

ASHLEY BOROUGH

Donald Sipple, Sr., Mayor

Lisa Wildes, Council Chair
Frank Sorokach, Council Vice Chair
Gerald Maldonado

Brian Casey
Carl Byra
Brian Demchak

Ashleypa.net

Moses & Gelso LLP, Solicitor

ASHLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Attendance:

Lisa Wildes – Present
Frank Sorokach – Present
Gerald Maldonado – Present
Brian Casey – Absent
Carl Byra – Absent
Brian Demchak – Present
Mayor Donald Sipple, Sr. – Present
Police Chief David Fedorczyk – Present
Peter John Moses, Esq. for Solicitor Moses & Gelso LLP – Present

Meeting was called to Order by Attorney Moses. Attorney Moses called roll for the Council, Mayor and Borough Officials. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

COUNCIL AND BOROUGH OFFICIAL PRESENTATIONS

Lisa Wildes – Ms. Wildes informed Council that the Borough has received a second notice from Pennsylvania American Water about the need to install a backflow preventer. Mr. Sorokach commented that the Borough was supposed to have it done three years prior. Mr. Maldonado indicated that Council would need to start by obtaining three bids for the installation.

Additionally, Ms. Wildes informed Council that the Borough was receiving reimbursement of funds by an organization in connection with the purchase of gloves, wipes, sanitizer and other Covid-19 prevention products.

Frank Sorokach – Mr. Sorokach thanked Ms. Wildes and Borough Officials for working to obtain \$38,000.00 in funds for the Borough.

Mr. Sorokach also indicated he would like to meet with ambulance department officials and asked if Attorney Moses could organize a meeting. Attorney Moses indicated he would.

Gerald Maldonado – Nothing for this meeting.

Brian Casey – Not Present.

Carl Byra – Not Present.

Brian Demchak – Nothing for this Meeting.

Attorney Moses – Attorney Moses informed the public that Council would be acting on an Ordinance that would impose civil fines for the minor offenses of possession of a small amount of marijuana and possession of marijuana paraphernalia.

Additionally, Attorney Moses informed the public that Council would be acting on a Release/Settlement Agreement that would result in a \$30,360.00 payment to the Borough from the Ashley Borough Economic Development Authority. He added that the Authority's Solicitor as well as the previous Borough Solicitor failed to correctly create and register the Authority with the state. Finally, he stated it was a credit to Council that they took action to effect a transfer of these funds back to the Borough.

Mayor Donald Sipple, Sr. – Nothing for this Meeting.

Chief Fedorczyk – Chief Fedorczyk read the Police Chief's Report (a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof).

Additionally, the Chief supplied Council and public with some additional information about the proposed Ordinance. He indicated that, under the Pennsylvania Criminal Code, possession of a small amount of marijuana is an ungraded misdemeanor. He also indicated that prosecuting these offenses detract from law enforcement resources by requiring paperwork and court appearances. He then stated that processing these violations by way of a non-traffic citation reduces the strain on law enforcement and generates revenue for the Borough.

At this point, Mr. Maldonado inquired as to the definition of a "small amount" of marijuana. Chief Fedorczyk replied that it is an amount less than thirty (30) grams. Mr. Maldonado also asked if the Borough Police were citing trucks going through the patch. The Chief replied that they were.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports for this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – PENDING LEGISLATION

No Public Comment.

LEGISLATION

RESOLUTION 14 OF 2021 – A Resolution to pay the January 2021 Payroll in the amount of \$ 33,652.94.

Motion: Lisa Wildes
Second: Frank Sorokach

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 15 OF 2021 – A Resolution to pay the January 2021 Bills in the amount of \$ 48,384.77.

Motion: Brian Demchak
Second: Frank Sorokach

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 16 OF 2021 – A Resolution to approve the January 12, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Frank Sorokach
Second: Brian Demchak

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 17 OF 2021 – A Resolution to appoint Wes Saltz to the Zoning Hearing Board for a four (4) year term.

Motion: Lisa Wildes
Second: Brian Demchak

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 18 OF 2021 – A Resolution to enact Ordinance No. 1 of 2021, an Ordinance establishing a mechanism to process the minor nonviolent offenses of personal possession of marijuana and personal possession of marijuana paraphernalia including an enforcement scheme and civil penalties for violations.

Motion: Lisa Wildes
Second: Frank Sorokach

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 19 OF 2021 – A Resolution to approve an Agreement between Ashley Borough and the Ashley Borough Economic Development Authority providing for the transfer of the Authority’s remaining funds of \$30,360.00 to the Borough and the termination of the Authority.

Motion: Frank Sorokach
Second: Brian Demchak

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 20 OF 2021 – A Resolution confirming that Fall Street has been, is, and continues to be a public right-of-way owned and/or controlled and maintained by the Borough of Ashley.

Motion: Gerry Maldonado
Second: Brian Demchak

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 21 OF 2021 – A Resolution confirming that Cook Street has been, is, and continues to be a public right-of-way owned and/or controlled and maintained by the Borough of Ashley.

Motion: Gerry Maldonado
Second: Brian Demchak

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 22 OF 2021 – A Resolution to advertise an Ordinance restricting parking on South Main St. from the intersection of Coalville St. to the intersection of Coulter St. in order to improve public safety and sight distance along the subject street and intersections.

Motion: Gerry Maldonado
Second: Brian Demchak

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

RESOLUTION 23 OF 2021 – A Resolution to authorize the Solicitor to re-advertise for bids to purchase the property at 8-10 N. Main St. consistent with the prior advertisement.

Motion: Lisa Wildes
Second: Frank Sorokach

Lisa Wildes – Y
Frank Sorokach – Y
Gerry Maldonado – Y
Carl Byra –
Brian Demchak – Y
Brian Casey –

PASS

BIDS ON PROPERTY AT 8-10 N. MAIN ST.

Attorney Moses informed the public that Council recently advertised to submit bids to purchase the Old Borough Building. He indicated that the advertisement indicated sealed bids could be submitted up to 10 a.m. on February 9, 2021 and would be opened at the Regular Borough Council Meeting that same day. Additionally, he informed the public that Council has verified that the two bids they received were submitted in timely manner.

Attorney Moses then opened both envelopes, neither of which were bids. Attorney Moses then noted for the record that no bids were received in connection with Council's recent advertisement. Finally, Council made a motion to add Resolution 23 of 2021 to tonight's agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

MEETING ADJOURNED



49 West Cemetery St.
Ashley, Pa 18706

Phone: 570-822-6995
Fax: 570-824-1982

David Fedorczyk, Chief of Police
Joseph McGlynn, Sergeant

Ashley Borough Police Department

Ashley Borough Police Monthly Report for January 2021

Total Incidents logged: 111 (Traffic Stops & Parking Tickets not included)

Total Parking Tickets Issued: 58

Total Traffic Citations Issued: 9

Total Non-Traffic Citations Issued: 6

Total Amount Received From Magistrate: \$906.70 (\$ Crime & vehicle code fines. \$ Ordinance)

Total Amount Received from Report Requests: \$105.00

Total Amount Received from Parking Violations: \$180.00

Total Received: \$1191.70

Respectfully Submitted by,

David Fedorczyk
Chief of Police

Ashley Borough Police – January 2021

		<i>Criminal Complaints filed for Jan. –3</i>
ANIMAL COMPLAINTS	3	
ASSISTS	42 (Includes Fire, EMS & Other Police)	<i>Criminal Complaints YTD 2021– 3</i>
BURGLAR/FIRE ALARMS	2	
CIVIL/PFA	1	
CRIM. MISCH.	1	
DOA	0	
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE	5	
DRUG	5 (2- overdose)	
DUI	0	
HARASS/ASSAULT/THREAT	4	
MENTAL HEALTH	4	
WELFARE CHECKS	5	
MISSING PERSONS	2 (Runaway Juvenile)	
MOTORIST AID/DISABLED	1	
NOISE	2	
DISORDERLY/PUB DNK	0	
ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS	0	
ILLEGAL DUMPING	0	
PROPERTY / TRESPASS	1	
SUSP. AUTO/ PERSON	9	
THEFT/BURGLARY/ROBBERY	2	
*TRAFFIC OFFENSES/ PARKING	53	
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	4 (0- Fatality)	
WARRANTS/WANTED	0	
WEAPONS	2	
POLICE PURSUITS	0	
ARSON	0	TOTAL INCIDENTS CLEARED – 95 (Traffic & Parking Excluded)*