

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 18, 2003

President Streeter called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following Councilors present: Holly Giles, Jamie Fleet, John Eline, William Monahan, Brian Allen, John Murphy, Caroline Smith and Mayor Troxell. Bob Miller was out of town. Staff present included Manager Sterner, Secretary Stull, Code Enforcement Officer Weikert, Historic Preservation Officer Powell, Rec Director Corson, Parking Manager Little, Interim Police Chief Grissom and Admin. Assistant Powell.

Representing the press were Beth Kanagy of the *Gettysburg Times* and Rob Jordan of the *Evening Sun*.

President Streeter opened the meeting welcoming the standing room only crowd. The purpose of the meeting he explained was to appoint Rolf Garcia as the new Chief of Police for the Gettysburg Borough.

Manager Sterner reviewed the hiring process for the new chief noting that it was advertised widely. The Selection Committee assigned by Borough Council consisted of the Borough Safety Committee (Ms. Giles, Mr. Monahan and Mr. Miller), Council Vice President Fleet, Mayor Troxell and Manager Sterner. We received responses from 99 applicants representing 29 states. Those that met all the requirements were submitted to the Selection Committee. That committee conducted its review and determined a list of 19 semi-finalists. Each of the 19 semi-finalists was asked to complete a written interview consisting of 14 questions. Of the 19 candidates we received 10 responses. The Selection Committee reviewed these candidates and chose 7 to interview. Two candidates withdrew leaving the committee with 5 persons to interview. The committee then offered the position to Mr. Rolf Garcia.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Monahan to appoint Rolf Garcia to the position of Chief of Police with these conditions: must successfully complete a probationary period of one year, must establish residence within the limits of the Borough, must obtain PA Act 120 certification within one year, and must obtain a valid PA vehicle operator's license. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved Ms. Giles, seconded Mr. Monahan to adopt a resolution directing the Civil Service Commission to subject Rolf Garcia to a noncompetitive examination in order to receive civil service status. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Troxell administered the Oath of Office to Chief Rolf Garcia.

Chief Garcia addressed Borough Council and the citizens of Gettysburg in both English and Spanish. He pledged to perform his duties as chief to the best of his ability.

Citizens in Attendance:

Pedro Gortez, executive director of the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs sent greetings on behalf of Governor Rendell. We have a wonderful historic town and this is a historic moment.

Larry Runk, Gettysburg Police Officer, welcomed Chief Garcia on behalf of Police and Community Together (P.A.C.T).

Dave English, 68 West High St. Gettysburg, welcomed the new Chief to Gettysburg.

With no further business to come before council, Moved Ms. Giles seconded Mr. Monahan to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM.

President Streeter invited everyone to stay for refreshments to greet the new Chief of Police.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary