FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA

Borough of Fairfield

Minutes of the Borough Council General Meeting of June 2, 2021 Fairfield Village Hall and Remotely via Zoom platform

The Borough Council of Fairfield held a general meeting on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, in the front room of the Village Hall at 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, Dean Thomas, and Patricia Smith, and as well as Secretary Susan Wagle. In attendance remotely were councilor Nate McNeill and Mayor Robert Stanley.

At 9:00 AM Council President Patricia Smith called the meeting to order and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment - There was no public comment.

General - On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. McNeill and carried by roll call vote of 5-0, Council approved the minutes of the Council meeting of May 25, as presented.

Budget and Finance - On a motion by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by roll call vote of 5-0, Council authorized payment of Battersby Law's invoice for May services in the amount of \$781.25.

Correspondence - Council acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Community Media.

At 9:07 AM Mrs. Thomas arrived at the meeting.

Old Business

There was nothing new to report regarding bell refurbishing and display. The building committee will meet separately to discuss the commemoration plaque location and language.

Mrs. Smith reported that recently ordered benches have been delivered and are in the shed awaiting assembly. After some discussion Council agreed to decide on permanent locations for the benches after a determination has been made regarding repairs to the retaining wall.

There was nothing new to report regarding a camera for line inspection.

By general consensus all Council members agreed that having American flags on display throughout the Borough was uplifting, but everyone supported using bigger flags to improve visibility if the project is repeated next year. Mrs. Smith recently researched costs for flags measuring 8 ½″ x 11″ (versus this year's 5 ½″ x 7 ¾), and the best price she found was \$399.00, plus shipping, for 300 flags. Council agreed to consider flag display costs in the 2022 budget, and Mr. Thomas volunteered to request donations from realtors.

After significant discussion of the future of the Historic House tour, Council agreed to have the municipal employee make new house identification numbers in the same fashion as those in use to replace any that are missing. Mrs. Thomas agreed to talk to one of the owners of the Mansion House to see if they might have an interest in providing the house tour brochures to their customers. Mrs. Smith noted that an information box could be affixed to the outdoor bulletin board to have the brochures freely available to the public.

At 9:22 AM Chief Hileman arrived at the meeting.

Chief Hileman reported on follow-up activity conducted by the Department and various new incidents in the Borough including drivers violating stopped school bus protocol and the presence of a new hard drug variety. He reminded Council that there is a permanent drug drop box at the Carroll Valley Borough building.

In response to inquiry, Chief shared that a separate civil statute addresses tenant/landlord issues and recommended that tenants with landlord complaints first contact Mid Penn Legal Services for advice.

Chief Hileman shared his serious concerns about the additional element of danger likely to be created if a potential Pippinfest vendor were to incorporate Main Street into their route for horse-drawn wagon rides. Various potential options were discussed, and it was agreed that the Secretary will coordinate with a member of the Pippinfest committee to present an alternate route – one with no exposure to Main Street – to the potential vendor.

At 10:00 AM Mr. McNeill left the meeting and at 10:15 AM Chief Hileman left the meeting.

After some discussion Council authorized having a community service individual cut the grass and weeds within the right-of-way of Third Avenue and perhaps also in the right-of-way of Landis Drive. It was noted that the initial maintenance will require use of a weedwhacker before mowing.

Mrs. Smith affirmed that, based on her observation of existing insulators, the wire fence along East Landis Drive is electrified.

There was no additional information regarding street name signs for Franklin and Stevens Streets. The Secretary will follow up with U.S. Municipal Supply.

The Secretary shared a quote received from Mills Arbor Care to trim the red maple tree. All agreed that at least one additional quote should be obtained.

Mrs. Smith reported that Mr. Sanders has begun work on re-shingling the shed roof. No further information has been obtained relative to repairing the foyer ceiling.

After discussion of re-opening the Village Hall, it was agreed that the building will be re-opened to the public when official reports indicate that 70% of Pennsylvania residents have received Covid-19 vaccinations, or after June 28, 2021, whichever comes first. The building will be posted to request that non-vaccinated individuals wear a mask when in the building. Meetings will continue to be conducted in the front room until regular weekly rentals resume, which is expected to take place in July.

Anything for the Good of the Borough

- There was no known explanation for the reason the real estate sign has been removed from the vacant former grocery store property at 100 West Main Street.
- The Secretary was directed to contact the new owner of 34 Steelman Street to assure that appropriate permits have been obtained for work being done there.

Next Meeting – The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 22, 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 10:41 AM.

Susan E. Wagle, Secretary	Patricia T. Smith, Council President	