

FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA
Borough of Fairfield
Minutes of the Borough Council General Meeting of
January 4, 2023 - 9:00 AM

The Borough Council of Fairfield held a general meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 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; Mayor Robert Stanley; and Secretary Susan Wagle. Mr. McNeill was absent.

Council President Patricia Smith called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM, and Council recited pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment – There was no one present from the public.

General business

On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, the minutes of the meeting of December 20, 2022, were approved as presented.

On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, the 2022 year-end financial reports were accepted as presented.

There was no Code Enforcement Officer report for the period December 1 through December 31, 2022.

On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council retroactively reappointed Pat Pileggi to a new five-year term on the Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB). The term runs from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2026.

On a motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council passed Resolution 01 of 2023 issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness for installation of a sign at 207 West Main Street.

Hearing that Donna Walker, the real estate agent representative on the HARB, has retired and another agent from Sites Realty has indicated a willingness to fill the remaining term of the vacant seat, Council suggested reaching out to additional real estate agents to potentially fill the spot

Council acknowledged receipt of an updated listing of regularly-scheduled Borough-related meetings.

Council approved publication of the January newsletter as prepared.

Budget and Finance – There were no invoices for review.

General reports

- Council was informed of a new problem with one or more heating units in the Village Hall.

- Council suggested having the Zoning Officer send follow-up correspondence to the owner of 134 Steelman Street requesting an update on the status of an additional third apartment in the building.
- Mrs. Smith shared that the property at 100 West Main Street has been sold, with settlement scheduled for January 19. It is unknown what the new owner plans to do with the property.
- The owner of 213 West Main Street received email approval from the Zoning Officer to place a temporary storage pod on the property.

Committee Reports – There were no committee reports.

Correspondence – ACNB’s loan rate has increased to 7.5%.

Old Business

Council heard that no report has yet been received from Lockwood Business Support regarding the potential for locating their required handicap parking space from the vicinity of 120 West Main Street to their un-paved parking lot. It was noted that an ordinance amendment is required when any new space is established or existing space is removed. The topic will be removed from the agenda until new information is made available to the Borough.

ARPA FUNDS – In response to Mrs. Smith’s inquiry about moving forward with purchasing new meeting room chairs, Council suggested contacting Statler for a price on re-upholstering. Council expressed support for installing crown molding in the main room. At Mr. Thomas’ suggestion, some discussion was had regarding modification of Village Hall entrances. Ultimately it was agreed that functional hardware to assure secure closing of the gate at the end of the handicap ramp needs to be created and installed.

New business – There was no new business presented.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Anything for the Good of the Borough

Mayor Stanley reported that at the FREMA meeting it was reported that several new emergency services classes are required to be taken by FREMA board members and potentially by Board alternates.

Statements of Financial Interest forms were provided for each Council member to complete and return.

The Secretary was directed to send a letter charging Demolition by Neglect to the owner of 115 East Main Street for damages to the barn.

After some discussion Council agreed that there have been no traffic issues related to the child care business at 103/105 West Main Street. Mrs. Thomas suggested installing “Watch Children” signs in the vicinity.

Mr. Pileggi recommended restricting traffic on 1st Avenue to one way “in” (south). After some discussion and by general consensus Council elected to retain two-way traffic for now and to assess if traffic flow and/or patterns change as a result of the museum at the rear of 204 West Main Street.

Mrs. Smith shared that the Municipal Authority obtained a third quote for repairs on Balder Street and hopes to have the work done in the first quarter of the year. It was noted that a traffic detour will likely be required.

After some discussion, Council agreed to host a Pippinfest-sponsored music event in the Village Hall, with light refreshments being served. The date was established as Friday, February 10th, and a blurb is to be included in the Borough's January quarterly newsletter. Mrs. Thomas will make arrangements for the musical entertainment, free will donations will be accepted at the door, and additional details will be arranged at a future meeting.

Next Meeting – The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment – On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by unanimous acclamation, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM.

Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

Patricia T. Smith, Council President