

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 13, 2007

President Ted Streeter called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the following Councilors present: Mr. Bill Monahan, Mr. John Murphy, Ms. Caroline Smith, Mr. Dick Peterson, Mr. Mike Birkner and Mayor William Troxell. Ms. Holly Giles, Mr. Bob Miller and Mr. Jamie Fleet were absent. Staff present included Manager John Lawver, Borough Secretary Sara Stull, Solicitor Harry Eastman, Chief Joe Dougherty, Finance Director Mona Overton, Rec Director Beth Corson and Planner Merry Bush.

Others present included John and Judie Butterfield, 999 Sunset Avenue, Robert Krummerich, 125 W Broadway, Gene Golden and Matt Callery borough vent, Patrick Naugle, 650 Red Patch, Susan Trostle Gettysburg Area Retail Merchants Association, Alice Estrada, 435 Carlisle Street, Larry Reed, 38 E Middle Street and Deb Johnson.

Representing the press were Scot Pitzer of the *Gettysburg Times* and Matt Casey representing the *Evening Sun*

Moved Mr. Monahan seconded Mr. Peterson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Monahan to approve the October 9, 2007 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens in attendance:

Ms. Trostle, Gettysburg Area Retail Merchants Association (GARMA), expressed her concern about the imposing fee to be charged per space for the antique markets. During the finance committee meeting the committee opted to charge GARMA for the 2008 season, which will be detrimental to GARMA.

Mr. Naugle attended the Gettysburg Municipal Authority special meeting in regards to a bond purchase for expansion to Straban Township. He expressed his concerns with borough taxpayers paying for Straban Township.

Mr. Streeter responded the Borough has a management agreement with GMA but has not taken over GMA. They must apply for the bonds, which is a requirement by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Solicitor Eastman pointed out the Borough makes appointments to the GMA board but council doesn't make decisions for them.

Mr. Monahan explained that GMA feels it's prudent to update before the deadline of 2010, requirements set by DEP. The majority of these costs will be in upgrades not

the expansion and all citizens and municipalities will benefit from these upgrades. He noted it would be all ratepayers to pay back the GMA bond.

Mr. Reed asked why the Nativity Scene couldn't be placed back on the square instead of York Street where he feels it's hidden. Ms. Trostle responded due to Religious affiliations it was moved to York Street many years ago. She also noted that GARMA gave the Nativity Scene to the Ministerial of Churches and that they decide the placement of it.

Mr. Reed expressed his concern over the budget woes and suggested the Rec Park eliminate a full time maintenance person during the winter months. With less activity there shouldn't be a need for both full time people. Mr. Reed also noted if the ball teams lined the ball fields it would be a savings to the borough.

Mayor Troxell announced the Adams County Boroughs Association would hold their next meeting on Monday, November 19th at the Pike Restaurant at 6:30 pm. John Eline, Director of Adams County Department of Emergency Services will be the guest speaker. Anyone planning to attend the ACBA meeting contact Sara to register.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Peterson to approve all bills and payrolls for the month as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Ms. Smith to recommend council set a fee of \$3,000 for the use of the Rec Park for the 2008 wine festival. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Monahan to recommend council instruct the Finance Director to gather information on the use of private tax collectors. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Birkner to set a special meeting of the Borough Council for Wednesday, November 28, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. for the purposes of adopting a proposed budget for fiscal year 2008 and of authorizing the preparation and advertisement of an ordinance fixing the tax rates for fiscal year 2008 and to conduct any other business which may come before Borough Council. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Ms. Smith to authorize the release of the financial security for the completion of required improvements in connection with the development and construction of an early childhood development center at Gettysburg College in the amount of \$151,461.75 and to return to PNC Bank, N.A. the irrevocable standby letter of credit issued as financial security. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Peterson to authorize setting a special meeting of the Borough Council for Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of taking necessary action in connection with the issuance of a General Obligation Bond for

Gettysburg Municipal Authority in the amount of \$8,230,000.00 for water and sewer plant updates and upgrades. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Ms. Smith to authorize the solicitor to prepare and advertise for enactment an ordinance which would enact and ordain the levy and collection of a "Local Services Tax" in the amount of \$52.00 per year pursuant to Act 7 of 2007 and to repeal the levy and collection of the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax which was previously enacted by Ordinance No 1298-04. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Birkner asked what the ramification would be with this trade off. Solicitor Eastman explained in order for the Borough to collect the \$52.00 per person must make this transition from the EMS to Local Service Tax required by law.

Mr. Monahan reported he met with Senator Punt and talked about Community Development Grants and the police radios. Senator Punt continues to be very interested in Gettysburg.

Mr. Murphy asked for an update on the Preserve America event held in Washington. Mayor Troxell responded he is waiting on a picture along with Laura Bush's speech and will forward to the Gettysburg Times.

Moved Mr. Peterson seconded Ms. Smith to approve HARB consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Birkner announced for the Zoning Hearing Board that Mr. Butterfield's seat would need to be filled due to his election to borough council. Mr. Birkner also reported the Kennie's Market storm water management issue has been resolved.

Solicitor Eastman reported he would update council on the Bruce Davis ongoing litigation case during executive session.

Manager Lawver reported Tom Jolin, Healthy Adams County Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail will hold a meeting at the Rec Park on November 27th at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Jolin will give an outline of requirements involved in securing funding for the bike trail.

Manager Lawver reported 7 proposals for engineering services were received for the Public Works Committee to review at their November 19th meeting.

Manager Lawver reported the Civil Service Commission met and presented Brian Weikert on their list for entry-level patrol officer for council consideration. He was the only applicant that passed the required testing.

Moved Mr. Monahan, seconded Mr. Murphy to authorize Chief Dougherty and Manager Lawver to proceed with the hiring process for Brian Weikert. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Monahan asked the outcome of hiring a second police officer. Manager Lawver responded he and Chief Dougherty will work together to update the civil service regulations and will re-advertise for another entry-level patrol officer.

Ms. Corson reported the Rec Park received a \$10,000 grant from the Thomas Cline Foundation to be used for the Biser Fitness Trail.

After a brief executive session Solicitor Eastman announced it was to discuss a legal matter.

Moved Mr. Monahan, seconded Ms. Giles to authorize the solicitor to prepare amendments to the Assembly Permit Ordinance for enactment. Motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor Eastman will attend the Safety Committee meeting on November 19th to provide overview of the proposed ordinance amendments.

With no further business to come before council moved Mr. Monahan, seconded Mr. Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary