

**McSherrystown Borough Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday March 23, 2022 6:30pm**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the McSherrystown Borough Council was called to order in Borough chambers at 6:30pm on Wednesday, March 23, 2022. President Colgan opened the meeting with prayer and the pledge of allegiance with the following Council members in attendance.

Daniel Colgan  
Joyce Murren  
William Smith  
George Staub  
Joseph VonSas  
Donna Spangler  
Tim Klunk

Staff Present: Justin George and Jessica Friert

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Colgan to approve the minutes with a few spelling changes from the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Seconded by Murren.

Roll Call Vote: Daniel Colgan – Yes, Joyce Murren – Yes, William Smith – Yes, George Staub – Yes, Joseph VonSas – Yes, Donna Spangler – Yes, Tim Klunk – Yes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Colgan: Recycling event on Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. Volunteer Waivers needed for anyone helping with that event. Communication from William Smith of 307 Ridge Avenue. First item regarding the status of the new development at South Second Street. Colgan referred that to the Planning & Zoning Committee for an update. Second item regarding North Third Street not properly being done with handicap ramps. Colgan states that this matter has been address several times but has referred that to the Highway Committee for a proposal to complete the work. The last item was already taken care of through the office.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Personnel: No Report

Planning & Zoning: No Report

Highways: Sent Columbia Gas a letter requesting details of where and when on project discussed at the last meeting.

Building & Grounds: No Report

Civil Service: No Report

Public Safety: No Report

Recreation: Murren: Life Discovery Church holding Community Easter Egg Hunt April 16<sup>th</sup>, volunteers needed for event. There are 50 players signed up for baseball. Murren has reached out to local school requesting art for the walls. Conewago Enterprise has volunteers to help clean and mulch at the recreation park.

Sewer: No Report

Solid Waste: No Report

Finance: No Report

Mayor's Office: No Report

Solicitors Office: No Report

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Code of Conduct Resolution:

Solicitor: spoke with Anna about this matter after the March 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting. Resolution was first discussed at the September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 meeting. Modifications were discussed by council at that time and brought to council at the meeting October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Resolution was approved with modification at the October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting. Solicitor was not present at that meeting and the Resolution never got voted on. Code of Conduct Resolution has been being used since October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 but it was not been officially signed or adopted. Solicitor presented Resolution 2022-8. Colgan read the Resolution in its entirety aloud.

Colgan: Invitation for council to discuss.

Murren: we have been using this code of conduct and it is working

Smith: voicing concerns about the code of conduct limiting council's ability to make exceptions where need be.

VonSas: comments about three minute rule. He also feels we should have the ability to make exceptions where need be.

Klunk: comments about residents discussing something that is not on the agenda.

Colgan: Invitation given to public for comment. Several residents gave public comment. Closed for public comment.

VonSas: requesting that we add to line 2a "or their agent"

A motion was made by Murren to approve the Code of Conduct with the change to line 2a "or their agent". Seconded by VonSas.

Roll Call Vote: Daniel Colgan – Yes, Joyce Murren – Yes, William Smith – Yes, George Staub – Yes, Joseph VonSas – Yes, Donna Spangler – Yes, Tim Klunk – Yes.

## Rental Registration and Inspection Ordinance 2022-2 – Continued Discussion:

Colgan: this discussion is about having an inspection ordinance placed on change of tenant or complaint of tenant. The fee for this is undetermined at this time. The fee will be placed on either the tenant or the property owner.

VonSas: who collects the fees.

Solicitor: bill comes from the borough

Colgan: Invitation for council to discuss.

Murren: called the office of Justice Snyder to find out the process of filing a grievance. Murren explains the process and describes that it can be long and can be expensive. Also called Mid Penn legal. It is hard to be accepted for help. Murren doesn't feel like there are any options for a normal person.

Colgan: knocked on doors at Lynn Court and West Park Apartments. 26 people signed that they would like to see the ordinance be put into place. Renters do need and want this ordinance.

Spangler: we are only hearing from landlords at the meetings, not tenants.

Colgan: tenants have said they are afraid to come to the meeting or speak up about this matter in fear of eviction.

Murren: many tenants are afraid to sign their name.

Staub: he understands landlords not wanting this ordinance if you have a high turn over rate but if you don't have a high turn over rate, then you will not have to have inspections often.

Klunk: voices concerns about people losing their house because an inspector deems the property unsafe. Landlords might not have the money to make changes that an inspector deems necessary.

Staub: we need a list of what the inspector will be looking for in the rental properties.

Colgan: this Resolution is only for tenants that cannot get the necessary requested help from their landlord. We need to continue to edit and make the Resolution better so it works for all.

The agenda item Rental Registration and Inspection Ordinance 2022-2 has been tabled until the next meeting for further discussion.

Colgan: Invitation given to public for comment. Several residents gave public comment. Closed for public comment.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Action on Resignation Submission

Colgan: the council would like to thank Mr. Ken Reese for 30 years of service to the borough. He gave his resignation early last week. He will be retiring as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Colgan: Invitation for council to discuss. No discussion. Invitation given to public for comment. No public comment.

A motion to accept Mr. Reese's resignation made by Murren. Seconded by Smith.

Roll Call Vote: Daniel Colgan – Yes, Joyce Murren – Yes, William Smith – Yes, George Staub – Yes, Joseph VonSas – Yes, Donna Spangler – Yes, Tim Klunk – Yes.

#### Action to Re-open the Office to Public

Colgan: Reopen the office to the public. We are proposing the office hours will be Monday through Thursday 8am-2pm. Closed on Fridays. This will start April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Colgan: Invitation for council to discuss. No discussion. Invitation given to public for comment. No public comment.

A motion to accept the new office hours effective April 4<sup>th</sup> made by Staub. Seconded by Murren.

Roll Call Vote: Daniel Colgan – Yes, Joyce Murren – Yes, William Smith – Yes, George Staub – Yes, Joseph VonSas – Yes, Donna Spangler – Yes, Tim Klunk – Yes.

#### Action to Accept Salt and Cinder Quote From Joint Re-bid

Colgan: we have a Hanover Borough notice that they rebid the salt and cinder quote.

Colgan: Invitation for council to discuss. No discussion. Invitation given to public for comment. No public comment.

A motion to accept the re-bid motioned by VanSas. Seconded by Colgan.

Roll Call Vote: Daniel Colgan – Yes, Joyce Murren – Yes, William Smith – Yes, George Staub – Yes, Joseph VonSas – Yes, Donna Spangler – Yes, Tim Klunk – Yes.

Next public meeting will be April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:30pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Murren at 8:33pm

End Minutes.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Freiert  
Secretary Treasurer