

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG**  
**59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325**  
**COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 28, 2019**

President Susan Naugle called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following Councilors present: Vice President Jacob Schindel, Mr. Wesley Heyser, Mr. Christopher Berger, Ms. Patricia Lawson, and Mrs. Judith Butterfield. Mr. John Lawver was absent. Staff present included: Mayor Theodore Streeter; Borough Manager Charles Gable; Borough Secretary Sara Stull; Chief Robert Glenney; Interim Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel; and Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh. Finance Director Nickie James was absent.

Others present include: Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street and Alex Hayes representing the *Gettysburg Times*.

**Announcements**

**President Naugle** announced the next budget meeting will be held on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

**President Naugle** announced that Rabbit Transit is considering an expansion to bring the Stop Hopper Microtransit service to the Gettysburg area. This is an on-demand shuttle service that rider's book through their phone or online., which is very similar to Uber. They have a survey online for community members to complete regarding travel needs to the area citizens. It will also be placed on the Borough Website for members to complete.

**President Naugle** reported that an AD HOC Committee has been formed to review the Pillow Tax and how its disbursed. The members include Councilwoman Lawson, Chair and Councilman John Lawver. They are currently looking for members of the community to serve on the committee.

**President Naugle** announced that an executive session of the Borough Council was conducted immediately following the adjournment of the October 21, 2019 budget workshop consistent with section 708(a)(1) and section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act.

**President Naugle** announced that an executive session of the Borough Council was conducted immediately prior to the commencement of this evening's work session, commencing at 6:00 p.m., consistent with section 708(a)(1) and section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act for the following purposes: (1) to discuss matters involving the employment, the terms and conditions of employment of employees and prospective employees of the Borough; and (2) to review and discuss Borough business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of confidential information protected by law.

**Public Comment** (Restricted to Old Business and New Agenda Items-not tabled items)

**Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street** commented on the following items: The recent news article by Representative Dan Moul stating that he would fight the Storm Water regulations is fruitless stating that he won't win this fight and should be focusing on other important business; commended Borough Council for hiring two people in the planning department; agreed that the Borough is not getting its fair share of the pillow tax; and agrees with the chief to hire more officers in the police department.

**New Business**

**Vacant Property Registration Ordinance**

**President Naugle** introduced the concept of a Vacant Property Registration Ordinance (VPRO) for the Borough to consider. She presented Council with a partial list of Pennsylvania Municipalities that have enacted a VPRO. The ordinance will help to prevent blight, noting that there are several properties in the Borough that are in disrepair. Sample ordinances were included from Biglerville and Hanover for Council to review.

**Old Business**

**2020 Budget Discussion – Review Revenues and Expenditures**

**Manager Gable** said that staff has been working to avoid a 2020 Budget increase and presented the following: a \$10,000 increase in parking violation fines to be commensurate with the hourly rates for parking in various zones across the Borough; increasing the parking meters to \$2.00 per hour on Lincoln Square.

Some Council members said that they weren't in favor of raising fines to balance the budget. Manager Gable explained that the current fines do not fulfill what he believes to be the purpose of parking fees, to discourage long-term street parking and encourage vehicle turnover.

**Manager Gable** said that a portion of the new position created in the planning department for storm water management will be paid by the Storm Water Authority. Council agreed that 75% of the budgeted salary should be paid by the authority.

**Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel** presented PBS 2019-LPP (Local Privilege Permits) and recommended that Council continue with the LPP program. She said that it has been a good program for local residents and people commuting to the Borough for work.

**Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel** presented PBS 2019-4 Loading and Unloading Zones noting that these are the five 20-minute meters located in downtown Gettysburg. These are used for quick pickups at downtown stores and restaurants. Staff recommends that Council continue to keep these 20-minute meters in place.

After Council discussion it was approved to make the following changes: Remove new Council computers \$9,600; remove street maintenance \$100,000; lower engineering to \$32,000; increase recreation authority to \$80,000; keep all appropriations the same as 2019; remove public works HVAC \$7,330 and overhead doors \$7,927; and remove police drone \$7,500.

Staff will make these adjustments and continue to work on establishing a 2020 budget without a tax increase to present at the next budget meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> .

The following other funds were reviewed and approved as presented: Fund 23 – Debt Services Fund; Fund 03 – Fire Fund; Fund 04 – CDBG Fund; Fund 05 – Company K Memorial Fund; Fund 09 – Storm Water; Fund 18 – Capital Projects Fund; Fund 35 – Liquid Fuels Fund; and Fund 30 – Capital Reserves Fund.

### **Public Comment**

**Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street** commented on the following items: Glad to hear the REDDI property site continues to move forward with a potential developer; the Long, Long, Dinner was a successful event for the Baltimore Street Revitalization efforts; asked Council to be sensitive to the police and public works departments for their budget needs; asked Council to be sensitive with the Presbyterian Church and their parking arrangements noting that large trucks when parked along Wall Alley encroach onto the alley.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull  
Borough Secretary