

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG
59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC, MEETING
CONDUCTED VIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS
DEVICES THROUGH ZOOM PLATFORM
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 11, 2021**

President Jacob Schindel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked the Borough Secretary Sara Stull to conduct a roll call of Council members in attendance. The following **Councilors present included:** Vice President Wesley Heyser, Mr. Christopher Berger, Mr. John Lawver, Ms. Patricia Lawson, Mr. Matthew Moon, and Mrs. Judith Butterfield. **Staff present included:** Mayor Theodore Streeter; Borough Manager Charles Gable; Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary Sara Stull; Borough Solicitor Harold Eastman, Barley Snyder; Police Chief Robert Glenney, Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel; Director of Historic & Environmental Preservation Debra English; Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh; and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.

Others present included: Deb Adamik, President of Main Street Gettysburg; Chad-Alan Carr, Community Theater, 49 York Street; Jim Hale representing the *Gettysburg Times*; and Mark Wherley, *Community Media-ACCTV* filming through Zoom platform.

President Schindel addressed the recent article that made negative comments about Borough staff members stating that criticism should not be made against the staff. He said that the elected officials are elected by citizens; and do take any criticism that the public has and should contact them with concerns.

President Schindel announced that executive session of the Borough Council was conducted prior to this evening's meeting, commencing at 4:00 p.m. consistent with sections 708(a)(1), 708(a)(4) and 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act for the following purposes: (1) to discuss matters involving the employment, the termination of employment, the terms and conditions of employment, and the possible disciplining, furloughing or laying off of Borough employees; (2) to consult with its litigation attorney regarding information in connection with litigation filed in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania to Docket No. 1:19-cv-01412 captioned Linda Atiyeh, et al, Plaintiffs v. the Borough of Gettysburg and to consult with its solicitor and other professional advisors relative to information or strategy in connection with issues on which identifiable complaints could or are expected to be filed; (3) to provide, consider and discuss information regarding pending grievances and matters on which identifiable complaints have or are expected to be filed by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local No. 776, Police Labor Organization; and (4) to review and discuss matters of Borough business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or matters of confidentiality protected by law.

Moved Mr. Lawver, seconded Ms. Lawson a motion to approve the January 11, 2021 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

Moved Mr. Berger, seconded Mr. Moon a motion to approve minutes of the Council Meeting of December 14, 2020 and the Special Council meeting on December 28, 2020 as presented. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

There were no public comments at this time.

Current and Old Business

Department of Planning /Zoning/Code Enforcement

Moved Mrs. Butterfield seconded Mr. Moon to appoint John Rice as a member of the Gettysburg Borough Planning Commission for a four (4) year term, commencing in January 2021 and expiring in January 2025. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

Moved Mrs. Butterfield seconded Mr. Moon to appoint Charles Strauss as a member of the Gettysburg Borough Planning Commission for a four (4) year term, commencing in January 2021 and expiring in January 2025. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

Moved Mrs. Butterfield seconded Ms. Moon to adopt a resolution appointing Michael Birkner as a member of the Gettysburg Borough Zoning Hearing Board for a five (5) year term, commencing in January 2021 and expiring in January 2026. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

Department of Historic & Environmental Preservation

Moved Mr. Berger, seconded Mr. Moon to accept the findings and recommendation of the Borough of Gettysburg Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) as set forth therein following its review on December 16, 2020 and grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the following application as presented: COA-20-0088, 41 Delap Avenue – LTP Rentals LLC, for the construction of a new chain link fence per the *Secretary of the Interior Guidelines* as presented in the application dated November 17, 2020 pending the approval of any zoning easement issues. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

Moved Mrs. Butterfield seconded Ms. Moon to appoint Patrick L. Naugle as a member of the Gettysburg Borough Storm Water Authority for a five (5) year term, commencing in January 2021 and expiring in January 2026. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

Councilman Moon said that it is important to maintain a roster of volunteers to serve on the many boards and commissions that the Borough has. He and Councilwoman Butterfield have been working to refine the recruitment and appointment procedures and noted that the information and application will be posted on the Borough's Website, www.gettysburgpa.gov. Councilman Moon said that five members and an alternate will be needed to serve on the newly created Human Relations Commission; and asked that each Council member identify ten interested citizens and provide them with an application.

Parking Department

Parking Manager Fissel reported that she will be meeting with Solicitor Eastman to review the revisions needed to the Parking Ordinance. It will be presented at an upcoming Council meeting to approve the amendments.

Public Works Department

Public Works Director Harbaugh gave the following report: snow cleanup took longer than normal, but the crew did a good job getting it accomplished; leaf season has ended noting that approximately 60 dump truck loads were hauled to a compost facility for recycling, and approximately 198 truckloads of brush were hauled; Christmas tree collection will continue throughout January, so residents can place them out for pickup or drop them off at the public works building or at the Gettysburg Recreation Park; and the crew is currently addressing pot holes in the roadway that are located or reported.

