

FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA
Borough of Fairfield
Minutes of the Borough Council General Meeting of
May 3, 2023 - 9:00 AM

The Borough Council of Fairfield held a general meeting on Wednesday, May 3, 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, and Patricia Smith; and Secretary Susan Wagle. Nate McNeill, Dean Thomas, and Sally Thomas were absent.

Present from the public was resident and property owner Robert Remaley

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

Public Comment: In reference to street sweeping that recently took place, Mr. Remaley suggested that future events be scheduled on a Thursday when The Village Book and Table restaurant is closed and patrons won't be parked in front of the restaurant. He suggested, too, that "No Parking" signs be placed on Balder Street, as two employees of The Caterpillar Connection and several restaurant patrons were parked on Balder Street, and there was no access to that area by the street sweeper.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by roll call vote of 4-0, the minutes of the Council meeting of April 25, 2023, were approved as presented.

Regular or New business

- Council reviewed the Code Enforcement Officer report for the period 04-01-23 through 04-30-23. There was brief discussion and general disagreement of the assessment that all brick sidewalks in the Borough are in need of repair. It was agreed that members of the Streets and Alleys committee will walk the Borough and refine the list of sidewalks in need of repair – both brick and concrete. By general consensus Council supported having the code enforcement officer check for violations every two weeks, with the need to be assessed as we move into summer.
- The Secretary shared current pricing of 12 x 18 American flags as purchased last year, and Council authorized the purchase of one gross to decorate Main Street.

At 9:20 AM Solicitor Battersby arrived at the meeting.

In response to request by Mr. Pileggi, Solicitor Battersby agreed to sponsor the purchase of American flags this year with a donation of \$150.00 plus freight costs. Council expressed their grateful appreciation.

- After some discussion Mr. Pileggi accepted appointment as voting member of the Joint Parks and Recreation Board, at least temporary serving in Mr. Thomas' stead.

Solicitor report: Solicitor Battersby shared with Council that the Borough cannot use tax payer funds to make donations to organizations such as a Constable's Association or The Lion's Club, even when services such as traffic control for Pippinfest or street curb maintenance for the Borough are being provided. If non-tax payer funds are available for use, the entity providing the service must provide proof of workers compensation insurance to the Borough.

Relative to traffic control services for Pippifest, Mrs. Smith suggested that Flagger Force, an alternate to W.D. Wright, be contacted regarding availability and pricing. At Mrs. Gilbert's recommendation, the Secretary will reach out to both entities for pricing and availability for this year's Pippifest.

Solicitor Battersby shared that a project for development of single family homes at the west end of the Borough could move forward in the near future. In anticipation of any future development, he suggested that Council review Borough ordinances relative to wheeled vehicles on sidewalks, as additional development will bring additional children into the Borough.

Acknowledging that Mr. Remaley would be leaving the meeting soon, Mrs. Smith shared with him the idea of situating a bench or benches in the grassy area of the community mailbox lot as a service project for The Fairfield Lion's Club. The benches would need to be secured to the ground, as a home-made bench placed in the area was stolen not long after it was placed there.

At 10:00 AM Mr. Remaley left the meeting.

Council briefly continued discussion of placing benches at the community mailbox area, and Mr. Pileggi suggested that Borough ordinances continue to disallow wheeled objects on sidewalks in the interest of eliminating pedestrian tripping and injury.

At 10:08 AM Solicitor Battersby left the meeting.

Budget and Finance – On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by roll call vote of 4-0, Council approved payment of the following invoices:

PMCA's invoice in the amount of \$325.00 for April services.

Battersby Law's invoice in the amount of \$687.50 for April Services (paid from retainer). Invoice charges totaling \$125.00 related to the proposed subdivision at 23 and 27 Centennial Street will be billed to the developer's escrow account.

The Secretary shared information and costs on migrating online ordinance codification to Ecode 360, in light of the purchase of Code Publishing by General Code, LLC. On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by unanimous acclamation, Council voted to proceed with the migration of services.

Correspondence – There was no correspondence requiring action by Council.

Old Business/Project Updates

- **ARPA FUNDS:** The Secretary reported that the required project reporting for 2023 was accomplished on April 23rd.
- **ARPA PROJECTS:**
 - On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by roll call vote 4-0, Council voted to move forward with ordering enough decorative ceiling tiles, including at least an additional 10% to allow for damage, to complete installation in the front room of the hall.

- On a motion by Mr. Pileggi, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by unanimous acclamation, Council voted to accept the estimate presented by Brian Buch Painting, LLC for various painting/waterproofing projects at the Village Hall.

- By general consensus Council chose not to pursue planning and hosting a second Village Hall music event this year.

General Reports – Mrs. Smith reported on the well-attended April 27 Council of Governments meeting at which a presentation was made by the firm providing emergency helicopter services throughout the county. Officials met the 3-person crew and ‘toured’ the interior of the helicopter.

Public Comment – none

Anything for the Good of the Borough – Council acknowledged the installation of the new sidewalk on the west side of the building, and all agreed that it looks very good and the job was well done.

Next Meeting – The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment – On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by unanimous acclamation, the meeting adjourned at 10:56 AM.

Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

Patricia T. Smith, Council President