

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF December 10, 2007 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING NO. 07-20

The regular Council meeting of the Town of Sykesville was held on December 10, 2007. Jonathan Herman, Mayor of the Town of Sykesville, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room at the Town House. Mayor Herman, led the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Jonathan Herman Debby Ellis Jeannie Nichols Eugene Johnson
Leo Keenan

ABSENT: Frank Robert
Scott Sanzone

STAFF: Matthew Candland, Town Manager
John Williams, Chief of Police
Lorie Sanders, Town Clerk

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Mayor Herman then called for additions to the agenda. There was one addition and the heard order of agenda items was adjusted slightly: 2,1,3,4.

BUSINESS:

1. **Carroll Area Transit (CATS)**- Mr. Howard the new Executive Director of CATS was in attendance to address the Mayor and Town Council to introduce himself and to give them a brief description of the services that CATS provides for the community and the tentative plan moving forward. Mr. Howard also wanted to extend an invitation to all for the Transportation Summit that his organization is hosting in Westminster. There was some discussion and questions.
2. **Marriage Resources Center of Carroll County**- Ms. Amy Guilford of the Marriage Resource Center of Carroll County was in attendance to address the Mayor and Town Council and to introduce other members of her group and to also give the audience a brief description of the groups' mission of preparing, strengthening and restoring marriages and would like to ask the council to consider adopting a resolution to recognize Marriage Week which is Feb.7 - 14. After some discussion Mayor Herman thanked the group for their presentation and asked that the council have some time to digest the information and get back to them.
3. **Public Safety Report**- Chief Williams gave this report stating that this report covers a period of November 26, 2007 to December 10, 2007 for a total of 145 calls for service, with 1.2% of officers time being spent out of Sykesville's jurisdiction. There was some discussion concerning the forming of a County Police force and a status update. Some questions concerning the "tripod" vehicle that resident's have seen in the area taking pictures of their homes. Chief Williams explained that this vehicle was in the area to update pictorial data for emergency preparedness in case of a natural disaster, etc. that would allow for rebuilding. There was no further discussion or comment.

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4. **Randy Hughes-Injured Employee Update**- Town Manager, Matthew Candland gave a brief update concerning our Public Works employee, Randy Hughes stating that he had fallen and injured himself but was on the road to recovery and would be out of work for several weeks.

Employee Christmas Lunch, Tuesday, December 18, 2007, 11:30 am-2:30 pm, this was stated as a reminder.

Other items discussed: Burned out house on Norris Ave, status

MOTION: Council member Ellis motioned and council member Keenan seconded to approve minutes of the November 26, 2007 meeting as submitted to public record.

This motion carried unanimously.

At this time Mayor Herman ask the council members for thoughts and comments concerning the concept for trash incinerators. There were some comments and brief discussion from the audience. Mayor Herman also stated that he would like to discuss in more detail at a later date a plan for aggressive recycling.

MOTION TO: Council President Nichols motioned and council member Keenan seconded
RECESS to take a brief recess at 8:05 pm.

The motion carried unanimously.

**CLOSED
SESSION**

MOTION: Council member Johnson motioned and Council member Ellis seconded to go into closed session at 8:10 pm.

The motion carried unanimously.

Those in attendance were: Mayor Herman, Council members Robert, Keenan, Ellis, and Johnson. Council president Nichols, Town Attorney Dennis Hoover, Town Manager Matthew Candland and Police Chief John Williams

Items discussed were:

Warfield Update and Personnel

REOPEN SESSION

MOTION: Council President Nichols motioned and Council member Ellis seconded to reopen regular session at 9:20 pm.

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The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mayor Herman motioned and council member Ellis seconded to approve the following things beginning the first full pay of January 2008

- To increase Town Manager salary from \$73,291 to \$86,000
- To increase Chief of Police salary from \$68,619 to \$80,000
- To modify the current employment agreement covering severance provisions from 6 months to 18 months for both Town Manager and Chief of Police.
- To form a committee that consist of 2 council members, Town Manager, Chief of Police, and the Public Works Director to examine current employee salaries and benefits and make recommendations to the Mayor and full Council of any adjustments and place emphasis on identifying revenue to fully fund the current town operations.
- Chief Williams is to agree to stay for 4 more years and during this period he mentor, preferably someone from his department, to take over his duties upon separation.

Monies for increases and changes will come from, Development Inspection fees \$25,000, proceeds from the sale of fountain bricks that was never transferred into the general fund \$7,192 and interest earned on monies from the intersection project \$10,643.

Council members Ellis, Johnson, Mayor Herman and Council president Nichols were in favor of this motion.

Council member Keenan abstained.

Motion carries.

At this time there was additional discussion concerning Item #2 under Business, Marriage Resource Center of Carroll County. Council President Nichols will write a letter to this organization explaining the council's stand on this item.

MOTION TO

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council, Council member Ellis motioned and Council president Nichols seconded to adjourn meeting at 9:30 pm.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Lorie Sanders

Town Clerk