Councilman Berger commended the public works crew for getting the roads cleared successfully during the recent snow storm.

Borough Engineer

Borough Engineer Chad Clabaugh gave the following report: moving forward with the Lutheran Seminary subdivision plans; Shippensburg Physical Therapy Land Development Plans are in process to be located in the vacant lot near Mason Dixon Distillery; and Getty Street is planned to be paved this year.

Police Department

Chief Glenn gave the following report: 2020 DUI arrests was 113 of which 57% were drug related, and in 2019 there were 164 DUI arrests and only 40% drug related; reportable crashes were down in 2020; 2021 Budget request to apply for the Police Accreditation Program; currently working on the disposal of old records and will be coordinating with the solicitor to prepare a resolution.

Chief Glenn presented Council with body camera information and a request for funding to cover costs above the donated amount. The total amount is \$37,163.55 for a five-year period and the donated amount of \$20,000 would cover the first two and one-half

years of the contract. He asked Council to consider funding the remainder of \$17,163.55 into the special projects account from the reserve fund.

Council agreed to move forward with the police body camera program.

Office of the Manager/Treasurer/Secretary

Manager Gable reported that the 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) amount increased \$27.00 totaling \$130,316.00, due to some municipalities declining the grant so those funds were reallocated.

Manager Gable gave a brief 2021 general fund checking account prediction for the first six months of the year. The Borough ended 2020 with a cash balance of \$1,526,878 and then estimated six-months of revenues and expenses leaving a balance of \$2,053,054 at the end of July 2021. He cautioned that October is the toughest month financially because that is when most of the debt obligations are due.

Moved Mr. Lawver seconded Ms. Lawson to approve all bills and payrolls as presented. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

Moved Mr. Berger seconded Mr. Moon to adopt a resolution appointing Dorothy K. Puhl as a member of the Gettysburg Municipal Authority for a five (5) year term, commencing in January 2021 and expiring in January 2026. Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.

Liaison Reports

Main Street Gettysburg

Deb Adamik gave the following report: introduced Lucy Pratt who recently began working as a part-time administrator to replace Annie Frazee; businesses can contact Main Street for information regarding the PPP2 Program that was recently announced; invited to participate in a PennDOT feedback session in February which she plans to do, and asked Council if they have anything to present to contact her; thanked the community and staff volunteers who decorated the town for the Christmas Season of Wishes and to help take everything down; and announced that Martha Tozzi was nominated as Community Volunteer of the Year.

Gettysburg Municipal Authority

Councilman Berger gave the following report: there will be a 5% increase in water rates; Utilities Manager Mark Guise will plan to attend the January Council Work Session to give a brief summary of the 2021 Capital Improvement Plans.

Steinwehr Avenue Heart of Gettysburg Battlefield

Councilwoman Butterfield announced that the next BID meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2021.

Adams County Transportation Planning Organization

Councilwoman Butterfield announced that the next ACTPO meeting is on January 27, 2021.

Trail Feasibility Study

Councilman Berger reported that the Trail Feasibility Study has been completed, and that discussions continue on the bike trail route to Emmitsburg, Maryland. It would begin at the National Park Service Visitor Center and include an area around Sachs Covered Bridge. They are currently working with one of the property owners in this vicinity to formalize an agreement with them.

Healthy Adams Bicycle Pedestrian Inc. (HABPI)

Councilwoman Lawson reported that HABPI continues to look at locations around Gettysburg for the bike trail. They are working with St. Francis Xavier School on Table Rock Road to get permission to use their property for part of the trail. They applied for a large grant and unfortunately did not get it but will plan to reapply for the grant in the future.

Elected Officials

Councilwoman Lawson commented as a member of the Council stating that she is very proud to serve on this Borough Council. She said that she was shocked and saddened by the riots that occurred on Capitol Hill last Wednesday. The next day she read the publisher's column in the *Gettysburg Times* and was dismayed by the tone of him bullying and threatening the staff members of the Borough. It was very distasteful of him to tell a Borough staff person to lawyer up. They are some of the finest people she has known throughout her career, and they are loyal and hardworking people that do not deserve this treatment. Council members are residents and taxpayers of the Borough and are elected by the citizens of the Borough. This Council has worked well together and no one on Council has a personal agenda. They work well as a team to do what is best for the Borough. Ms. Lawson also said that she did not think the publisher is a Borough resident, and his actual business location is not in the Borough proper, which is why he just may not be aware of all the nuances. She encouraged citizens with questions or concerns to contact the Borough Council members directly.

Councilman Schindel agreed with Councilwoman Lawson stating that we do have good Council members that work well together. He said that he is hopeful that things get

better as the vaccine becomes available, and that businesses will get better in the next few months.

Mayor Streeter announced that his term expires this year and that he does not plan to run for another term. Anyone interested in the mayor's position can contact him with questions.

There were no public comments at this time.

**Moved Ms. Lawson, seconded Mr. Lawver, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM.
Motion carried unanimously 7-to-0 by roll call vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary