

COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 11, 2001

President Eline called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the following Councilors present: Ms. Giles, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Streeter, Mr. Monahan, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Fleet, Ms. Smith and Mayor Troxell. Staff present included: Manager Sterner, Secretary Stull, Solicitor Eastman, Chief Gantz, Highway Superintendent Lawver, Code Enforcement Officer Weikert, Historic Preservation Officer Powell, Parking Manager Little, Main Street Director Trostle and Rec Director Beth Weikert.

Representing the press were Beth Kanagy of the Times, Stacy Ward of the Evening Sun and Tim Lambert of WGET.

Mr. Eline asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Councilman Woodward who passed away on June 1. A single rose was placed at his place for tonight's meeting. Woody will be missed by all.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Monahan to approve the agenda after adding a line to discuss the appointment of the Third Ward vacancy. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Streeter, seconded Mr. Monahan to approve the May minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens in attendance:

Representative Stephen Maitland presented Council with a House Resolution honoring Gettysburg for the recent Governor's Award for Building Community Partnerships. Mr. Maitland also noted the state budget is about to be finalized and there may be some money designated for our parking garage.

Mr. Eline read the Resolution commending Sgt. Cytha Grissom on her achievement of earning her Master Degree. Mayor Troxell thanked Sgt. Grissom for all her hard work and dedication to the police department.

Moved Mr. Andrews, seconded Mr. Monahan to adopt a Resolution commending Sergeant Cytha D. Grissom on earning a Master of Science Degree in Administration of Criminal Justice. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Monahan to appoint Walton Davis to fulfill the Third Ward vacancy.

Council spent some time discussing the vacancy.

Mr. Eline noted that Robert Miller submitted a letter this date declaring his interest in the appointment.

Ms. Smith suggested allowing additional time for interested citizens to submit their interest in the appointment. She noted that he had expressed an interest before. Mr. Streeter agreed, indicating that additional time might permit others to submit letters.

Ms. Giles noted that Mr. Davis serves on other boards and shows an interest in serving on Council. She believes that Mr. Davis has the qualifications and that Council should consider appointing him tonight.

Mr. Fleet feels this is such a big decision that Council really should wait to consider others. He suggested that Council hold a special meeting to discuss with all interested citizens.

Solicitor Eastman explained to Council that they have thirty days starting June 1, the date of Mr. Woodward's, to find a replacement. Council could conduct a special meeting since the next Council meeting would be after the thirty days. If no one is appointed within the thirty day time slot, then the appointment goes to the Vacancy Board.

Mr. Murphy reported that he has had citizens calling him to inquire about the vacancy on Council and it was his opinion to not rush the appointment.

Mr. Andrews agreed that Council should wait and have interested applicants meet with Council to afford an opportunity to ask each specific questions. He indicated a concern that Mr. Davis might have a conflict since he serves as the Straban Township solicitor, as well as Mt. Joy and others. He would like to ask Mr. Davis about that and further, that it is too soon after Mr. Woodward's death to take this action tonight.

Solicitor Eastman pointed out that a candidate in an election for the office of Councilor must be a registered elector and reside in the ward for at least one year. However for appointment, one need only be a registered elector and need not have resided in the ward for one year.

In view of the issues raised in the discussion, Ms. Giles withdrew her motion to appoint Walton Davis to Council and Mr. Monahan withdrew his second.

Council then discussed the options for special meetings, also noting that the Vacancy Board could meet prior to the July 9th meeting.

Solicitor Eastman indicated that there would be no legal distinction between Council voting or the vacancy board acting on the appointment except in the case of a tie. If a tie occurs with a Council vote, the Mayor casts the deciding vote and can delay that vote up to five days. In the case of a tie on the Vacancy Board, the chair, Mr. Puhl, would cast the deciding vote.

Mr. Eline suggested, and Council agreed, to hold a special meeting of Council on Thursday, June 28 at 7:30 PM for the purpose of making the appointment to the Third

Ward. Solicitor Eastman will advertise the special meeting noting the purpose and any other business to come before Council.

Mayor Troxell reported that he will be attending the PSAB Conference in Hershey on Monday, June 18. He reminded Council of the "Tunes for Trash" concert on Carlisle Street on Friday, June 15 from 6-11. This event is to raise money to purchase more iron trash cans for the downtown area.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Murphy to adopt an ordinance amending section 209 of the Borough's General Traffic Regulations, designating Lincoln Lane as a one-way street from South Washington Street to Warner Alley. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Fleet to adopt an ordinance amending section 305 of the Borough's General Parking Regulations to prohibit parking at all times on the south side of Long Lane South from Breckenridge Street south 165 feet. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Andrews reported that Senate Bill 866, a bill to eliminate the Amusement Tax, is being reviewed by the House. The Chamber's Governmental Cooperation Committee is again working to oppose the legislation.

Mr. Andrews reported that he and Mr. Monahan meet with Senator Santorum's aid Zach Moore to discuss the possibility of having the Gettysburg Address placed in the Wills House. Mr. Moore will review and report back with his recommendation.

Mr. Streeter reported that at the next Community Development meeting a representative will be here from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to discuss possible funding for housing.

Mr. Streeter reported there will be a CRIS meeting June 12 at the Chamber Office at 3:00 PM. He will report at next months meeting.

Moved Mr. Murphy seconded Mr. Andrews to pay all bills and payrolls for the month. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Fleet to approve the HARB May 16 meeting consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Fleet to approve the HARB May 30 meeting consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Giles asked about the 41 West Railroad Street demolition project presented to HARB. Dr. Powell reported that the 2nd HARB meeting was moved due to Chairman Shaffer being hospitalized and so the knowledgeable College rep was not able to attend. Therefor, without all the information on the 41 West Railroad Street project HARB recommended denial of this application.

Moved Mr. Monahan, seconded Mr. Andrews to authorize Solicitor Eastman to investigate the possibility of condemnation of the vacant Phi-Delta Cappa property on West Lincoln Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fleet reported the Public Works Committee will schedule a meeting with the Little and Teener League to discuss their request to place signs on ball field fences.

Solicitor Eastman reported that letters were sent to all neighboring property owners last month after the Health Care Plaza Ordinances were adopted. He hasn't heard from anyone and the deadline to ask for a hearing is June 23.

Manager's report:

Introduced Beth Weikert as the new Rec Director who began her duties on May 29th.

He noted the new attractive planters on Lincoln Square were placed by the Rotary Club under the leadership of Ms. Smith.

He congratulated to Main Street Manager Kevin Trostle on receiving the first Pennsylvania Main Street Manager of the Year award.

Manager Sterner has authorized the Adams County Breast Cancer Coalition to use the Wills House from September 27 through October 7 for display of breast cancer information.

He reported that Penn DOT has agreed to install the demonstration project (illuminated crosswalk) at Baltimore and Lefever Street rather than Carlisle and Stevens. Construction should occur this fall.

He noted that he, Mr. Fleet, Mr. Monahan and Chief Gantz will be attending the annual PLCM Conference in Wilkes-Barre June 12 through June 15th. The Chief and Manager Sterner will serve on a panel discussion of the University Community Committee.

Moved Mr. Fleet, seconded Mr. Andrews to accept the tax exoneration report for tax years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lawver reported that the brick pathway was completed on Baltimore Street. The street lighting won't be installed until sometime in August or September. The Rec building continues to be on schedule with a September completion.

Mr. Weikert reported that he sent a grass notice to 131 York Street. The highway crew mowed the property and a bill was sent to the owner. If the owner doesn't pay we will follow up with a lien on the property.

Dr. Powell reported that the Valentine Hall-Seminary project constitutes the required Borough match for the State Capital Assistance Grant.

Mr. Trostle reported the Pa Downtown Center Conference held in Gettysburg recently was very successful. There were 170 registered attending and all were very impressed with Gettysburg.

With no further business, moved Mr. Fleet, seconded Mr. Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary

It is not necessary to have a separate
chapter for the study of the history of the
country.

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History of the country

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