

FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA
Borough of Fairfield
Minutes of the Borough Council Meeting of September 27, 2022
108 West Main Street, Fairfield, PA

The regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council of Fairfield was held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, in the front room of the Village Hall. In attendance were councilors Camille Cline, Pat Pileggi, Patricia Smith, and Dean Thomas; Mayor Robert Stanley; Carroll Valley Borough Police Chief Richard Hileman, and Secretary Susan Wagle.

Present from the public was Emmitsburg News Journal and Gettysburg Times reporter Andrea Grabenstein.

At 7:03 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. Pileggi and carried by roll call vote of 3-1 with Mr. Thomas objecting, citing his absence from the meeting, the minutes of the Council meeting of September 7, 2022, were accepted as presented.

At Solicitor Battersby’s insistence, the agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by unanimous acclamation.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

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

Police Report – Chief Hileman reported that Sarah Ginn has been hired as the third secretary for Carroll Valley Borough and will perform some duties for the Police Department. He shared that the Department has state and federal monies remaining for use toward DUI enforcement efforts. He reviewed the August police report and fielded questions from Council. He reported that there was only one incident during the Pippinfest festival, and it was resolved satisfactorily. In response to inquiry regarding a proposed law to allow municipal police to use radar for speed checks but disallow issuing citations and allow only warnings to be issued, Chief Hileman shared his opinion that the law does not support stopping a vehicle without the capability of issuing a citation to the driver. Solicitor Battersby indicated his agreement.

At 7:24 PM Chief Hileman left the meeting.

Solicitor Report – Mr. Battersby had nothing to report, and at 7:25 Mr. Battersby left the meeting.

Financial Reports – On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 4-0, the financial reports were accepted as presented.

Mayor’s Report – Eric Hutchison is interested in having a street sign installed at 1st Avenue to provide direction to customers/visitors to the museum he plans to open at the rear of 204 East Main Street. The Secretary was directed get prices on required materials for Council consideration at the October 5th Council meeting. Mr. Stanley further reported that FREMA board members staffed a booth at Pippinfest at which eight individuals signed up indicating a willingness to serve as volunteers during an emergency. He shared, as well, that he had lunch at the Village Book and Table with Gettysburg’s mayor, Rita Frealing.

Municipal Services Report – During the past month Mr. Wivell mowed Borough lots and alleys and cleaned storm drains after Pippinfest. The Secretary was directed to contact PennDOT for assistance in

lifting and cleaning underneath the storm drain grate at Water and Main Streets. Mr. Thomas reported that a nut and bolt are missing from the Stop sign on East Landis Drive at Fifth Avenue and need to be replaced.

Committee reports – There were no committee reports. Mrs. Cline requested and received sample property maintenance ordinances for review in preparation for meeting with the Ordinance committee.

Liaison Reports

COG - Mrs. Smith reported on the September 22 meeting at which the speaker was Chrissy Redding, Adams County Treasurer. Ms. Redding reported that the County has received an A2+ rating and that the county office will collect real estate taxes for municipalities who are unable to secure the services of a tax collector. She shared, too, that poll worker compensation has been increased by \$70.00, and rent for polling places has been increased by \$45 to \$100/location. Mrs. Smith learned of a new grant opportunity favoring water/sewer projects, information about which will be released on October 1. She learned, as well, that school districts have requested that municipalities advise them when housing projects are approved so they can begin planning for the anticipated impact on the school system.

Fairfield Area Historical Society – Mrs. Cline reported that book sales generated \$179.50 income on Pippinfest Saturday. Mrs. Smith shared that through her volunteer work at the Honest Abe’s Root Beer Float stand she knew of at least \$600 in income generated there.

HARB – There was no HARB meeting in September.

Joint Parks & Recreation Commission – Mr. Thomas reported that at the September 13 meeting the Board voted to move forward with the contractor’s quote. Music in the Park was again canceled due to rain. Arrangements are being made to accommodate Dave Thomas’ request to plant a tree in memory of Randy Reamer. The Board is looking to schedule a work day.

Municipal Authority – Mrs. Smith reported that inspection has identified a section of North Balder St between Landis Drive and Franklin Street with serious infiltration. The Authority Board has consulted its engineer for guidance on how to handling the repair as a critical maintenance project.

Pippinfest – Mr. Thomas reported that his Pippinfest clean up requirements were accomplished. In the absence of both Mrs. Thomas and Mr. McNeill, there was no other report on this year’s Pippinfest.

Planning Commission – The September 12 meeting was canceled as there was no new business, and the new amended zoning ordinance documents had not yet been reviewed.

Unfinished Business – There was no new information to convey on either the police contract renewal or progress toward scanning the historic minutes books.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Borough Council are scheduled for Wednesday, October 5, 2022, at 9:00 AM and Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment – On a motion by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by unanimous acclamation, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

Patricia T. Smith, President