council President Donald Stoner, Mayor Dr. Michael Pedersen, Vice-President Anthony Frisby, Members- Jacob Morgan, Joe Burkot, Paul Sipes, Tom Heefner, Borough Manager Dawn Scheller, and Solicitor Rachel Hepp

Absent: Member Kelanie Craig, Police Chief John Zechman, and Engineer Lance Kegerreis

Guests/Press: Kelly Swisher, 13836 Trailside Lane, Mercersburg, PA 17236; Will Kollman, 13836 Trailside Lane, Mercersburg, PA; and Audrey Hua, [Mercersburg Journal](#)

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was made at this time.

MINUTES

MOTION: to approve the October 14, 2024, Meeting Minutes as presented was made by Sipes, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT / BILLS PAYABLE

MOTION: to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable/Invoice List for the month ending October 31, 2024, was made by Heefner, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor reported that both the Parade and Trick-or-Treat were well attended. He noted that next year Halloween falls on a Friday. Council Member Burkot noted that he would prefer that trick-or-treat occur either on or prior to Halloween. Mayor reminded all that the tree lighting was scheduled for 11/30/2024 from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm and noted that they would have carriage rides available to the attendees.

POLICE REPORT

A copy of the Police Report was available upon request.

SOLICITOR

Attorney Hepp had nothing to report at this time but would address any concerns as they are brought forward.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

No report provided.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Dawn Scheller provided an update on the street sweeping and leaf collection schedule. She reviewed that PWD would begin putting up Christmas decorations the week prior to Thanksgiving. She noted that there were some electrical issues with some of the decoration locations which she would have

repaired prior to the Tree Lighting event. Manager Scheller noted that she was able to review employment applications for the Administrative Professional Position and was successful in finding an individual for the position. Scheller announced that Pete Stotlemeyer was scheduled to start on November 11th. Mrs. Scheller asked that Council Members complete her Annual Employee Review and forward those to Donald Stoner. He would compile all the responses, and she would schedule a meeting with him to discuss.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

A copy of the DPW Monthly Report was available upon request.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Finance Committee presented the proposed 2025 Operating Budget, this budget did not include any tax increase for 2025. They reviewed that this budget was ready for advertising. Council members thanked Jacob Morgan for the time and effort he spent on preparing and updating the worksheets used during the budget process.

MOTION: to approve to advertise the Proposed 2025 Mercersburg Borough Operating Budget was made by Heefner, seconded by Burkot, Council members thanked Jacob Morgan for the time and effort he spent on preparing and updating the worksheets used during the budget process, a vote was taken all ayes, motion carried.

The Planning Commission met on 10/30/2024, a copy of that meeting information was included in the Council meeting packets. All recommendations were listed under New Business for consideration at tonight's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Borough Council discussed that the previous request from the Cumberland Valley Breast Care Alliance had rescinded their request for the LSA application support. President Stoner made the request for support of improvements on a MMP & W Property. Council requested that more information be brought to the next meeting scheduled for 11/25/2024.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: to approve the subdivision land development plan for the property of 34 West Seminary as reviewed by the Borough Engineer with the updates presented to the Planning Commission with their recommendation for approval was made by Sipes, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve the 2024 Franklin County Drug Task Force request of \$753.62 was made by Sipes, seconded by Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve the 2025 Association of Mayors of the Boroughs of PA Membership of \$60.00 was made by Sipes, seconded by Burkot, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve the 2025 PSAB Dues Renewal and the PSAB Training Subscription Plus Program for \$450.00 was made by Heefner, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve the Franklin County Area Tax Bureau's (FCATB) recommended 2025 budget (copies available upon request) was made by Heefner, seconded by Frisby, a discussion occurred regarding this budget and if the Borough has any input on the preparation of it, the answer was no, additional concerns were brought forward regarding the local tax filings and methods of submission/payment available, a vote was taken, Morgan and Burkot voted against, Sipes, Frisby, Heefner, and Stoner were ayes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE & CALENDAR

Council President reviewed the correspondence in the meeting packet and reviewed the next meetings. Borough Council will hold the second meeting in November.

No other business was brought before the Board.

MOITON: to adjourn at 7:40 pm was made by Heefner, seconded by Frisby, 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: _____

SEAL

Dawn L. Scheller, Borough Manager / Secretary / Treasurer