

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG
TROXELL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2022**

President Wesley Heyser called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following **Councilors present:** Mr. Christopher Berger, Mrs. Judith Butterfield, Mr. John Lawver, Ms. Patricia Lawson and Mr. Chad Carr. Vice President Matthew Moon was present via telecommunications. **Staff present included:** Mayor Rita Frealing; Borough Manager Charles Gable; Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary Sara Stull; Borough Solicitor Harold Eastman, Barley Snyder; Police Chief Robert Glenn; Director of Historic & Environmental Preservation Debra English; Planning Director Carly Marshall; Code Compliance Officer Peter Griffieon; Human Resources Coordinator Kara Reithmaier; Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh; and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc. Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel was absent.

Others present included: Jill Sellers, President of Main Street Gettysburg; Janet Powers, Adams County Community Policing, 135 South Howard Avenue; Kierstan Belle, Kiersten's Kids LLC, 3 West Street; Scott English, Owner of 68 West High Street; Rosemary Meagher, 44 West High Street; Susan Cipperly, 314 North Stratton Street; Barry Decker, Chairman, Gettysburg Joint Veterans Memorial Day Commission; and Bill Hewitt, Veteran, 110 Seven Stars Road. Representing the press was Jim Hale with the *Gettysburg Times*; and filming by *Community Media-ACCTV*.

President Wesley Heyser opened the meeting and had no announcements to make.

Moved Ms. Lawson seconded Mr. Berger to approve the February 14, 2022 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Berger seconded Ms. Lawson to approve minutes of the Council Business Meeting of January 10, 2022, Council Special Meeting of January 24, 2022, and the Council Work Session Meeting of January 24, 2022 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Special Presentation

Adams County Community Policing Coalition

Janet Powers, Adams County Community Policing, 135 South Howard Avenue expressed the importance of community policing which is a collaboration between the local police and the community. It also requires participation with community organizations, public and private agencies, religious, civic along with educators and healthcare professionals. The coalition encourages diversity and transparency and asks that the police to post policies on its website. They encourage the community to get to

know the police department by attending gatherings such as Block parties and Coffee with a Cop program.

Kierstan Belle, Kiersten's Kids LLC, 3 West Street said that she joined the Community Policing Coalition recently and feels comfortable approaching the police. She said that the group meets quarterly and the next meeting will be held in April.

Chief Glenn said that they have been meeting quarterly with the group which also includes Cumberland Township, State Police, Sheriff's Department and the National Park Service. He noted that the Annual National Night Out was held in August and the police department plans to do it again this year. The Annual National Faith and Blue Weekend held in October is a nonprofit organization, and is the largest police-community initiative in the United States. The event brings together houses of worship across the country to organize local activities with their community's law enforcement professionals.

Mayor Frealing noted that the National Night Out that took place on East High Street went well and said that people could tour the municipal building which included the police department.

Public Comment (Restricted to Items on the Agenda)

Susan Cipperly, 314 North Stratton Street read from a prepared statement her concerns with the major impact on the Elm Street neighborhood (see attached). She said that the focus of the Elm Street overlay should be on the uses in the neighborhood and not those intrusive to the residents.

Scott English, Owner of 68 West High Street said that he is a fourth generation property owner of the historic structure that was built in 1813. He pointed out that the overlay already allows for bed-and-breakfast and vacation rentals, and that it would also allow a restaurant to be developed which would operate daily as opposed to the special events a few times a month. Mr. English said that he could add a fence and trees to block lighting to the neighboring property. He is working with the United Methodist Church to rent parking spaces for Saturday events. Mr. English noted that the project could help revitalize the neighborhood and boost tourism-related businesses in the area. He pointed out that the Planning Commission had a favorable recommendation.

Barry Decker, Chairman Gettysburg Joint Veterans Memorial Day Commission asked Council to retain the parade fee of \$1,500 as charged in previous years instead of the new fee of \$3,978. He said that they will continue to seek donations, but they have been slow in coming and would ask that the Borough cover the difference.

Manager Gable noted that the 2022 Budget includes a \$1,000 donation for the Memorial Day Commission.

Rosemary Meagher, 44 West High Street expressed her concerns regarding 68 West High Street's proposed zoning text amendment which has a broad description of the special events. She said that her house is next to the property, and that she also has safety concerns with the many strangers that would be coming to the neighborhood.

Bill Hewitt, 110 Seven Stars Road speaking as an officer on behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 15 in Gettysburg said that if Council does not decrease the fees then they would transfer the organizations' charitable donations outside Gettysburg. He said that for every \$1,000 charged over the past \$1,500 fee then \$10,000 of charitable dollars would go elsewhere which would affect programs like Toys for Tots and the Soup Kitchen. He said that there is no communication with Council, and that they do not have the same values since they have not served in the military.

Current and Old Business

Department of Planning /Zoning/Code

Planning Director Marshall explained that the public hearing is to seek public comment regarding the zoning amendment regarding Melissa Vayda's application to develop a business plan with the United Lutheran Seminary.

Moved Mr. Carr seconded Mrs. Butterfield to authorize the setting of a public hearing of the Borough Council to be held on Monday, March 28, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. and to authorize the provision of public notice of the hearing consistent with section 609 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code relative to a requested amendment to the text of the Gettysburg Borough Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of adding of a vacation rental use as a use permitted by right in the Borough's Institutional-1 District (INS-1). A roll call vote was taken: YEA: Mr. Berger, Mrs. Butterfield, Mr. Carr, Ms. Lawson, Mr. Lawver, Mr. Moon and Mr. Heyser. The vote passed unanimously.

Planning Director Marshall explained that to proceed, Council would need to accept the application and invoice \$1,000 to Scott English for the zoning text amendment. This would initiate a formal review of 68 West High Street to modify the Elm Street Overlay regulations.

Councilman Carr pointed out that the Planning Commission met twice about this project and has approved it. He noted that Council appoints these Boards and Commission members and should take their recommendations.

Moved Mr. Carr seconded Ms. Lawson to accept the application of Scott English for a Zoning Text Amendment related to Special Event Uses in several zoning districts and to remove commercial use size restrictions in the Elm Street Overlay District. A roll call vote was taken: YEA: Mrs. Butterfield, Mr. Carr, Ms. Lawson

and Mr. Lawver. NAY: Mr. Berger, Mr. Moon and Mr. Heyser. The vote passed 4 YEA / 3 NAY.

Mr. Berger and Mr. Moon expressed concerns about the effects it would have on neighboring properties such as the potential noise from buses and up to 150 people attending these events.

Mr. Heyser said that he is concerned that the proposal is not consistent with the Elm Street Program's original intentions to preserve the residential neighborhoods and the adjoining commercial areas.

Ms. Lawson said that she views it differently and feels that this could stimulate local lodging businesses and that it could host many types of events including church events. Placing a tent in the yard could include many outdoor venues for people to enjoy. She pointed out that this historic building was the original location of both the Gettysburg College and the United Lutheran Seminary.

Mrs. Butterfield, Mr. Lawver and Mr. Carr also agreed with Ms. Lawson that it would make the area more viable. Mr. Carr pointed out that the project has already received a favorable recommendation from the Borough Planning Commission.

Moved Ms. Lawson seconded Mrs. Butterfield to appoint Peter Griffioen as Assistant Zoning Officer. Motion carried unanimously.

Department of Historic & Environmental Preservation

Director of Historic & Environmental Preservation English announced that the upcoming Electronic Recycling Event will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2020. Borough residents must pre-register by contacting Judie Butterfield at 717-337-0724 or jbutterfield@gettysburgpa.gov.

Moved Ms. Lawson seconded Mr. Carr to accept the recommendation of the Borough of Gettysburg Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) following its review on January 19, 2022 and grant Certificates of Appropriateness for the following applications as presented: COA 21-0155 MAJOR PROJECT: 145 York Street, Daniel R. Altman to approve the replacement of wood windows with vinyl windows on the west-side and south-rear facades that is consistent with both the *Secretary of the Interior Guidelines* and the *Gettysburg Design Guide* as presented to the Board in the application dated December 6, 2021; COA-20007 MAJOR PROJECT: 105 Steinwehr Avenue, Tommy's Pizza to approve the replacement of the roof, siding, and drive-through window that is consistent with both the *Secretary of the Interior Guidelines* and the *Gettysburg Design Guide* as presented to the Board in the application dated January 3, 2022; COA-220006 CRITICAL PROJECT: 123 W. High Street – John Buchheister to approve the demolition of a deteriorated 12 x 16 concrete block rear garage structure that is consistent with both the *Secretary of the*

Interior Guidelines and the Gettysburg Design Guide as presented to the Board in the application dated December 13, 2021. Motion carried unanimously

Public Works Department

Public Works Director Harbaugh gave the following report: South Street Project installation of the storm water infrastructures and piping have been completed, garden wall scheduled to begin on February 21st , and curbs and sidewalks are to be completed by the end of May; Columbia Gas completed installation of the new gas main and are installing new service lines to the properties. Once this is completed the old main lines will be abandoned and they will prepare to resurface the streets.

Borough Engineer

Engineer Clabaugh gave the following report: construction began this month at the Shippensburg Physical Therapy Land Development and CS Davidson will provide inspections as necessary; Gettysburg was awarded a Department of Community and Natural Resources (DCNR) C2P2 Grant for the Inner Loop Phase . CS Davidson plans to develop an engineering contract to present to Borough Council at the March meeting.

Moved Ms. Lawson seconded Mr. Lawver to approve the application for payment #1 in the amount of \$37,424.86 to WYElectric, LLC in connection with the South Street CDBG Site Lighting Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Department

Chief Glenn noted that he added the police officers overtime analysis to his monthly report for their review.

Office of the Manager/Treasurer/Secretary

Manager Gable reported that the Borough received notice from Adams County Commissioner Randy Pheil that Gettysburg has been appointed to the Steering Committee to prepare for the America250PA Commemoration in 2026. The Steering Committee includes Adams County, Gettysburg Borough, Main Street Gettysburg, Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg Foundation, Adams County Historical Society, and Destination Gettysburg.

