

FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA
Borough of Fairfield
Minutes of the Borough Council General Meeting of September 1, 2021
Fairfield Village Hall and Remotely via Telephone

The Borough Council of Fairfield held a general meeting on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, in the front room of the Village Hall at 108 West Main Street, Fairfield, Pennsylvania.

In attendance at the Village Hall were councilors Camille Cline, Phyllis Gilbert, Patricia Smith, and Dean Thomas as well as Secretary Susan Wagle. In attendance remotely via speaker phone was Mayor Robert Stanley.

At 9:13 AM Council President Patricia Smith called the meeting to order and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment - There was no public comment.

On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by roll call vote of 4-0, Council approved the minutes of the Council meeting of August 24, as presented.

Mrs. Smith reported on the August 26 Council of Governments meeting at which the key speaker was Karl Pietrzak, the new president and CEO of Destination Gettysburg. The annual legislative forum will be held at the Emergency Services building on October 28, beginning at 6:30 PM. All municipal officials are invited to attend.

Council reviewed the code enforcement officer's report for the period July 19 through August 13, 2021. On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by roll call vote of 4-0, Council waived the fee for issuing a Certificate of Non-Conformance to the owners of the Village Apartments at 112 West Main Street.

At 9:31 AM Mrs. Thomas arrived at the meeting.

Council received affirmation that the current tax collector is placing her home on the market and will be moving from the Borough. Council will need to appoint a new tax collector, possibly as soon as the end of September. An individual interested in serving as tax collector could conduct a write-in campaign at the November elections with the intent of serving a full four-year term. Council agreed that space in the Borough building could be made available for required open office hours, if necessary. A job description will be requested of the current tax collector.

The Secretary shared a holiday decorating contest fund-raising idea conceived by Neighbors Helping Neighbors at their August 24 meeting. Council expressed no interest in becoming involved in fund-raising activities. Alternately, in the interest of enhancing holiday decorating in the Borough, Mrs. Smith offered to use trimmings from the St. Mary's Men's Club annual tree sale and use them to make decorated door swags and offer them at no cost to Borough residents. Mrs. Cline and Mrs. Thomas offered assistance in finding materials and assembling the swags. Members of Neighbors Helping Neighbors could participate as well, if desired. At Mrs. Cline's suggestion the Secretary was directed to invite residents to reserve a swag through an article in the October newsletter.

Council revisited the topic of honoring area veterans with no decision made on how to do so.

Council agreed to meet with representatives of the County Planning Office at the regular Council meeting of October 26th to provide feedback on the ACTPO 5-year update of the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Budget and Finance – After extensive discussion of the individual line items on the Battersby Law invoice and on a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 4-1 with Mr. Thomas dissenting, Council authorized payment of Battersby Law’s invoice in the amount of \$531.25 for June services and PMCA’s invoice in the amount of \$442.80 for code enforcement services from July 19 to August 13, 2021. Council directed the Secretary to contact Solicitor Battersby and ask him to send a copy of the “no camping” ordinance if it has been prepared or, if it has not been prepared, to hold off doing additional work until after the September 28 meeting at which time they would like to get more information on the proposed ordinance.

Correspondence – Council agreed that a recent donation made by the Fairfield Area Historical Society to the Adams County Historical Society satisfies the Adams County Society’s request for donation. The Secretary will investigate current requirements relative to making a donation to the SPCA and will convey the same to the Budget committee.

Old Business – Council received the following updates to old business:

- The bell stand fabrication has been started and pictures have been provided. The display base construction has begun.
- Mr. Thomas will get flag quote information from Granny’s Attic tomorrow.
- The Secretary provided an update on communication with the 18 S. Miller Street property owner who has arranged for Naugle Trees to remove fallen trees from the stream. Mr. Thomas offered to call Rusty Ryan, Resource Conservationist with the Adams County Conservation District, to get additional information about removal of debris from state waterways.

At 10:31 Mrs. Gilbert left the meeting.

- Having had an opportunity to look at the site where Solicitor Battersby recommended that a sidewalk be installed on the property of 203 East Main Street to accommodate foot traffic to the U. S. Post Office, by general consensus Council agreed not to pursue the recommendation. Council noted that a compliant sidewalk could not be installed without damage to or relocation of the historic barn and that property owners in the Borough are under no obligation to walk to the Post Office to retrieve their mail since a mail receptacle is provided at the community mailbox area in the Borough, proper, for anyone who does not qualify for home mail delivery.

Anything for the Good of the Borough

In response to an inquiry concerning needing a meeting place for a 10-member 4H Clover Buds club, Council suggested that the individual contact either St John’s Church or the Mennonite Church.

Mayor Stanley shared that there are two additional organizational meetings for the 9/11 commemoration event. He has asked that Hamiltonban Township request a State Police presence to support security.

Next Meeting – The next Council meeting is scheduled – for Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment – On a motion by Mrs. Thomas, 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