

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG**  
**59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325**  
**COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 24, 2018**

Vice President Jacob Schindel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following Councilors present: Mr. Charles Strauss, Mr. Wesley Heyser, Mr. Christopher Berger, Ms. Patricia Lawson and Mr. John Lawver. President Susan Naugle was absent. Staff present included: Borough Manager Charles Gable; Borough Secretary Sara Stull; Borough Solicitor Harold Eastman; Planning Director Becky LaBarre; Finance Director Nickie James; Interim Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh; and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.

Others present include: Andrew Merkel, Senior Planner Adams County Office of Planning and Development; Kurt and Nancy Kramer, 12 Wade Avenue; Representing the press was Jim Hale with the *Gettysburg Times*.

Vice President Jacob Schindel announced that retired public works employee Robert Orndorff passed away on September 23, 2018. He retired in 2013 and worked for the Borough over 40 years.

Councilman Charles Strauss announced that an informal town hall meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 7:00 PM. It will take place at the Gettysburg Recreation Park.

Solicitor Harold Eastman reported that due to retirement, Attorney John Phillips submitted his resignation for both the Borough's Zoning Hearing and Code Enforcement Appeals Boards. His terms expire in January.

There was no public comment at this time.

**Old Business:**

**PBS 2016-38 – RFPs for Professional Services – Finance Director Nickie James** reported that the committee reviewed the proposals received for financial independent auditing services. She recommended the Borough switch from Smith Elliott Kerns & Co. to MaherDuessel of Harrisburg. Finance Director James pointed out that their audit would include an evaluation of the Borough's online security, and that their focus is on governments. Borough Council consensus was in favor of the change, and asked that it be placed on the October agenda to formally appoint them.

**Comprehensive Plan – Planning Commission Recommendations – Planning Director Becky LaBarre** reported that the Planning Commission submitted their official recommendations regarding the Central Adams Joint Regional Comprehensive Plan (see attached).

Councilman Lawver asked if this would be a “stand alone” plan if Cumberland and Straban Townships don’t approve it. Andrew Merkel, Senior Planner Adams County Office of Planning and Development responded yes it would.

Solicitor Eastman explained that this would require a public hearing prior to adopting the Comprehensive Plan.

Borough Council consensus was to approve the Gettysburg Planning Commission recommendations.

**PBS 2018-1 –MS4 Funding Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) – Manager Gable** gave a brief update on the MS4 Plan. He said that a proposed new stormwater fee would cost the homeowners approximately \$100 per year, but said that no final decisions have been made. The fee would fund projects mandated by the federal MS4 regulations, which is aimed at reducing pollution of waterways by limiting runoff from impervious surfaces, such as pavements and roofs. Manager Gable said that other municipalities recommended a tiered fee system based on the property’s impervious area. All property owners would be subject to a fee, including those owned by nonprofit entities, including churches. It would also include the county, school district and National Park Service.

Borough Engineer Chad Clabaugh said that projects such as installing rain gardens and armoring stream banks could cost the Borough more than \$150,000 annually for five years. Manager Gable said that an employee would probably need to be hired because we’re not currently staffed to provide the service and collect the fees. He noted that the fee itself would pay for the employee.

#### **New Business:**

**Broadway Islands – Borough Engineer Chad Clabaugh** said that proposed changes to East Broadway would assist in meeting the MS4 requirements. He recommended the extra wide pavement be narrowed between Carlisle Street and the Old Harrisburg Road. This would create 10 feet of water-absorbing green space along each side of the right-of-way. Mr. Clabaugh said that it would cost approximately \$680,000 which includes new sidewalks and paving. The work would coincide with projects being planned by Columbia Gas and the Gettysburg Municipal Authority.

Mr. Clabaugh asked if Council wants him to continue gathering information and provide plans for this project. Borough Council consensus was for him not to proceed with this project at this time.

**Wireless Infrastructure Bill Opposition Resolution – Manager Gable** explained that the PA House Bill 2564, Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Bill, would be a negative impact on the Borough. He said that it would reduce the ability to control and receive fees for the installation of cell towers and other equipment by wireless communication companies. Manager Gable recommended opposing House Bill 2564.

Borough Council consensus was to prepare a resolution opposing House Bill 2564 and place on the October Council agenda for adoption.

**PML Resolutions** – **Manager Gable** asked that Council review the 14 PA Municipal League (PML) Resolutions that will be presented at the upcoming Conference, and give their recommendations to Planning Director Becky LaBarre who was appointed as the voting delegate. Council reviewed each resolution and provided Becky with their voting recommendations.

There was no public comment at this time.

Vice President Jacob Schindel adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull  
Borough Secretary