

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 10, 2008

President Edwin Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the following Councilors present: Mr. Theodore Streeter, Mr. Michael Birkner, Mr. John Butterfield, Mrs. Susan Naugle, Mr. Robert Krummerich, Ms. Alice Estrada and Mayor William Troxell. Ms. Holliday Giles and Ms. Caroline Smith were absent. Staff present included Manager John Lawver, Borough Secretary Sara Stull, Solicitor Harold Eastman, Chief Joseph Dougherty and Finance Director Ramona Overton.

Others present included John McKenna, National Park Service, Geoff Spangler, Adams County Transit Authority, Darlene Brown, PICPI/ACHA, Gene Golden, borough vent, Judie Butterfield, 999 Sunset Avenue, Chuck Teague, 125 East Middle Street, Robert DeFayette, 100 King Street, Kathy Gilbert, 39 South Street, Jim Fleet, 122 East Middle Street and members of Boy Scout Troop #73.

Representing the press were Scot Pitzer of the *Gettysburg Time*, Max Stevens, *WGET* and Erin James representing the *Evening Sun*

Moved Mr. Streeter seconded Mr. Butterfield to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Streeter seconded Mr. Krummerich to approve the October 14, 2008 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens in attendance:

John Hartzell, Scout Leader of Troop # 73 from the Presbyterian Church announced the scouts are here to earn their merit badges.

Geoff Spangler, General Manager, Adams County Transit Authority presented Council with a revised transit system route. They are seeking Council approval for the removal of parking meters to assist in the advancement of the fixed route service. The request includes six metered parking spaces at the Majestic Theater which would be used temporarily until the Freedom Transit Transfer Center is operational; two metered parking spaces located on Baltimore Street adjacent to the Plaza Restaurant; one metered space in front of the Shriver House; and one metered space adjacent to the entrance of the Evergreen Cemetery.

Mr. Butterfield asked the Finance Director what the revenue loss would be for these meters. Ms. Overton answered she would need to get this information and present to Council.

Ms. Estrada noted the Plaza Restaurant and Gettysburg Hotel were approached and they are satisfied with the proposed transit stops.

Moved Mr. Birkner, seconded Ms. Estrada to approve the proposed Freedom Transit fixed route service as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Gene Golden asked the status of the sign ordinance revisions. Mr. Butterfield responded the AD HOC Ordinance Committee had other crucial ordinances to review but plan to work on the sign ordinance in the near future.

Mr. Peterson announced a committee was formed to review the Recreation Park. Mr. Birkner, Mr. Streeter and Mrs. Naugle were appointed to serve on this committee.

Mayor Troxell announced the Wills House ceremony was rescheduled for February.

Mayor Troxell read a prepared statement in response to him voiding tickets at a value of \$13,000. He said he is not indiscriminately voiding tickets. Mr. Butterfield responded he didn't intend anything against the Mayor but it was an answer to a question brought up during the budget workshop. Ms. Estrada noted in voiding tickets shows a lot of good will to citizens.

Mr. Streeter reported he sent congratulatory notes to Representatives Platts, Moul and Alloway upon their appointments and received a nice response back from them. Mr. Streeter also sent a note to Supt John Latschar, NPS who assured him there wouldn't be any changes regarding the Train Station upon his leaving next year.

Mr. Streeter reported ACTPO gave their approval of the bike trail. He noted we will need to look at areas for bike racks when the route is complete. Mrs. Naugle responded that they will be seeking grants that will include bike racks.

Mr. Streeter announced the Gettysburg Municipal Authority representatives will give a presentation to Borough Council on Thursday, November 13th at 6:00 pm in council chambers.

Mr. Birkner reported the Lincoln Statue may be ready for installation in January that Council will need to find a prominent location it. Mr. Streeter responded that would be too soon to find a location and make preparations, we may need to wait until spring.

Mr. Birkner reported the Recycling Committee met with the Rescue Mission representatives today. The Rescue Mission will begin to track the Borough's tonnage but are reluctant in reporting it because they would lose \$4,000.

Mr. Birkner said that upon the Rec Director's resignation Council will need to decide on Rec Park programs for 2009.

Moved Mr. Birkner, seconded Mr. Krummerich to approve HARB consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Butterfield, seconded Mr. Streeter to adopt ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Gettysburg regulating animals. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Butterfield, seconded Mr. Streeter to authorize Solicitor to advertise for enactment an ordinance designating U.S. Business Route 15 as a scenic by-way and regulating outdoor advertising signs along the U.S. Business Route 15 corridor. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Butterfield, seconded Mrs. Naugle to authorize Solicitor to prepare and advertise for enactment an ordinance repealing the Gettysburg Borough ordinance Prohibiting Loitering. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Butterfield, seconded Mr. Streeter to instruct Solicitor to prepare a resolution to adopt Rules and Regulations of the Borough Council regarding Conduct of Public Meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Butterfield, seconded Mr. Birkner to instruct Solicitor to advertise for enactment an ordinance amending Chapter 20, Part 2 of the Code of Ordinances Regulating Recycling. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Krummerich opened for budget discussions before the adoption of the proposed budget.

Mrs. Naugle said they need to look at other recreation revenues and that the salary should not be reflective of the current directors but should be an entry level salary. Ms. Estrada expressed concern with hiring an entry level person; don't feel the park would grow. Mrs. Naugle responded the Ad HOC Committee will need to review the job description and see what is needed before making a final decision.

Ms. Estrada said in looking at "option 5" the Borough could hire an assistant manager that could oversee the Rec Park. This position if not filled the beginning of the year could start possibly in March.

Mrs. Naugle asked what the loss of revenues is. Ms. Overton responded ticket sales, registration fees, noting the majority is the leagues, building rent, bus trips, pavilion fees and Sunday concerts.

Mr. Birkner asked if there is any financial savings if we don't line the ball fields. Manager Lawver answered we wouldn't hire a seasonal employee to maintain the ball fields. Ms. Estrada said we need to empower the leagues to line and maintain the ball fields.

Mr. Birkner expressed concern with hiring an Assistant Manager/Rec Director because it may change the budget figures.

Mr. Streeter said we need to consider payments in lieu of taxes and make donations to purchase items for the Rec Park. Mr. Krummerich also said we need to find outside help for regionalization. Mr. Butterfield agreed the ultimate goal would be to regionalize the Rec Park.

Moved Mrs. Naugle seconded Mr. Butterfield to adopt a proposed 2009 Borough Budget in the amount of \$4,169,754.00 based on scenario 7 and to instruct the Borough Secretary to cause to be published that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. Mrs. Naugle and Mr. Butterfield both withdrew their motion.

Moved Mrs. Naugle, seconded Mr. Butterfield to adopt a proposed 2009 borough budget in the amount of \$4,169,754.00 and to instruct the Borough Secretary to cause notice to be published that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Krummerich, seconded Mr. Streeter to authorize the Solicitor to prepare for enactment an ordinance, conditioned upon the budget workshop, fixing the Tax Rate for fiscal year 2009 at 14.38 mils and the Occupation Tax Rate at 30 mils and advertise conditioned upon outcome of the next budget workshop. Motion carried unanimously.

Manager Lawver announced the next budget workshop will be held on Thursday, November 20th at 4:00 pm in council chambers.

Ms. Estrada reported the Adams County Transit Authority would be purchasing a parcel from REDDI for the transit system. Mr. Birkner asked if they would be working with the current drawings that Council saw. Ms. Estrada responded it is more space than they need so they will need to begin the process with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. (PHMC). Mr. Geoff Spangler reported they sent out an RFP for an engineer and that they are planning on a one story building.

Ms. Estrada reported she hasn't received confirmation from Penn DOT if a representative would be attending the next Public Works Committee meeting. She will follow up with them and report to Council when they plan to attending.

Solicitor Eastman reported the State has made amendments to the Pennsylvania Open Records Law which Council will need to adopt prior to January 1, 2009. He also reported the Borough's Floodplain Ordinance will need to be updated.

Solicitor Eastman reported a request from the Gettysburg College to release the financial security for their projects would be included on the December agenda. However, he noted C.S. Davidson must complete a final inspection before such release.

Manager Lawver reported he continues to work with Flo Ford, Cumberland Township Manager, on the peer-to-peer grant for recreation. He reported the highway crew will begin to pick up leaves on November 17th and continue until they are finished. Manager Lawver also reported he continues to work on ADA compliance.

Moved Mr. Streeter, seconded Mr. Butterfield to accept the J. P. Harris tax exonerations for tax years 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Krummerich commended Chief Dougherty for speaking at St. Francis Xavier Church during the Spanish Mass. This is a nice outreach for the community.

Mr. Butterfield noted Chief Dougherty has invited Council to ride along with the police officers. This is a great opportunity to meet the officers and see what they do.

With no further business to come before Council, moved Mr. Butterfield, seconded Mr. Birkner to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary