

FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA
Borough of Fairfield
Minutes of the Borough Council General Meeting
May 1, 2024 - 9:00 AM

The Borough Council of Fairfield held a general meeting on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, 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, Patricia Smith, and Sally Thomas; Mayor Robert Stanley; and Secretary Susan Wagle. Mr. Bucher was absent.

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

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, the minutes of the Council meeting of April 23, 2024, were approved as presented.

General Business: The code enforcement officer's report will be reviewed at the May 28 meeting.

Budget & Finance: On a motion by Mrs. Gilbert, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council approved the financial reports through April 30, 2024.

Committee Reports – Mrs. Cline reported that she expects the Ordinance Committee to have taken some action in regard to a junkyard ordinance by the next meeting.

General Reports: Mrs. Smith reported on the April 25 Council of Governments meeting at which Erik Meyer from HABPI (Healthy Adams Biking /Pedestrian, Inc) was the key speaker. He shared information on the organization and on trails currently being developed.

At 9:10 AM Solicitor Battersby arrived at the meeting.

Solicitor's Report: Having observed a Carroll's Tract Road resident walking on the shoulder of the roadway to the U.S. Post Office, Solicitor Battersby expressed public safety/health concern that there are no sidewalks on Carroll's Tract Road. He recommended that the Borough pursue enforcement of installation of sidewalks at the properties, starting with an engineering assessment. Council indicated they would research the ordinance and take it under advisement. Solicitor Battersby also suggested that the engineer be enlisted to look into the flooding situation at the intersection of Carroll's Tract Road and Main Street.

Mrs. Smith shared that notice of violation has been sent to the owner of 100 West Main Street about unpermitted interior construction and the garbage area not being shielded as required by ordinance.

Mayor Stanley expressed concern about potential accidents at the school due to there being no traffic control. Noting that the school is located in Hamiltonban Township and not Fairfield Borough, Solicitor Battersby suggested that Mr. Stanley attend a school board meeting as a private citizen – not as the mayor of Fairfield – and express his concern. The general feeling among Council was that the school should consider training various individuals as crossing guards.

At 9:38 AM Solicitor Battersby left the meeting.

Old Business

- Mr. McNeill reported on the status of relocation of the parking restriction sign on North Balder Street. Consideration was given to requesting that Columbia Gas mark the entire length of the private gas line.
- Council directed that street sweeping be scheduled for as close to Memorial Day as possible.
- Mr. McNeill and Mrs. Smith will put flags on display along Main Street using the flags remaining from last year's purchase and additional that belong to Mr. McNeill. Mrs. Thomas expressed her desire to help.

Correspondence

- Council acknowledged receipt of the Boy Scouts' request for donations and noted that the Borough is prohibited from making donations to service entities. Individual Council members can make personal donations if they choose to do so.
- Mrs. Thomas recommended illuminating porches with red light through May 5th in support of the National Fallen Firefighters Association.

At 9:48 AM Mr. McNeill left the meeting

Old Business (continued)

- Rebert's Masonry has not yet started the Village Hall brick clean-up and mortar replacement along the rear entry ramp.

At 9:54 AM Mrs. Thomas left the meeting.

- North Balder Street engineering assessment has not yet been arranged.
- Signs have not yet been ordered for the street signs at N. Miller and Main Street.
- Sidewalk letters have not yet been sent.
- The Secretary shared that Police Chief Weikert advised against installing "Watch Children" signs on posts with speed limit signs. After discussion of other potential locations, on a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by unanimous acclamation, Council authorized the purchase of five such signs, preferably with a bicycle or other "activity" emblem.
- Moser's Handyman service has acknowledged the Borough's request for maintenance work, and an appointment will be made to discuss the work with him. Mrs. Thomas will touch up the green paint on the entry doors.
- No action is required at this time relative to adoption of a new Zoning ordinance.

New Business

- After some discussion and on a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by unanimous acclamation, Council authorized hiring Joseph Skowron on a 6-month probationary period to assist Mr. Wivell in providing maintenance work for the Borough. Employment will be

part-time at the hourly rate approved in the 2024 budget. It was recommended that he work alongside Mr. Wivell for another two months.

- Mayor Stanley reported that the Stop sign at South Third Avenue and Main Street is crooked.
- It was reported that there is a vehicle with no tags parked at 201 E Main Street.
- Council discussed crosswalk concerns, particularly at the east end of the Borough, and agreed to research and get more information.
- The Secretary was notified that the Police Department is installing a digital electronic “your speed” sign at the east end of the Borough. It is designed to be installed on a temporary basis – not permanently.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Anything for the Good of the Borough – Mrs. Smith invited all available to stay after the meeting to view a slideshow of street conditions taken soon after a fairly recent rain event.

Next Meeting: The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment: On a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Gilbert and carried by unanimous acclamation, the meeting adjourned at 10:43 AM.

Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

Patricia T. Smith, Council President