

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

The Borough Council of Fairfield held a general meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, in the conference room of the Village Hall, 108 West Main Street, Fairfield, Pennsylvania. In attendance were councilors Camille Cline, Phyllis Gilbert, Nate McNeill, Pat Pileggi, and Patricia Smith; Mayor Robert Stanley; and Secretary Susan Wagle.

Council President Patricia Smith called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM, and Council recited The Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

At 9:05 AM Solicitor Battersby arrived at the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by roll call vote of 5-0, the minutes of the Council meeting of September 26, 2023, were approved as presented.

Solicitor report and/or business:

Solicitor Battersby advised that the code enforcement officer needs to address the condition of the property at 126 West Main Street where multiple piles of accumulated metal, Styrofoam, and other materials give the appearance of a junk yard – a use not supported by the Zoning Ordinance.

In response to inquiry by Mrs. Smith regarding pending legislation, Solicitor Battersby was unaware of anything of significance other than the continued delay in awarding grants whose application deadline was almost a year ago. He shared that he has heard complaints of vehicles speeding on Main Street, and he recommended that a report of PA State Police activity within the Borough be requested.

At 9:32 AM Solicitor Battersby left the meeting.

Regular or New business

- Mrs. Smith shared that Mr. Bucher has been assigned to serve on the Streets, Alleys, Trees and Sidewalks committee and the Public Safety and Security committee.
- Council acknowledged receipt of the Fire Company report for the month of August. Mrs. Smith will not be available to attend the quarterly municipal meeting on October 16, and Mr. McNeill volunteered to attend if his schedule permits. The Secretary shared that fire company workers' compensation invoices were very recently sent to municipalities sharing in the cost.
- Council acknowledged that a request for 2024 snow removal bids has been published with anticipated bid opening at the regular meeting on October 24.
- Council reviewed the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of September.

At 9:55 AM Mr. McNeill left the meeting.

- Council reviewed a draft of the October edition of the quarterly newsletter. Suggested modifications included adding a listing of the locations of Little Free Libraries in the Borough; including a section for classified ads for Borough residents; reporting on sightings of the Spotted Lantern Fly in the

Borough; using “Did You Know” as a regular feature in future editions; including information on the ability to purchase Pippinfest pottery and Historical Society calendars at the Village Hall; and announcing the rejuvenation of a Christmas decorating contest this year. No taxpayer funds will be used for the Christmas decorating contest. Prizes will be donated, and judges will reside outside of the Borough limits.

- Council acknowledged receipt of the Auditor General's audit report of the Borough Liquid Fuels fund. No findings were reported.

Financial Reports: On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by unanimous acclamation, Council approved the financial reports as presented and authorized payment of Battersby Law's invoice in the amount of \$93.75 (paid from retainer) and PMCA's invoice in the amount of \$912.50, both for September services.

General Reports: Mrs. Smith reported in detail on the September 28 Council of Governments meeting.

At 10:26 AM Mayor Stanley left the meeting.

Correspondence: Council acknowledged notification from PA Municipal Code Alliance of their July partnership with SAFEbuilt Corporation.

Old Business

- Sidewalk assessment letters have not yet been prepared.
- Paving by Thomas Wells III has been given the go-ahead to proceed with road repairs.
- Brian Buch painting has applied brick sealant to the Village Hall and begun trim painting. Mrs. Smith observed that leveling of the ground is needed where the lift passed through the grass during painting.
- Council supported Mrs. Smith's recommendation that the ceiling in the men's restroom be repaired using ARPA funds. Sanders Lawn and Beyond and another source available from Mrs. Smith are potential candidates for doing the work. Other jobs included resealing a toilet in the ladies' restroom and potentially making body repairs on the borough truck to preclude inspection failure in the future.
- The Secretary reported that progress is being made on the Business Directory for the "Welcome Packet". All businesses have been contacted, and we are awaiting written approval or proposed changes.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Anything for the Good of the Borough: Repair of the planters at the community mailbox area was delayed due to the very hot summer, but the project can be resumed now that cooler weather has arrived.

Next Meeting: The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 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 11:05 AM.

Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

Patricia T. Smith, Council President