

**Mercersburg Council Meeting
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
November 14, 2022
MINUTES**

Council President Dusty Stoner call the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Councilpersons present: Dusty Stoner, Tom Heefner, Paul Sipes, Joe Burkot, Anthony Frisby, Raymond Minton, Jacob Morgan, Mayor – Michael Pedersen, Borough Secretary Melissa Price, Solicitor – Steve Coccorese & Eric Brunner

Absent: N/A

Guest/Press Presents - Richard Anderson, Kari Tuttle, Lisa Minton, Andy Able, Terry Sirk, John Zechman

No Public Comment - Resident voiced his opinion regarding the high volume of Truck Traffic turning on West California Street, this is happening all hours of the night, he feels that GPS is directing the trucks to take these side roads. Council President informed him that he would make a call to Herbrucks and follow up with the Solicitor and Chief Zechman on Signage and Enforcement.

Minutes – MOTION: To accept as corrected the October 10, 2022, minutes was made by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Raymond Minton, All Favored – Motion Carried

Treasures Report/Bills Payable – October 31, 2022

Motion to approve Tressures Report ending October 31, 2022, was made by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Jacob Morgan, All Favored – Motion Carried

Mayors Report: - The Mayor expressed his Thanks to Chief Zeichman for all his help, also stated that he thinks Chief Zeichman needs some help on the Police Force, he acknowledged that Chief Zeichman was the first to response to the recent Bank Robbery, Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on Saturday, November 26, 2022, he invites everyone to join in on the activities, Free Holiday Parking will begin December 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

Police Report – Enclosed in Packet

No Solicitor’s Report – Steve Coccorese (Solicitor) has the pleasure of introducing Eric Brunner (Solicitor Salzman & Hughes) - to his first Borough Council Meeting -

Public Works Report – report is included in the packet

Committee Reports

Act 537 – No Meeting

Finance – TBA

Fire Board- no new business

HARB- NA

Personnel- N/A

Planning-NA

Property- NA

Police/Safety- N/A

Streets – 11.23.22

Zoning Hearing Board- NA

Council moved into Old Business - Budget 2023 –

Motion to Advertise 2023 Budget was made by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Paul Sipes, All Favored – Motion Carried –

Discussion – what is the process if there are any changes to be made on the Budget – Solicitor stated, once the Budget is advertised, we are advertising it as being available for inspection within the Borough Office, we can make changes to it before we adopt the Budget then there is a limited window to make changes to it again after the Budget is adopted, but we can advertise it now, if there is any feedback, discussion can be made for any changes to be made. If there are any major changes over 10%, we will readvertise. 1 advertisement for 10 days is sufficient.

Council moved into New Business.

Motion to Amend the November 14, 2022, Agenda to add the Resignation of Public Works Employee Michael Bender made by Raymond Minton, 2nd by Tom Heefner – All Favored, Motion Carried. –

“Council President wanted to advertise immediately for a Public Works Employee because of the winter months approaching”

Motion to accept Michael Benders resignation with regret was made by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Paul Sipes – All Favored, Motion Carried.

Employee Insurance – Surplus “this account was created due to the rising cost of health insurance”- offsetting employee insurance cost – understanding how the percentage will work for new employees, each employee wage and benefit package are paid at a certain percent per entity,

Position – Council –	Water –	Sewer
Manager – 40%	30%	30%
Secretary – 33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
Billing Clerk – 10%	45%	45%
Public Works- 33.3%	33.3%	33.3%

In 2022, the yearly out of pocket premium expense, this amount has been \$2,000 per employee per year, in 2022, the yearly out of pocket premium expense to each employee was approximately \$3,200. This \$2,000 took that down to \$1,200, so the employee ended up paying that over a biweekly pay period. This money is not given to the employees, all three entities cover this expense on initial billing and in December, the Health Insurance Surplus saving account reimburses all three entities according to the formula listed above, Council is suggesting coming up a new Policy for New-Hires - Tom Heefner suggested moving forward that this is to be applied in 6-month sessions.

Motion to apply the \$2000 Surplus be split between the entities was made by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Paul Sipes, All Ayes – Motion Carried.

Pensinger Tire & Alignments Quote - Table this until next meeting, get another quote from Liberty Tires.

Employee Roll Over 2023 – Motion to permit the Chief to roll over his 122 vacation hours but use his 37 hours of Personal Time by the end of the year was made by Joe Burkot, 2nd by Tom Heefner, All Ayes, Motion Carried.

Confirm Meetings

- A. COUNCIL: 11.28.22 @ 7pm
- B. FINANCE: TBA
- C. FIRE BOARD: TBA
- D. HARB: - 12.06.22 @7pm
- E. NOMINATING: TBA
- F. PERSONNEL: 11.21.22 @7pm
- G. PLANNING: TBA
- H. PROPERTY: N/A
- I. SEWER: 12.08.22 @ 7pm
- J. WATER: 11.21.22 @ 6 pm
- K. STREETS: 11.23.22@7pm
- L. ZHB - TBA

Motion for Adjournment to go into Executive Session with no action to be taken was made at 7.55 pm by Tom Heefner, 2nd by Paul Sipes, All Ayes, Motion Carried.

These meeting minutes have been transcribed and respectfully submitted for approval by Melissa Price with the use of her meeting notes and audio recording.

Date approved: 12-12-22 Motion: Tom Heefner Second: Jacob Mergen

Melissa Price