

FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA
Borough of Fairfield
Minutes of the Borough Council Meeting of March 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, March 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 and Secretary Susan Wagle. In attendance remotely via the Zoom platform were councilors Nate McNeill, Pat Pileggi, and Sally Thomas; Mayor Robert Stanley; and Police Corporal Cliff Weikert.

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 7-0, the minutes of the Council meeting of March 3, 2021, were accepted as presented.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Fire Department Report – Council acknowledged receipt of the February Fire Department report.

Police Report – Corporal Weikert reviewed the February Police report and fielded questions from Council. By general consensus Council supported issuing a Parade and Assembly permit, contingent on receipt of required insurance certificates, to the Fairfield Recreation Association for an Opening Day parade on April 24th.

At 7:06 PM Corporal Weikert left the meeting.

Solicitor Report – After receiving input from Solicitor Battersby regarding requested authorization to serve customers at tables placed in the grassy area in front of Ventura's Pizza's when Covid-19 mitigation directives restrict the restaurant from operating at full capacity indoors, by general consensus Council supported authorizing use of the outdoor tables. Solicitor Battersby stipulated that there must be no interference with the flow of pedestrian traffic on the sidewalk.

At 7:10 PM Solicitor Battersby left the meeting.

Correspondence – Council acknowledged receipt of a thank you letter from the Joint Parks and Recreation Commission for the recent \$1,000 donation made with Pippinfest funds. No action was taken relative to communication from the Adams County Building Officials Association which was accompanied by an invoice to recover outstanding expenses.

Code Enforcement report – Council reviewed the PMCA code enforcement officer report covering the period from 02/15/21 through 03/12/21.

Review of Financial Reports – On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 7-0, the financial reports were accepted as presented and authorization was granted to pay PMCA's invoice in the amount of \$112.50.

Mayor's Report – In response to Mayor Stanley's request that an ordinance be prepared to prohibit tenting in the public roadways, he was assured that the short-term rental ordinance prohibits such use.

Municipal Service Report – There have been no municipal service hours logged since the last meeting. Harbaugh's Hauling & Excavation has assisted in repairing or replacing three bent or otherwise damaged Stop signs in the Borough. Mrs. Smith advised that the Borough is still looking for reliable municipal worker support.

Liaison Reports

ACBA – Mayor Stanley reported in detail on the March ACBA meeting at which the guest speaker, Dr. Mark Goedecker, Vice President and Regional Medical Director, WellSpan Medical Group, shared information on Covid-19 vaccinations. The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

At 7:24 PM Mr. George (Butch) Harbaugh arrived at the meeting.

Fairfield Area Historical Society – Mrs. Gilbert reported on the March 18 meeting at which fund raising opportunities were discussed. Public activities are still on hold due to Covid-19 gathering restrictions. The Secretary shared that Mrs. Cline provided a promotional blurb for the newsletter.

HARB – There was no HARB meeting in March.

Joint Parks & Recreation Commission – Mr. Thomas reported on the March 9 meeting at which appreciation was expressed for the Borough's donation. At a recent workday, pillars for the bridge were placed and the landscaping around them accomplished. "Kite Day" is still on the schedule for April 17. In other good news, the Commission was awarded a new \$25,000 grant.

Municipal Authority – Mrs. Smith reported that she has received an acceptance notice for her early submission of the annual Chapter 94 report on the wastewater treatment plant.

Pippinfest – Mrs. Thomas reported that the committee held its first meeting via Zoom on March 9, and everything is on target for now. As always, the committee welcomes new participants.

Planning Commission – Mr. Thomas reported on the March 9 Planning Commission meeting at which new member Erin Brown was in attendance. Commission members discussed some aspects of the Fairfield Borough Zoning Ordinance Land Use Table.

Unfinished Business

- The historic bell was picked up by Premier Metal Works on March 5th and a 1/3 deposit in the amount of \$400.00 has been paid with Pippinfest funds. Mrs. Smith reported that she shared the Borough's plans to renovate and display the historic bell with Dave Sites whose great-great grandfather was the first headmaster of the school in the Village Hall. Mr. Sites generously offered to pay for the restoration and the stand and indicated that he might also contribute to the cost of the base for the stand. Mrs. Smith expressed appreciation on behalf of the Borough and indicated that a plaque will be incorporated into the display and that the Borough will welcome his attendance at a dedication held in the future. Mr. Sites offered to donate to the Borough any photos of the Borough building that are found in the personal effects of his uncle, James Landis.
- In discussion of missing street signs, it was noted that many numbered alleys are identified with signage only on one side of Main Street. It appears that the sign missing from the intersection of Franklin and Stevens Streets is the only one that needs to be replaced.

- The need for a municipal employee was discussed earlier in the meeting. Mr. Harbaugh indicated that he can clean grates until a regular employee is hired.
- The Secretary reported that Duane Sanders has said he will provide a quote to create a trap door to the attic area where heating units are located.
- Carroll Valley Borough has been contacted about making arrangements for street sweeping. The sweeper is currently in the shop.

New Business

- Council discussed the need for base repair and gutter cleaning on and along Third Avenue. Mr. Harbaugh provided a quote of \$3,200.00 for both jobs and shared that Tom Wells Paving now does tar and chip work. It was agreed that the Secretary will contact the owner of the property along Third Avenue to advise that conditional approval has been granted by Council to clean the gutter unless he plans to take care of the project in the next 30 days.

At 7:50 PM Mr. Harbaugh left the meeting.

- No formal Borough activity is planned for the May Bells across Pennsylvania event, but the Secretary will include an article on the event in the April the newsletter.

Anything for the good of the Borough – Mr. Thomas called for a meeting of the Streets and Alleys Committee on April 7 and requested that Council bring any road problems to the committee’s attention. On a recent survey of Borough roadways he encountered various roadway problems, observed several political signs still on display, and noted that the Walking Tour markers are in need of replacement or repair.

Mr. Pileggi requested that consideration be given to installing a circular mirror to assist pedestrians in safely crossing North Miller Street at East Landis Drive. PennDOT authorization would be required. The Secretary will reach out to PennDOT for information.

Mrs. Smith shared that until guidelines are received by the Borough Office, there is no plan to discuss options for use of any American Rescue Plan monies that might be made available to the Borough.

On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by roll call vote of 7-0, Council authorized the purchase of two benches from Kirby Built at a cost of \$1,000, including shipping, taking advantage of a sale that runs through March 31. The cost of one bench will be paid by Mrs. Cline, Mrs. Wenschhof, and members of the Historical Society, and the bench will be dedicated to the memory of Carroll Smith. Council supported dedicating the other bench to the memory of James Landis, former Mayor and active Borough participant, and will solicit donations.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Borough Council are scheduled for Wednesday, April 7, 2021, at 9:00 AM and Tuesday, April 27, 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 8:24 PM.

Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

Patricia T. Smith, President