Manager Gable said that he and Mayor Frealing met with Governor Bob Casey and Senator Pat Toomey recently. Mayor Frealing noted that Senator Casey was receptive of the Baltimore Street Revitalization Project.

Manager Gable introduced Kara Riethmaier who began work today as the Borough's Human Resources Coordinator/Project Management Assistant.

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

Moved Ms. Lawson seconded Mrs. Butterfield to award a contract for solid waste and recyclable materials collection services within the Borough of Gettysburg to Waste Management, as the lowest qualified and responsible bidder for the provision of such services. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Lawver said that people aren't putting their recycling cans out and asked that the Coded Enforcement Officer look into this.

Moved Mr. Lawver seconded Mrs. Butterfield to adopt a resolution amending the Borough's fee resolution for fiscal year 2022 for the purpose of setting special additional permit fees for the conducting of parades, based upon specific, designated parade routes within the Borough of Gettysburg, pursuant to the Borough's Special Events Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Heyser said that he was "disheartened" with Bill Hewitt's comments and to threaten to take Christmas toys away from children and other charitable events. He pointed out that he had sent letters on behalf of the Memorial Day Commission for donations for the parade.

Councilman Lawver said that he voted for the fee system as the son of a 26-year U.S. Army veteran.

Councilwoman Butterfield said that she voted yes in order to provide a more fair and predictable system for the parade organizers.

Moved Mr. Lawver seconded Ms. Lawson to appoint and ratify the appointment of Judith Butterfield as the Borough of Gettysburg member representative to the Adams County Council of Governments. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Berger seconded Ms. Lawson to adopt a resolution appointing Dominic Picarelli as a member of the Gettysburg Borough Code Enforcement Appeals Board for the remainder of a five (5) year term of office expiring in March 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Carr seconded Mr. Berger to adopt a resolution to excuse the police from making contributions to the Police Pension Fund for 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Main Street Gettysburg

President Sellers gave the following report: announced that a job fair will be held at the Heritage Center on Steinwehr Avenue on February 16, 2022 from 3 PM to 6 PM; the Annual Christmas Festival will be held the first weekend in December.

Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority (GARA)

Councilman Carr gave the following report: meeting with Director Erin Peddigree to discuss the possibility of an ice rink; July 4th fireworks event is being planned. He encourages community members that have specific interest and knowledge of different activities that could be provided at the Recreation Park to share with the Recreation Board.

Gettysburg Municipal Authority (GMA)

Councilman Berger gave the following report: Heritage Land Tank painting is complete and the contractors are working on the plumbing with pressure testing to follow; received a proposal for land surveying and mapping services from Sharrah Design Group to connect the Andrews Well to GMA's existing distribution system; Utilities Manager Mark Guise will attend the Borough Council Work Session to give updates on GMA projects.

Steinwehr Avenue Heart of Gettysburg Battlefield (SAHGB)

Councilwoman Butterfield reported that Jason Martz from the National Park Service (NPS) attended the meeting to inform them of the upcoming work to be done at Little Round Top. The project will be in two phases with the smaller tree cutting phase that began this week. He said that phase two will take approximately 18 months and traffic will be detoured around Little Round Top. The NPS will provide maps that show updates of road closures and detour information. The next BID meeting will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 1:00 PM.

Mayor Frealing did not attend this month's meeting due to the snow, but said that at the previous meeting they discussed how to bring Broadband into the community.

Adams County Council of Governments (COG)

Councilwoman Butterfield reported that David Bolton was elected as President, Danielle Helwig will serve as secretary, and that there was no candidate for Vice- President. The next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2022 at the Gettysburg Area Recreation Park.

Adams County Transportation Planning Organization (ACTPO)

Councilwoman Butterfield reported that Robert Gordon was elected Chairman and Beth Nidam was elected Vice-Chair. Mayor Frealing was appointed to the board as an alternate. She said that they discussed Broadband internet connections for the area. The next meeting will be held on March 23, 2022.

Adams County Heroin Awareness Task Force

Councilman Moon reported that they held their organization meeting in January and discussed how to be a more action-oriented group. They hope to see this effort materialize throughout the year. The next Task Force meeting will be held on February 15, 2022.

Healthy Adams Bicycle Pedestrian Inc. (HABPI)

Councilwoman Lawson reported that they continue to solicit for grants for the Gettysburg Inner Loop Bicycle-Pedestrian Trail.

Public Comment

Kierstan Belle, Kiersten's Kids LLC, 3 West Street noted that Commissioner Marty Qually has talked about Broadband connections for our area.

Manager Gable said that Adams County sent a survey to municipalities regarding spending of the ARPA funds, and Broadband was one of the topics on the survey.

Kierstan Belle said that she is working with the Prison Society of the Adams County Criminal Justice Task Force. They recently met with the York County Office to talk about their drug treatment plan, and asked if the Adams County Heroin Task Force would be interested in collaborating with them on some of their efforts for Adams County.

Councilman Moon said that he would reach out to her to discuss this matter further.

Moved Mr. Lawver, seconded Ms. Lawson to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM to an executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Stull

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary