

COUNCIL MEETING

November 10, 2003

President Streeter called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the following Councilors present: Holly Giles, Bill Monahan, Jamie Fleet, John Murphy, Caroline Smith, Bob Miller, Dick Peterson and Mayor Troxell. John Eline was absent. Staff present included: Manager Sterner, Secretary Stull, Solicitor Eastman, Highway Superintendent Lawver, Code Enforcement Officer Weikert, Historic Preservation Officer Powell, Parking Manager Little and Chief Garcia.

Representing the press was Beth Kanagy of the *Gettysburg Times*.

Moved Mr. Fleet, seconded Mr. Miller to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mrs. Giles, seconded Mr. Fleet to approve the October 14 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Streeter opened the meeting congratulating those members of Council who were re-elected to their seats for another four year term. He also thanked the opponents who ran for office and hoped they will continue to have an interest.

Citizens in Attendance:

Jacob Schandel, 110 Chambersburg Street, congratulated Mr. Monahan and MS. Giles who won their respective seats on Council. He expressed his concerns about the pedestrian crossing on the square. Mr. Streeter referred this to the Safety Committee to discuss further.

Karla Slowey, 12 Baltimore Street, attended to follow up on her HARB application.

Mayor Troxell reported the Boroughs Association meeting will be held on Monday, November 17 at the Family Restaurant. Robert Monahan, Jr. will be speaking on the status of "Gateway Gettysburg".

He reported that he and Mr. Streeter attended the Latino Award Ceremony in Washington DC where Chief Garcia was honored with an award.

Mr. Streeter reported the next Green Ribbon Commission Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18.

Mr. Streeter reported the next Council Workshop will be held on Tuesday, January 13, 2004 at 6:00 PM in the Gettysburg Hotel.

Moved Mr. Fleet, seconded Ms. Giles to contract with URDC (Urban Research and Development Corporation), at a cost of \$16,500, to conduct a "saturation study" to examine the density of student housing. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fleet reported the GMA Task Force is working hard on the GMA merger.

Mr. Fleet reported the College will need to develop housing for the students that will be displaced after the Majestic Theatre renovations are complete.

Dr. Powell reported the Community Development Committee will meet on Monday, November 24 at 3:00 PM and walk to SCCAP for a REDDI meeting.

Council conducted a brief Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue concerning police hiring.

After the Executive Session, moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Monahan, to appoint Clement Smith to the position of probationary police officer, conditioned on successful background investigation, psychological and physical examination. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Monahan, to appoint Larry Weikert as a probationary police officer, conditioned on successful background investigation, psychological and physical examination. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Monahan to instruct the solicitor to prepare and advertise for adoption, an amendment to the Carriage Ordinance with changes recommended by the Safety Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Miller to approve an agreement with Gettysburg College that will allow College Safety and Security personnel to enforce Borough parking regulations. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Fleet to instruct the solicitor to prepare and advertise for adoption an amendment to the parking Ordinance to remove certain parking restrictions on Reynolds Street as recommended by the Safety Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Miller to approve all bills and payrolls for the month. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Fleet to adopt a Proposed 2004 Budget in the amount of \$3,561,460 and advertise that the 2004 Proposed Budget is available for public inspection beginning November 11 through December 8 and that such notice be published by the Borough Secretary in the *Gettysburg Times*. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Fleet to instruct the solicitor to prepare and advertise for adoption at the December meeting, an ordinance setting the real estate tax rate at 12.38 mils and the occupation tax rate at 30 mils for the year 2004. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Monahan to instruct the solicitor to prepare and advertise for adoption at the December meeting, an ordinance to establish Council and Mayor Compensation at the permitted limits as prescribed in the Borough Code (\$5,000 for the Mayor and \$2,500 for Councilors, annually). Motion carried 8 – 1 with Jamie Fleet voting no.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Ms. Smith to adopt a policy that will require all sponsors of special events (such as parades, walks, block parties, assemblies) to reimburse the Borough for all costs of the event including expenses of the Police Department, Parking Department and Highway Department. This policy will not apply to events sponsored by this Borough. After a brief discussion, the motion and second were both withdrawn to give more time for the Finance and Safety Committees to review.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Peterson to instruct the solicitor to prepare and advertise for adoption an amendment to the Parking Ordinance to establish long term parking meter rates at \$.50 per three hours, both on and off-street metered parking. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Miller to instruct the solicitor to prepare and advertise for adoption an amendment to the Parking Ordinance to set the fines for violation of metered parking regulations at \$15.00 or \$8.00 if paid within 24 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Manager Sterner gave a brief report on the refinancing of the series 1999 bonds. The maturity date of the outstanding issue is 2012 with principal balance at about \$2.5 million. Preliminary investigation reveals that the Borough would see some savings if we choose to refinance. If Council approves we would need a financial advisor to assist. The Borough has used the services of Jim Tricolli for financial advice and Frank Leber of Rhoads & Sinon as bond counsel. Manager Sterner recommends that we continue to use consultants in this refinancing.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Fleet to authorize Frank Leber of Rhoads and Sinon to proceed with the refinancing and to use Mr. Tricolli as financial advisor. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Monahan reported Bob Reilly will schedule a meeting with Congressman Platts in the near future. Mr. Monahan met with Senator Punt to discuss raising the occupational tax to \$50.00.

Moved Ms. Smith, seconded Ms. Giles to approve HARB consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Smith reported the next Human Relations Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12 at 3:00 PM.

Mr. Monahan asked for an update on the flags and marketing program. Ms. Smith reported she is working with Bob McIlhenny and to date the only flags sold were through the Borough. She plans to increase marketing efforts in early 2004.

Mr. Miller suggested, as a part of his Rec report, that letters be sent to the various Townships asking for more financial support. Ms. Giles suggested this be a topic for the Council workshop to discuss further what Councils intentions are with the Recreation Board.

Solicitor Eastman reported he finalized the documentation for the registration of the Borough's flag for trademark and copyright purposes.

Mr. Fleet asked about the Epley Building at 100 Chambersburg Street, and the reports that the owner may begin a drug rehab center at that building. He asked that Council be informed of any zoning hearings that could be scheduled for the building. Solicitor Eastman pointed out that Ms. Olinger was informed that she cannot proceed with commencing the proposed use unless she procures a variance from the Zoning Hearing Board. She had 30 days to apply for an appeal for that ruling from the Zoning Office, and that time period has elapsed. Mr. Weikert reported that this property is still under investigation.

Manager Sterner reported that he will be assembling the annual Eichelberger-Stahle Charity Fund distribution. All should submit names of worthy individuals.

Moved Mr. Monahan, seconded Mr. Miller to adopt a resolution increasing the application fee for land development to \$200.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Peterson to re-appoint Shirley Carlson to another 5 year term on the Shade Tree Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Powell reported the Lincoln Cemetery Program will be held on Saturday, November 15 at 3:00 PM at the cemetery.

With no further business, moved Mr. Miller, seconded Mr. Fleet to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sara L. Stull".

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary