

**FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA**  
**Borough of Fairfield**  
**Minutes of the Borough Council General Meeting of**  
**May 4, 2022 - 9:00 AM**

The Borough Council of Fairfield held a general meeting on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, in the front room of the Village Hall, 108 West Main Street, Fairfield, Pennsylvania.

In attendance were councilors Camille Cline, Phyllis Gilbert, Pat Pileggi, Patricia Smith, Dean Thomas, and Sally Thomas. Also present was Secretary Susan Wagle. Present from the public was Eric Hutchison, resident and new owner of 204 East Main Street.

At 9:01 AM Council President Patricia Smith called the meeting to order and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment** – At Mrs. Smith’s invitation, Mr. Hutchison shared with Council details of his plans to operate a museum of historic nature in the renovated barn at the rear of 204 East Main Street, to offer public opportunities to search for historic artifacts in local farm fields, and to offer educational opportunities to school students. The official opening day of the museum is tentatively scheduled for Veteran’s Day, November 11, 2022.

**General**

On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, the minutes of the meeting of April 24, 2022, were approved as presented.

On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council approved updated Fire Box 2 assigning locations by parcel rather than strictly by municipal boundaries.

Mrs. Smith reported that the Municipal Authority received DEP’s approval of this year’s Chapter 94 report which included the proposal of 164 new connections to the treatment plant. The planning module for that development must still be filed by the developer. In televising sewer lines, the Authority found two particularly bad sections allowing significant infiltration. Two potential developers who would be connecting to the Municipal Authority’s water and sewer system have indicated willingness to fund repairs of some lines.

The Secretary shared the results of the line painting bid responses. A decision was tabled until after Hamiltonban Township has consulted with the Township solicitor about documenting the qualifications of a “responsible bidder.”

On behalf of the Streets and Alleys committee, Mr. Thomas reported that he has photographed all signs in the Borough and found varying degrees of condition – some are in good shape, some need to be replaced, and others fall somewhere in between. Mr. Thomas will meet with his committee and provide a report at a future meeting. In the meantime, Council authorized purchase of two 25 MPH signs.

Mr. Thomas made a motion that Council not pursue adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance establishing sign standards for emergency services uses. The motion failed for lack of a second. Mrs. Cline made a motion to continue forward with adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance establishing sign standards for emergency services uses. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by roll call vote of 4-2 with Mrs. Smith and Mr. Thomas voting against the motion. On a motion

by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by roll call vote of 4-2 with Mrs. Smith and Mr. Thomas dissenting, Council authorized advertisement of the intent to adopt the propose amendment to the Zoning Ordinance sign standards.

**Financial** – On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council authorized payment of Battersby Law’s invoice in the amount of \$562.50 for April services (paid from retainer) and Fairfield Auto Service’s invoice in the amount of \$47.15 for truck inspection.

**Correspondence** – In response to inquiry by the code enforcement officer, by general consensus Council recommend that he visit the Borough bi-weekly, at least initially. It was understood that properties will be checked for ordinance compliance from rear alleys as well as from the front.

**Old Business** – Council received the following updates to old business and took action as indicated:

- In discussion of projects using ARPA funds, Mrs. Gilbert reported that she has consulted Ketterman Electric about installation of new fans for the front room. Ketterman will check to determine if any wiring or installation upgrades are needed. Either 3-blade or 5-blade fans could be installed and could possibly be purchased from Ketterman.

Mrs. Smith suggested that Ketterman Electric could also look at dehumidifying needs for the basement when they are on site to check the wiring and/or installation needs for fans. Mr. Pileggi recommended using white vinegar instead of bleach to remove mold in the basement, and it was recommended that the municipal employee move forward with this project.

Mr. Thomas advised that he will resume taking photos of the historic Minutes books, and Mrs. Cline offered to serve as page turner. Mr. Hutchison offered the Borough use of a book scanner which he has purchased for his museum needs.

Mrs. Smith will ask (1) the Borough engineer for a cost estimate to design an ADA-compliant rear entry ramp and (2) Terry Dull how much time he needs to repair the remaining section of the retaining wall.

- Covered device recycling will take place on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Freedom Township municipal building.
- There was no new information regarding a Police Services contract renewal.
- Regarding corrections to the drainage problem at the intersection of Stevens Street and Main Street, Mr. Thomas reported that he took photographs of the newly PennDOT-dug drainage ditch in front of 211 West Main Street. He observed water lying at the intersection of Stevens and Main Streets as well as at many other intersections in the Borough. He and resident Kelli Maze perused the area, and he is of the opinion that additional excavation would improve the situation. It was agreed that the Secretary will send a thank you email to PennDOT’s Doug Etter requesting that additional excavation take place to further improve the water situation at the intersection.
- A firm date has not yet been established for street sweeping. Options are still May 11 or May 12.
- The Secretary and Mrs. Smith shared information obtained from Tom Wells regarding options for resolving the Village Hall parking lot stormwater concerns. The topic was tabled until additional information is obtained.

**Public Comment** – Mr. Hutchison expressed safety concerns about emergency services vehicles, including police vehicles, speeding through the Borough on Main Street. Additionally, he inquired about ordinances that prohibit parking a non-registered or non-inspected vehicle on a property in the Borough. In response, Council committed to contacting Police Chief Rick Hileman for his comment and recommendation, and the Secretary provided information on ordinance requirements for non-registered or non-inspected vehicles.

Mr. Hutchison reiterated his offer of the Borough’s use of his newly-purchased pdf scanner.

**Anything for the Good of the Borough** – There was nothing new presented.

**Next Meeting** – The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at 7:00 PM.

**Adjournment** – On a motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by unanimous acclamation, the meeting adjourned at 10:34 AM.

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Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

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Patricia T. Smith, Council President