

Mercersburg Borough Council
113 South Main Street
Mercersburg, PA 17236
January 3, 2022
MINUTES

Attending: Donald Stoner Jr., Tom Heefner, Paul Sipes, Joseph Burkot, Anthony Frisby, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, and Mayor Michael Pedersen

Absent: Tim Stanton, Secretary/Treasurer Stacey Golden

Guests/Press: Judge Jody Eyer, Andy Abel, Tom Suddeth, Chris Ardinger, Sgt. Robert Wertz, Mike Myers, Angel Myers, Jacob Morgan, Bobby Magill

The Honorable Judge Eyer swore in new Mayor Michael Pedersen along with Tax Collector Angel Myers and Borough Councilmen Donald Stoner Jr., Paul Sipes and Joseph Burkot.

Mayor Michael Pedersen took the gavel and asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Pedersen asked for nominations for council president.

Anthony Frisby nominated Donald Stoner Jr.

MOTION: To close nominations was made by Tom Heefner, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

Donald Stoner Jr. elected council President.

Mayor Pedersen handed the gavel over to President Stoner.

President Stoner asked for nominations for vice president.

Paul Sipes nominated Tom Heefner.

MOTION: To close nominations was made by Paul Sipes, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.

Tom Heefner elected vice president.

President Stoner asked for nominations for President Pro Tem.

Anthony Frisby nominated himself.

MOTION: To close nominations was made by Tom Heefner, second by Paul Sipes, all ayes,

motion carried.

Anthony Frisby elected President Pro Tem.

President Stoner asked for nominations for treasurer.

Paul Sipes nominated Stacey Golden.

MOTION: To close nominations was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner. All Ayes, motion carried.

Stacey Golden elected treasurer.

MOTION: To approve resolution 02-22 stating Donald Stoner Jr., Paul Sipes, Tom Heefner and Anthony Frisby as designated check signers was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve resolution 03-22 appointing Dan Chayes to the Mercersburg Sewer Authority was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve resolution 04-22 appointing Jason Frey to the Mercersburg Water Authority was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve resolution 05-22 appointing Avery Cook to HARB was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve resolution 06-22 appointing Tom Heefner and Mayor Michael Pedersen to the Fire Board was made by Paul Sipes, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.

President Stoner asked for public comment, hearing none he continued with the agenda.

MOTION: To approve the December 29, 2021, meeting minutes as written was made by Tom Heefner second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

No Treasurer's Report/Bills Payable.

Mayor Pedersen stated he is committed to attend every meeting and to attend other functions such as award presentations and the parade. He is setting up a meeting with the police department in the near future.

Mayor Pedersen left the meeting at 7:20 pm.

The police report was emailed to council members the morning of January 3rd, 2022.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy reported on numerous items on the agenda. He stated the Mercersburg Vibrancy Committee has requested a page on the borough website. The Franklin County Area Wage Tax Board budget is up for a vote. The Franklin County Emergency Services Alliance representatives have to be approved. HE stated he is currently the point of contact but does not attend the meetings as they are on Saturday mornings at 8:00 am. The annual Black Balloon request is under new business. A Personnel committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 18th, 2022. He stated he may need to have a council meeting on January 24th. The Green Light Go grant application will need to have a traffic engineers assistance for the actual application process. He stated he would feel better if the engineer did the application. Pennoni has given the borough two separate contracts. One to assist with grant application and the other to perform traffic studies and other pertinent details once the grant has been awarded. Lastly, Manager Stoy stated the TACC annual breakfast was slated for January 20th from 7:00 am to 9:00 am at the Two Top Ruritan Community Center. He stated council in years past has approved numerous tickets for this.

No Public Works Report.

Council moved to Old Business.

MOTION: To approve Pennoni as the traffic engineer of record for the Green Light Go Grant was made by Tom Heefner, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Borough Manager Derek Stoy to write a commitment letter stating the borough is committed to paying \$7,681.26 as the 20% match towards the Greenlight Go Grant was made by Tom Heefner, second by Paul Sipes. All ayes, motion carried.

Council moved into New Business.

The vacant council seat was discussed. Raymond Minton submitted a letter of interest to fill the 2-year vacancy.

MOTION: To approve Raymond Minton to fill the council seat vacancy, a 2-year term, was made by Anthony Frisby, second by Tom Heefner, all ayes motion carried.

Council discussed the request from the Mercersburg Vibrancy committee to create a page on the borough website.

MOTION: To create a page on the borough website for the Mercersburg Vibrancy Committee was made by Paul Sipes, second by Joe Burkot.

Manager Stoy asked for clarification on the motion. He asked if borough personnel would be responsible for all content upload to this page. He stated he had several concerns with this motion. What if other entities came to the borough requesting the same? If council did not want borough personnel to manage the page, he did not feel giving others access to the

website was a good idea. After discussion, Paul Sipes withdrew his motion, and this item was tabled.

MOTION: To approve the Franklin County Area Wage Tax Board budget for 2022 was made by Tom Heefner, second by Anthony Frisby. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Borough Manager Derek Stoy as the Franklin County Emergency Services Alliance representative and Donald Stoner Jr. as the alternate was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the request from Victoria Rhodes for Black Balloon Day to be held March 6th, 2022, was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

The TACC breakfast was next on the agenda. President Stoner felt that council members should pay their own way to the breakfast if they wished to attend but felt it appropriate to send one borough employee to the breakfast. Councilman Frisby and Heefner both stated they would attend and pay their own way.

MOTION: To pay for Borough Manager Derek Stoy to attend the TACC breakfast on January 20th, 2022, at a cost of \$25 was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

Tom Heefner explained to Sgt. Wertz that former Mayor Defibaugh stated in October of 2021 that the police department had a major case they were investigating and did not have time to empty parking meters. Mr. Heefner asked how that case was going. Sgt. Wertz stated there were two large cases, one was settled and the other should be settled soon.

Joe Burkot asked if council could move their meeting dates, so it does not coincide with school board meetings. Manager Stoy stated that was done several years ago and attendance did not change. President Stoner asked that this be placed on the next council meeting agenda.

MOTION: To adjourn at 7:46 was made by Paul Sipes, second by Tom Heefner. All ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted for approval by Derek Stoy with the use of his meeting notes and audio recording.

Date approved: _____ Motion by: _____ Second by: _____