

**FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA**  
**Borough of Fairfield**  
**Minutes of the Borough Council Meeting of February 23, 2021**  
**At the Fairfield Village Hall and remotely via the Zoom platform**

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Fairfield was held on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, in the Village Hall meeting room, 108 West Main Street, Fairfield, Pennsylvania, with the option for remote participation via the Zoom platform.

In attendance at the Village Hall were councilors Camille Cline, Phyllis Gilbert, Patricia Smith, and Dean Thomas as well as Solicitor Matthew Battersby. In attendance remotely via the Zoom platform were councilors Nate McNeill, and Sally Thomas; Mayor Robert Stanley; Police Chief Richard Hileman and Secretary Susan Wagle.

Present from the public was George (Butch) Harbaugh of Harbaugh's Hauling and Excavation

At 7:00 PM Council President Patricia Smith called the meeting to order, and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes** – On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, the minutes of both the Council meeting and the public hearing of January 26, 2021, were accepted as presented. There was no meeting on February 3 due to a lack of quorum.

**Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

**Fire Department Report** – Council acknowledged receipt of the January Fire Department report.

**Police Report** – Chief Hileman reviewed the January police report and fielded questions from Council. He further reported that all of his department's full time staff members have been vaccinated against Covid-19. In response to his report regarding scam operations, Solicitor Battersby requested that Chief Hileman consider providing information to the local newspaper in an effort to educate more members of the public of the danger of the ongoing scams. In response to inquiry by Mr. Thomas, Chief Hileman advised that it is not uncommon for municipalities to impose a local ordinance prohibiting depositing snow or other debris in the streets even though the state has such a statute in place.

At 7:16 PM Chief Hileman left the meeting.

**Solicitor Report** – Solicitor Battersby had no specific report for Council but shared, for general information, that SGI has begun the permitting process to start mining a new tract of land which could result in increased traffic in the Borough.

**Correspondence** – Council acknowledged receipt of a membership plaque from PSAB and notification that another Green Space grant was awarded to Hamiltonban Township for the Community Park.

*Mrs. Smith read into the record for the benefit of the surviving family of Carroll Smith the Borough Council's deep appreciation for Carroll's service to the Borough which included serving the Borough Council for 14 years, the Planning Commission for 16 years, and The Fairfield Area Historical Society since its inception. He was a wonderful servant and will be greatly missed by all of us.*

**Code Enforcement report** – Council reviewed two code enforcement officer reports, together covering the period 12/21/20 through 02/12/21.

**Review of Financial Reports** – On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, the financial reports were accepted as presented and authorization was granted to pay PMCA's invoice in the amount of \$216.10.

On a motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council voted to contribute \$1,000, approximately \$2.00/capita, on an annual basis to the Joint Parks and Recreation Commission, using funds from the Pippinfest account.

**Mayor's Report** – In response to suggestion made by Mayor Stanley, Council agreed to include an article in the next newsletter to find out if there is interest in expanding the display of American flags in the community.

**Municipal Service Report** – Mrs. Smith reported that the municipal employee has taken care of snow clearing and removed a sheet of ice that was hanging precariously from the roof over the ladies' room. She noted that there could have been some damage to the fan vent. In response to Mr. Thomas' observation that the stop sign at Wertz Drive and Water Street has not yet been replaced, Mr. Harbaugh offered to take care of the job if needed. Mrs. Smith will follow up with the municipal employee.

### **Liaison Reports**

**ACBA** - Mayor Stanley reported on the January 28 ACBA meeting at which a presentation was made by Randy Phiel. A request has been made for a \$50.00 donation per municipality to support maintenance of equipment that safely collects used needles.

**Fairfield Area Historical Society** – Mrs. Gilbert reported that the February 18 meeting was rescheduled for February 25 due to inclement weather.

**FREMA** – Mayor Stanley reported on the Feb 15 meeting which was conducted via Zoom. He noted that Fairfield was the only municipality to have discussed an updated pay rate for the EMC and Deputy EMC. He further shared information relative to registering for the primary elections.

At 7:52 PM Mr. Battersby left the meeting.

**HARB** – There was no HARB meeting in February.

**Joint Parks & Recreation Commission** – Mr. Thomas reported on the February 9 meeting noting that "Kite Day" is scheduled for April 17. He advised that he will provide amenities cost information to the Secretary for distribution to Council. In consideration of Mr. Pileggi's current need to focus on other responsibilities after the recent death of his wife, Mr. Thomas will consider resuming his role as primary delegate on the Commission.

**Municipal Authority** – Mrs. Smith reported that the Authority engineers advised that a land development plan has begun for the construction of a combination of 200 townhouses and single family homes at the Gettysburg National Golf course. The homes will likely connect to the Authority’s water and sewer treatment systems.

**Pippifest** – The first committee meeting of the year is scheduled for March 9 and will take place via Zoom since the Municipal Authority will be using the meeting area for their monthly meeting. Mrs. Thomas advised that the committee will plan festival activities at least until June or July and will then assess the Covid-19 situation to determine whether or not to move forward with this year’s festival.

**Planning Commission** – Mr. Thomas reported that the February 8 Planning Commission meeting was canceled. On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Erin Brown was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Carroll Smith on the Planning Commission. Her term will end on 12-31-2023.

**Unfinished Business** - Mrs. Cline was successful in obtaining a written quote in the amount of \$1,200.00 for refurbishing and powder coating one of the historic bells as well as for the construction of a steel plate bell stand, also with a powder coat finish. The proposal requests that a 1/3 deposit be paid in advance of the start of fabrication. On behalf of Council Mrs. Cline will request that a drawing be prepared for consideration at the March 3 Council meeting.

**New Business** – On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by roll call vote of 5-1 with Mr. Thomas dissenting, Council voted to authorize proceeding with the adoption process to amend the ordinances regulating clearing snow and debris from sidewalks to include language specific to prohibiting depositing any such materials onto Borough roadways.

### **Anything for the good of the borough**

In response to request by Mrs. Cline, by general consensus Council authorized storage of Historical Society office documents – including the checkbook, invoice copies, and copies of minutes – in the Borough Office.

Mr. Harbaugh reported in detail on a recent conflict with a local individual regarding snow clearing, a complaint registered by the property owner at 119 West Main Street, and concerns expressed regarding relocating snow on Spring Street. He acknowledged turf damage done at 119 West Main Street, and the property owner has been advised that he is willing to assist with repair in the spring, if desired. The other two concerns were discussed at length with no action taken.

**Next Meetings** – The next meetings of the Borough Council are scheduled for March 3, 2021, at 9:00 AM and Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

**Adjournment** – On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by unanimous acclamation, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

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Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

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Patricia T. Smith, President