

FAIRFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA
Borough of Fairfield
Minutes of the Borough Council General Meeting
August 7, 2024 - 9:00 AM

The Borough Council of Fairfield held a general meeting on Wednesday, August 7, 2024, in the conference room of the Village Hall, 108 West Main Street, Fairfield, Pennsylvania. In attendance were councilors Dennis Bucher, Camille Cline, Nate McNeill, Pat Pileggi, Patricia Smith and Sally Thomas; Mayor Robert Stanley; and Secretary Susan Wagle. Mrs. Gilbert 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. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, the minutes of the Council meeting of July 23, 2024, were approved as presented.

At 9:05 AM Fellowship Baptist Church Pastor Bill Burcher arrived at the meeting. He shared that he recently returned to the area after 18 years elsewhere, and he has a desire to help with Pippinfest. Mrs. Thomas welcomed Pastor Burcher and invited him to the next Pippinfest meeting. Mr. Pileggi invited him to join him at any of the Joint Parks & Recreation Association meetings, as well.

General Business

- Council reviewed the code enforcement officer's report for the month of July.
- Council received report on recent repairs to one of the Village Hall air conditioning compressors.

Budget & Finance: Mrs. Smith shared that there have been nine property transfers this year, to date. On a motion by Mr. Bucher, seconded by Mr. McNeill and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council approved the financial reports through July 31, 2024, and authorized payment of the following invoices: Ensor and Sowers, \$1,261.34 for repairs to one air conditioner compressor and PMCA, \$925.00 for code enforcement services from 07-01-24 through 07-31-24.

Committee Reports – There were no committee reports.

Correspondence – There was no correspondence to consider.

At 9:17 AM Solicitor Battersby arrived at the meeting.

Old Business

- After some discussion, and on a motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Cline and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council authorized the purchase of an electronic radar sign conditional on the verification of the vendor by Chief Weikert.
- Council discussed at length the poor condition of Second Avenue due to excess tar and how to best remedy the problem. Mr. McNeill shared that his cousin, a township supervisor in Jefferson County with extensive experience in road work, looked at the roadway and opined that the work was likely done too late in the year and the ground wasn't warm enough for a good result. He suggested adding a layer of stone and then a layer of dust, and rolling both into the existing tar. The work needs to be done when the temperatures are high. He was not supportive of a two-inch paving layer as, in his assessment, two inches is not thick enough to prevent rutting. In addition, he indicated that the paving layer would require regular maintenance treatment with chips and oil, so the problem of tracking would not be eliminated. Mr. Pileggi expressed his opinion that adding

more stone isn't the solution. He indicated that there is plenty of stone in the area of the roadway and shared that Mr. Harbaugh had suggested sweeping the existing stone into the roadway and paving over it. Discussion continued. Ultimately, on a motion by Mrs. Cline, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and carried by roll call vote of 6-0, Council voted to have Mr. Wells roll stone and dust into the roadway. It was understood that Mr. Wells had offered to roll the stone into the roadway at no charge, but no mention had been made of rolling dust and that the dust application could incur some cost.

- The various signs ordered from U. S. Municipal Supply have not yet been received.
- No action was taken on purchasing a new commercial-grade steel door for the rear entry way.
- One additional "Drive Slowly; Children Playing" signs has been installed at the west end of the Borough near 208 West Main Street.
- A draft of a junkyard ordinance has not yet been prepared by the Secretary.
- Sidewalk letters have not been sent.

New Business

After some discussion, Council indicated its preference that a one-year extension of the current contract with Park's Garbage Service be executed rather than soliciting new bids in early 2025.

Mrs. Cline shared that she arranged for Budget Blinds to measure the front room windows on August 8th to provide a quote for window coverings.

The Secretary shared information on a lead poisoning event at 115 East Main Street. There was some discussion with no action required and none taken.

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

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Anything for the Good of the Borough – By general consensus Council supported purchasing an inexpensive decorative sign to identify the inside entrance to the offices.

Solicitor report – Solicitor Battersby shared information on apparent parking violations in the vicinity of the Village Book and Table and requested that the Carroll Valley Borough Police Department pursue. In other business he reported that state statute specifically states that the municipal zoning officer may proceed with filing charges against residents who do not comply with directives to do so. He indicated that he will have a discussion with Judge Beauchat who had indicated to the Borough's Zoning Officer that the Borough Solicitor should conduct court business.

Next Meeting: The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, at 6:30 PM, preceded by a public hearing for the proposed Zoning Ordinance adoption, at 6:15 PM.

Adjournment: On a motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Pileggi and carried by unanimous acclamation, the meeting adjourned at 10:14 AM.

Susan E. Wagle, Secretary

Patricia T. Smith, Council President