

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG**  
**59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 13, 2020**

President Jacob Schindel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following Councilors present: Vice President Wesley Heyser, Mr. Christopher Berger, Ms. Patricia Lawson, Mr. John Lawver, Mrs. Judith Butterfield and Mr. Matthew Moon. Staff present included: Mayor Theodore Streeter; Borough Manager Charles Gable; Borough Secretary Sara Stull; Borough Solicitor Harold Eastman, Puhl Eastman, and Thrasher; Police Chief Robert Glenney; Finance Director Nicolette James; Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel; Planning Director Carly Marshall; Director of Historic and Environmental Preservation Debra English; Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh; and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.

Others present include: Deb Adamik, President, Main Street Gettysburg; Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street; Nancy Kramer, 12 Wade Avenue; Scott Wallace, Lark Gifts, 17 Lincoln Square; Tori Schindel, 110 Chambersburg Street; Bill Hewitt, Veteran, 110 Seven Stars Road; Al Ferranto, representing the Gettysburg Joint Veterans Memorial Day Commission; Sue Cipperly 314 North Stratton Street; Tammy Murdorf, Borough Finance Assistant; and Karen Mesher, Borough Planning Assistant. Representing the press was Jim Hale with the *Gettysburg Times*; and filming by Community Media-ACCTV.

**President Schindel** announced that an executive session of the Borough Council will be conducted immediately following the adjournment of this evening's meeting consistent with section 708(a)(1), 708(a)(2) and section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act for the following purposes: (1) to discuss matters involving the employment and the terms and conditions of employment of employees of the Borough; (2) to discuss matters involving information relative to Borough collective bargaining agreements; and (3) to review and discuss Borough business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of confidential information.

**Moved Mr. Heyser, seconded Mr. Berger to approve the January 13, 2020 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved Mr. Lawver, seconded Mrs. Butterfield to approve minutes of the Council Meeting of December 9, 2019 and the January 6, 2020 Council Organization Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Public Comment**

**Nancy Kramer, 12 Wade Avenue** thanked Borough staff and volunteers totaling approximately 109 people that worked many hours to make the Gettysburg Festival a huge success. She said that it was a fun, friendly and family-oriented weekend event.



**Al Ferranto, representing the Gettysburg Joint Veterans Memorial Day Commission** said that if Council doesn't agree to a fixed fee of \$1,500 the parade would cease to exist. He said that the Memorial Day Committee meets on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, and they would like a response from Council prior to their meeting so they can decide if the parade would go forward.

**President Schindel** responded that this topic is not on tonight's agenda but is on the upcoming Council Work Session agenda on January 27<sup>th</sup> for Council discussion. He said that Council is open to a compromised fee to cover the Borough's fees for police and security along the parade route.

### **Special Presentation**

**Deb Adamik, President, Main Street Gettysburg** gave a special presentation on the Gettysburg Christmas Festival that occurred the weekend of December 6-8, 2019 (see attached). She said that citizens can send in any comments and suggestions to Main Street Gettysburg.

**Councilwoman Lawson** expressed her disappointment in the lack of coverage by our local newspaper, the *Gettysburg Times*. She said that they pride themselves in covering local events, activities and news, but fell down on the job for coverage of the festival. Ms. Lawson said that she was stunned that there weren't any photos in the Saturday "Faces" section of the newspaper and noted that pictures of other events were placed in the paper several times. She contacted the publisher and editor about her disappointment on the lack of coverage of the festival. Ms. Lawson asked Mrs. Adamik to place this on the Gettysburg Christmas Festival list of things to improve.

Councilman Berger said that the Borough does accept constructive criticism and encourages feedback on how to improve; but said that you can't let it paralyze you to move forward.

### **Finance Department**

**Moved Mr. Heyser seconded Ms. Lawson to approve all bills and payrolls for the month as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Planning Department/Zoning/Code Enforcement**

**Moved Ms. Lawson, seconded Mr. Heyser to appoint Martin Jolin as a member of the Gettysburg Borough Planning Commission for a four (4) year term, commencing in January 2020 and expiring in January 2024. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **Historical and Environmental Preservation**

**Director of Historic and Environmental Preservation Debra English** reported that the Electronic Device Recycling for Borough residents is scheduled for Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Moved **Ms. Lawson**, seconded **Mr. Lawver** to approve and authorize the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness for the following application: COA-19-0115, 89 Steinwehr Avenue – **Jacqueline White - Dobbin House Applicant**, for construction of an 8x12 foot shed to store recycled cardboard, free-standing frame structure with no permanent foundation, and 2x4 foot stick built frame, and plywood floor, roof will have standard silver steel corrugated roof to match the adjacent roof on the Dobbin House Workshop. The exterior will be bored, and batten construction stained ‘Dobbin House Red’. No windows or utilities will be connected; as set forth in the minutes of the December 18, 2019 meeting of the Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) consistent with the findings and recommendations of HARB as set forth therein and as adopted and incorporated herein by this reference pending Zoning approval. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved **Mrs. Butterfield**, seconded **Mr. Berger** to appoint **Charles Strauss** as a member of the Board of the Gettysburg Borough Storm Water Authority for a five (5) year term, commencing in January 2020 and expiring in January 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved **Mr. Heyser**, seconded **Ms. Lawson** to appoint **Christopher Berger** as a member of the Board of the West Broadway Island Curbing Neighborhood Improvement District Management Association representing the Borough of Gettysburg. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Parking Department**

**Parking Manager Becka Fissel** reported that the new parking meter rates were installed on the meters January 1, 2020. She noted that the reserved parking spaces in the Race Horse Alley Garage are becoming more popular.

## **Public Works Department**

**Robert Harbaugh, Public Works Director** gave the following report: Broadway is completed except for the posting of speed limit signs. He said that Christmas tree collection will continue throughout the month and the waste hauler will also pick up trees during their regular garbage collection this month.



## **Borough Engineer**

**Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.** said that he is reviewing the Verti-Block Retaining Wall System Design Manual that was also provided to Council. He said that the Verti-Block is intended for use on the Steven's Run wall collapse and that the funds are coming from Gettysburg Storm Water Authority. He noted that the Verti-Block is manufactured by Conewago Contractors located in Adams County, which would be efficient for pick-up/delivery of the freight since we are keeping this project in-house with the public works department.

## **Police Department**

**Chief Glenn** said that he is proud of the Police Department in the way that they handled the arrest in the Adams County Court House arsonist. He commended all the local and federal agencies that all worked together to resolve this case

## **Borough Secretary**

**Moved Mr. Heyser, seconded Mr. Lawver to adopt a resolution appointing Max Felty as a member of the Board of the Gettysburg Municipal Authority for a five (5) year term, commencing in January 2020 and expiring in January 2025. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **Borough Manager**

**Manager Gable** reported that the settlement for the donation of 340 Baltimore Street from FutureStake, Inc. occurred on December 17, 2019.

**Moved Ms. Lawson, seconded Mr. Berger to appoint Mayor Streeter as the Chairperson of the 2020 VE Day Commemoration Committee and to make the 2020 VE Day Commemoration Committee an Ad Hoc Committee of the Borough Council, whose members are appointed by Mayor Streeter, and for the Borough of Gettysburg to receive and manage any monetary contributions to be used for the 2020 VE Day Commemoration. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **Liaison Reports**

### **Main Street Gettysburg**

**Deb Adamik, President, Main Street Gettysburg** applauded the downtown businesses for their decorations for the Christmas events. She also acknowledged Showers Tree Farm that donated 20 Christmas trees for use along Steinwehr Avenue.

## **Adams County Boroughs Association**

**Mayor Streeter** reported that the next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2020 to be held at the Pike Restaurant at 6:15 PM.

### **Trail Feasibility Study**

**Councilman Berger** reported that a public meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 27 at 5:30 PM to be held at the Gettysburg Area Recreation Authority. He said that the results of the trail study connecting Gettysburg to Emmitsburg, MD will be presented.

### **Council Comments**

**Councilman Schindel** said that he supports the Memorial Day Parade and that Council is open to a compromise on the fee, which is intended to cover expenses for safety and security. He said that the costs incurred are for the parade preparation of police time and placement of barriers along the parade route.

**Councilman Heyser** said that he supports the Memorial Day Parade and hopes that the Commission will continue to work with the Borough beyond the January 23<sup>rd</sup> date. He noted that the commission raised reasonable concerns, but that Council must be wary of setting different fee standards for the various types of parades.

**Councilman Lawver** expressed his concerns regarding the snow removal on sidewalks that was not done in many areas; and that pickup trucks clearing driveways moving the snow across Borough streets that have been cleared is not legal. He asked the Police Department to inform these people.

### **Public Comment**

**Bill Hewitt, Veteran, 110 Seven Stars Road** expressed his support of the Memorial Day Parade. He said that its important for the young people to learn about the past, and that veterans who make the ultimate sacrifice to serve deserve recognition.

**Moved Mr. Berger seconded Ms. Lawson, to adjourn the meeting to an executive session at 8:20 PM. Motion carried unanimously**

Respectfully submitted,



Sara L. Stull  
Borough Secretary





January 7, 2020

Message to the Gettysburg Borough Council, Borough Staff and Community:

The Main Street Gettysburg Board and staff want to show our appreciation for your commitment, hard work, community service and dedication that you invested in our town and the Main Street Gettysburg organization in 2019.

2019 for Main Street Gettysburg was a demanding year and involved several giant steps forward to help our community grow in many ways. Through extensive partnerships and collaborations with the Borough staff and the entire community, we not only had a banner year for MSG organizationally, but we made major strides with the \$11M Baltimore Street project. We orchestrated a major Federal Land Access Program Grant process and request, engaged in a new Long, Long, Long, Long Dinner fundraising event AND completely revamped the Gettysburg Christmas Festival, with a festival program of more than 100 community activities. All these endeavors help our community economically, as well as improve the quality of life.

Many community members have talked about an annual holiday festival-type tradition in Gettysburg for years and thanks to MSG's widespread community relationships, volunteers, sponsors and collaborative leadership approach, that these dreams are becoming a reality.

As with any new endeavor, sustainability and success requires trial and error and the leaders willing to take calculated risks to grow, while strong enough to weather the critics when trials are not perfect. In 2018 MSG learned that people were interested in coming to Gettysburg for a "holiday festival," however, feedback indicated that attendees wanted more "festival" type activities. Charles Gable, Annie Frazee, and Dru Neil (Festival Steering Committee) completely revamped the festival, took some calculated risks with new ideas and pushed to see just how far we could go. It was a "stretch-year" of discovery that included trying new ideas such as a new sponsorship program, closing roads, new venues for entertainment, collaborating with more than 20 non-profit organizations and yes, a human foosball game. A festival volunteer team was created that consisted of Nancy Kramer, Jeanne Theiroff, Fran Wagner, Timbrel

Wallace, Martha Tozzi, Max Felty, Carly Marshall, Robbie Harbaugh, and Chief Glenny. Their commitment, talents, hard work and leadership resulted in a fun packed holiday weekend with more than 80 volunteers, Borough staff, more than 20 non-profits and gosh knows how many community residents, Santa's elves, businesses and community activities showcasing a unique and fun Gettysburg experience.

Best business practices show that successful leadership of events requires 3 important stages: effective planning, effective execution and (too often short-cuttred) effective post-event analysis for the basis of future improvements. We are in the process of post-event analysis and want to base this analysis on a wide range of information. MSG is trying to satisfy many stakeholders with this community-wide approach. (residents, businesses, sponsors, attendees, community non-profits, MSG.) We need to understand the impact upon all of them to make effective improvements for next year.

The Festival Steering Committee is putting together a post-event plan that entails a wide variety of information gathering that we would like to have completed by the end of February. We hope to schedule a feedback session in early to mid-February for the Festival Committee team members, volunteers and public comment. Additional survey's and feedback are already underway. We look forward to any input that you may want to share in the meantime.

Thank you for taking this journey with us in 2019 and weathering the risks, obstacles, lessons to be learned and sharing in the tremendous successes that we have enjoyed. Your commitment is important for MSG's continued success in working toward a better Gettysburg.

Happy New Year!!!

Sincerely,

Deb Adamik, President and CEO Main Street Gettysburg

Annie Frazee, VP Main Street Gettysburg