

**Mercersburg Borough Council**  
**Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA**  
**March 9, 2020**  
**MINUTES**

**Attending:** President Donald (Dusty) Stoner Jr., Vice-President Jeff Main, Dr. Michael Pedersen, Sean Grove, Anthony Frisby, Paul Sipes, Sgt. Wertz, Mayor Roger Defibaugh, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Borough Secretary Stacey Golden and Solicitor Brady Johnson

**Absent:** Tom Heefner

**Guests/Press:** Raymond McInton, Preston Spahr, Rachel Nichols, Joe & Amy Burkot, Terry Sirk, Dr. Elizabeth George, Peter Briggs, John & Tauna Cole, Luke Lopez.

President Donald Stoner called the meeting to order at 7 PM and asked the Mayor to lead in the pledge of allegiance.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy opened up the sealed bids for the 1997 Ford F350 and 2008 Crown Victoria.

Solicitor Brady Johnson advised council on accepting bids.

**MOTION: To accept the highest bid for the 1997 Ford F350 from Robert D. McCulloh in the amount of \$2,656.00 pending resolution was made by Jeff Main, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To accept the highest bid for the 2008 Crown Victoria Police Interceptor from James Shields in the amount of \$401.75 pending resolution was made by Jeff Main, second by Sean Grove. All ayes, motion carried.**

Sgt. Wertz said the lights, radio and decals can be removed in house.

President Stoner opened up the floor to public comments. Dr. Elizabeth George spoke to council about the walking trail and presented a picture saying she would like it to be safer. President Dusty Stoner commented that it is not part of the trail. Guest, Amy Burkot asked if the road was a PennDot road, council confirmed that it was. Borough Manager Derek Stoy stated that it was a topography issue since there is four foot needed for the sidewalk. Preston Spahr updated council on the Vibrancy Steering Committee and it's progress. Guest Tauna Cole expressed her concern to council about the high speeds through Mercersburg stating that she also spoke to the police department about her concern. Council discussed the concern and Sean Grove recommended taking the issue to the Streets Committee for further research. Borough Manager Derek Stoy said he could look into stop signs for the crosswalks.

**MOTION: To approve the February 10, 2020 minutes was made by Paul Sipes, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve the Bills Payable and Treasurer's Report A & B for months ending February 29, 2020 was made by Jeff Main, second by Sean Grove. All ayes, motion carried.**

Council moved onto the Mayor's Report.

Mayor Defibaugh reported that the Mercersburg police department did an excellent job with the kidnapping/homicide situation that occurred on February 18, 2020.

Solicitor Brandy Johnson introduced himself and said he was filling in for Steve Coccorese.

Council moved onto the Borough Manager's Report.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy reported on the Johnston's Run Trail saying that the benches are still being painted and should be ready to install soon. One nomination for the James Buchanan Award was received. Manager Stoy passed on a request from MacWell Group to all three entities for a social event hosting vendors along the trail. Stoy expressed liability concerns even though the group would have coverage saying he did not feel the location was appropriate for such an event. Manager Stoy's report stated that the sealed bids were to be opened prior to public comments and could be accepted or rejected as advised by Solicitor Steve Coccorese. Chamber's Awards Dinner will take place on Thursday, April 25, 2020 at Whitetail Resort's Solstice Restaurant. Stoy said he would have more information at the April council meeting. Resolution 14-20 is listed under New Business for approval for discarding of damaged files from a sewer leak in the Town Hall basement. Billing Clerk, Lucinda Piper requested to hang balloons for the Relay for Life event at the Mercersburg Academy.

Council moved into Committee Reports.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy was asked about the HARB Committee's application for green space. Manager Stoy said he would have the HARB minutes for more clarification at the next council meeting. Vice-President Jeff Main said he liked the Borough Manager's email about the possibility of changing the HARB application process. Council spoke with Solicitor Johnson about changing the application process.

**MOTION: To approve HARB application COA 2020-03-01 from Orrstown Bank for an addition/expansion to existing canopy was made by Jeff Main, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

No Old Business.

The authority moved into New Business.

**MOTION: To approve Resolution 14-20 created by Salzmann & Hughes regarding record retention was made by Paul Sipes, second by Sean Grove. All ayes, motion carried.**

**MOTION: To approve Lucinda Piper's request to hang balloons for Relay for Life was made by Jeff Main, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.**

Council stated that the balloons could be taken down the following day to allow more time for Mrs. Piper.

**MOTION: To accept the James Buchanan Award nomination to Ronald E. Bryan was made by Paul Sipes, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

Borough Manager Derek Stoy suggested having Ronald's son and/or family present the award. Stoy said he would take care of contacting Helen Bryan.

Council discussed MacWell's request for vendors on the walking trail. After much discussion council decided to table the request for the next council meeting until more information is received.

Council Member Michael Pedersen presented council with a request to increase the beautification budget line item from \$1000 to \$2000. Pedersen shared a packet of costs associated with purchases made for flowers, containers, etc. Council commented that everything looks beautiful in town and needs to be continued.

**MOTION: To approve paying requested beautification expenses that was presented from Michael Pedersen from the UDAG account and keep the budgeted \$1000 for future backup was made by Jeff Main, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.**

Council President Donald Stoner confirmed committee meeting dates.

President Donald Stoner announced that the second council meeting was canceled and apologized that it was not advertised as canceled.

**MOTION: To enter into executive session at 8:16 PM for real estate and personnel matters with the intent to not reconvene was made by Jeff Main, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.**

*These meeting minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted for approval by Stacey Golden with the use of her meeting notes and audio recording.*

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Second by: \_\_\_\_\_