

BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG
59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 4, 2019

Vice President Jacob Schindel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following Councilors present: Mr. Wesley Heyser, Mr. Christopher Berger, Mr. John Lawver, Ms. Patricia Lawson and Mrs. Judith Butterfield. President Susan Naugle arrived late. Staff present included: Mayor Theodore Streeter; Borough Manager Charles Gable; Borough Secretary Sara Stull; Police Chief Robert Glenney; Finance Director Nickie James; Interim Parking Manager Becka Fissel; and Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh.

Others present include Sue Cipperly, 314 North Stratton Street; Rich Bolinger, 300 North Stratton Street and Tammy Murdorf, Borough Finance Assistant. Representing the press was Alex Hayes with the *Gettysburg Times*.

Public Comment:

Sue Cipperly, 314 North Stratton Street gave the following comments regarding the budget: continue providing the Borough Newsletter to residents; agreed with increasing parking fines, agreed with increasing the outdoor dining fees; doesn't feel the holiday free parking benefits the Borough tax payers; encouraged Council to seek funding elsewhere by contacting state representatives, PA State Association of Boroughs etc.

Rich Bolinger, 300 North Stratton Street said that he is new to Gettysburg and suggested other ways to increase revenue such as an alcohol tax similar to what they do in Pittsburgh.

2020 Budget

Manager Gable said that staff made the recommended amendments from the prior budget meeting to the 2020 Proposed Budget without a tax increase. At this time, he reviewed the general fund expenditures and revenues by departments. Manager Gable said that he adjusted the public works staff to account for two potential retirements leaving a savings for new employee at a lower salary. The parking staff would remain as currently staffed with the manager, one full time parking enforcement officer and the remainder would be part time. The contribution to the Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority would be \$80,000.

Councilman Heyser asked about the property tax calculations and the decrease in revenues. Director James said that we haven't received the county figures yet and noted that some assessments have been decreased such as the Times Square building.

After Council discussion it was agreed to keep the 0.22 caliber rifle, patrol rifles and cell phones for all police officers in the budget. It was agreed to increase the overtime parking fines from \$25 to \$40 and if paid within seven days, tickets would cost \$25. Parking on Lincoln Square would increase to \$2.00 per hour and Steinwehr Avenue would increase to \$1.50 per hour. The

spaces in front of Race Horse Alley Parking Garage will increase to \$1.50 and spaces inside the garage would increase to \$1.00 per hour. Council instructed Manager Gable to make the adjustments and present the amended 2020 Proposed Budget without a tax increase at the November Council meeting.

Manager Gable presented the 2020 Fee Resolution for review and said that it would be placed on the December Council agenda.

Public Comment:

Sue Cipperly, 314 North Stratton Street commended Council and staff for preparing a detailed budget. She agreed that its not good for staff to use their personal cell phones. Ms. Cipperly thought increasing the meters on the square to \$2.00 was fair since most using it are not borough taxpayers. She also agreed that the Borough should receive more of the pillow tax distribution due to the amount of public safety provided by the Borough.

Rich Bolinger, 300 North Stratton Street said that he appreciates no increase in taxes but would be okay with a minimal increase. He said such items like rifles are important for a police department to have.

Vice President Jacob Schindel dismissed the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary