

**COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2005**

President Streeter called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the following Councilors present: Mr. Fleet, Ms. Giles, Mr. Eline, Mr. Monahan, Ms. Smith, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Miller, Mr. Peterson and Mayor Troxell. Staff included Manager Sterner, Secretary Stull, Solicitor Eastman, Chief Garcia, Highway Superintendent Lawver, Director of Planning Powell, Rec Director Corson, Parking Manager Little and Finance Director Overton.

Representing the press were Scot Pitzer of the *Gettysburg Times* and Charles Schillinger of the *Evening Sun*.

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

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Monahan to approve the minutes of November 15th as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Troxell presented John Eline with a proclamation in recognition of his significant contributions and service to the community the past twelve years. He was also presented a key to the city. Council members reminisced their positive experiences they've shared with John. Mr. Streeter said he hopes John will continue to serve the Borough in some capacity and that they would welcome him back with open arms if he would ever want to return. Their friend and colleague will be missed.

Mr. Eline thanked everyone for his or her kind words and admitted that leaving his council seat would be difficult. He would continue to do what he can to help and will continue to work with Main Street.

Citizens in attendance:

John Hartzell along with 20 scouts from Scout Troop #73, Presbyterian Church, was here observing the meeting to earn their citizenship in the community merit badge.

Mr. Streeter welcomed the scouts and hope that this will help them with their future in serving the community.

Paul Witt, Quality Inns Motel, Steinwehr Avenue was here to discuss his concerns with the Boroughs Sign Ordinance. There seems to be problems in the process of applying for new signs and the cost incurred. Asked Council to consider revising the ordinance. Mr. Streeter noted that the ordinance was last updated in 1995 and that Council is currently reviewing the sign ordinance.

Gerry Michaels, Gettysburg Coalition Group, P.O. Box 127, Cashtown was here to express his concerns with the way the borough handles certain issues. He has property

in the borough and is unhappy with the inconsistencies with Walt Powell and his department. Gerry formed the coalition group 6 months ago and currently has approximately 36 members. They are asking Council to dismiss Walt from his duties, have him move into the Borough and refund money to property owners that were issued citations.

Frank Leber, Rhoads & Sinon, Bond Counsel for the Borough presented proposals relative to the issuance of a \$350,000 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note, (TRAN), series of 2006. This note would be payable to Adams County National Bank by December 31, 2006. Mr. Monahan asked if this is standard procedure. Mr. Leber responded the process is but that not all municipalities use it. The Gettysburg Borough has used it in the past. Mr. Leber asked that a roll call vote be taken to approve the Resolution.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Peterson to adopt the Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note, Series of 2006, in the amount of \$350,000 as presented. YEA: Mr. Peterson, Mr. Miller, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Streeter, Mr. Fleet, Ms. Giles, Mr. Eline, Mr. Monahan and Ms. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Streeter asked if the time for the reorganization meeting on January 3, 2006 be changed from 7:30 PM to 3:00 PM.

Moved Mr. Miller, seconded Ms. Giles to approve the time change for the reorganization meeting to be held on January 3, 2006 at 3:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Streeter mentioned the PA State Association of Boroughs would like to present the Borough with a plaque on their 200-year anniversary. Currently there isn't a committee formed to plan a ceremony but will have them send us the plaque.

Mr. Monahan made a prepared statement in reference to Mr. Gene Golden, owner of Gettysburg Signs Express, of his unhappiness with the borough's sign ordinance. Mr. Monahan noted Council feels comfortable with the borough's sign ordinance and that if he wishes to press charges feel free. Our Borough Solicitor has said the sign ordinance is in fact constitutional. Mr. Monahan forcefully defended council and its employees. He went on to say the borough has spent a "considerable amount of energy establishing wonderful working relationships" with community partners such as the National Park Service, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg Hospital, congressional representatives and Adams County government. Because of these efforts borough residents have been rewarded with many recent projects totaling nearly \$50 million to downtown Gettysburg at no cost to the tax payers.

Mr. Fleet noted the College Community Committee met today and will start meeting monthly the second Monday at 3:00 PM starting January 9, 2006.

Mr. Eline mentioned the Community Development Committee met and discussed the progress of the bike trail.

Ms. Giles noted the Safety Committee would not conduct a meeting in December.

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

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Miller to approve a 0.68% COLA (cost of living allowance) to retired police officer Rodney Ashman effective October 1, 2005. (Note that with this increase Mr. Ashman will have reached the maximum 30 percent provided under Act 600) Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Miller, seconded Ms. Smith to adopt the 2006 budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Peterson to enact an ordinance fixing the 2006 Real Estate Tax rate at 14.380 mils and fixing the Occupation Tax at 30 mils. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Ms. Smith to enact an ordinance authorizing the Borough to join with other political subdivisions as a member of the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative (PMHIC), to enter into an intermunicipal agreement for the purpose of joining the PMHIC and to participate as a member of the PMHIC. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Miller to appoint Charles W. Sterner, Borough Manager as the representative for the Borough on the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative (PMHIC). Motion carried unanimously.

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

Moved Mr. Miller, seconded Ms. Smith to authorize the Solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance accepting dedication of a proposed alley in the Chapel Field Development as offered by deed of dedication from Adams County Housing Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Peterson, seconded Mr. Murphy to enact the Monocacy River Storm Water Management Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Peterson, seconded Mr. Murphy to re-appoint Walton Davis to a 5-year term on the Borough Planning Commission expiring in December 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Peterson, seconded Ms. Smith to re-appoint Stacey Biggerstaff to a 5-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board expiring in December 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor Eastman reported that a meeting is scheduled with Chief Garcia on December 14th to discuss the proposed ordinance regarding removal and impounding of illegally parked vehicles. This will be presented to Council when finalized.

Moved Mr. Peterson, seconded Mr. Monahan to award the contract for Phase I and II environmental Site Assessment for the REDDI project to BL Companies and further to authorize the President and Secretary to execute the agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Miller, seconded Mr. Peterson to approve the 2005 Eichelberger-Stahle Charity distribution to the United Way of Adams County to be used for emergency heating assistance to Borough residents. Motion carried unanimously.

Manager Sterner reported Adams County National Bank would again pay for the fireworks display on New Years Eve.

Manager Sterner reported that we received only one bid for the garbage and recycling hauling contract prepared and released by the county Solid Waste Office. The current contract with Waster Management expires December 31, 2005. Waste Management was the sole bidder for the new contract. Overall costs for residential and commercial customers are up about 40 per cent with the exception of Borough needs. The specifications called for 6 days per week pick up of all litter cans and the bid price is \$2,870 per month, up from \$900 per month. (Prior contracts were just 3 days per week.) Manager Sterner noted that with the contract about to expire, we have no time to issue a new bid.

Moved Mr. Fleet, seconded Ms. Giles to award the garbage and recycling hauling bid to Waste Management with the condition that a change order is issued cutting the 6 days per week litter can pick up to 3 days per week six months of the year and 6 days per week the remaining six months of the year. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Peterson, seconded Mr. Miller to accept the J.P. Harris Exonerations as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Mr. Murphy, seconded Mr. Miller to adopt a resolution-authorizing donation to the United States of America, Department of the Interior, National Park Service of items remaining in Lincoln Room Museum collection at the Wills House, which did not sell at public sale. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Monahan asked if any of these items could be used in the Train Station. Dr. Powell responded no but the Borough could borrow from the NPS if they find a need.

Dr. Powell noted he is currently revising and updating a checklist for the Planning Department.

Mr. Little reported that Parking Attendant Ralph Arendt due to health reasons had to resign from his duties.

After a lengthy executive session, Mr. Eastman announced the purpose was to discuss an identifiable complaint.

Mr. Monahan reported that Congressman Platts has been able to secure \$100,000 for the operation of the Train Station and \$500,000 for shuttle costs. He recommended that all Councilors be certain to convey their appreciation to him for his cooperation.

With no further business, Moved Mr. Eline, seconded Mr. Monahan to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary

