

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG**  
**59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325**  
**COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 25, 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. John Lawver and Mrs. Judith Butterfield. Mr. Christopher Berger and Ms. Patricia Lawson were absent. Staff present included: Borough Manager Charles Gable; Borough Secretary Sara Stull; Director of Historic and Environmental Preservation Debra English; Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel; and Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh

Others present include Jason Goodman, PA Youth Congress Executive Director, 413 Walnut Street, Harrisburg; Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride president and founder 49 York Street; and Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street. Jim Hale representing the *Gettysburg Times* and filming by *Community Media-ACCTV*.

**Announcements**

**President Naugle** announced that anyone in the community interested in volunteering for the upcoming Gettysburg Christmas Festival December 6 to 8 should contact Main Street Gettysburg or the Borough office.

**President Naugle** reported that Kennie's Market will no longer offer single-use plastic bags beginning in January 2020. They will offer up to three free reusable bags in December with one for every \$20 spent in a transaction. After January 1, the reusable bags and paper bags can be purchased for ten cents each. The reusable bags are durable and can be cleaned with soap and water.

**President Naugle** announced that an executive session of the Borough Council was conducted immediately following the adjournment of the November 12, 2019 monthly general business meeting consistent with section 708(a)(1), section 708 (a)(2), section 708 (a)(4) and section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act.

**President Naugle** announced that an executive session of the Borough Council will be conducted immediately following the commencement of this evening's work session consistent with section 708(a)(1) of the Sunshine Act in order to discuss matters involving the evaluation of performance of current public officials and employees of the Borough.

## **Special Presentation**

### **Non-Discrimination Ordinances**

**Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride President and Founder, 49 York Street** said that a presentation was shown at the September 9<sup>th</sup> Borough Council meeting on behalf of Gettysburg Pride. He asked if Council members wanted to see the presentation again tonight. Council said that they had reviewed the information and that it wouldn't be necessary to show the presentation again at this time. Mr. Carr said that they want to make sure that everyone understands that this town is about love and compassion. He asked Mr. Goodman to speak about a proposed ordinance that would protect the LGTBQ community against discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations.

**Jason Landau Goodman, PA Youth Congress Executive Director, 413 Walnut Street, Harrisburg** said that they would like Council to consider adopting an ordinance to protect the LGTBQ community against discrimination. He noted that he serves on the advisory Pennsylvania Commission on LGTBQ Affairs that was created by Governor Tom Wolf. Mr. Goodman pointed out that there are fifty-seven Pennsylvania municipalities to date that have adopted ordinances protecting the LGBTQ community.

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

**Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street** said that he was disappointed with the poor communication during the Presbyterian Church land development work along Wall Alley. He pointed out that there were no flaggers directing traffic at the alley which caused problems with daily travel along this route.

## **New Business**

### **Non-Discrimination Ordinance Discussion**

**President Naugle** said that Council members received copies of ordinances from other municipalities that have adopted it to review. She said that she was unable to find when Carlisle Borough enacted the Non-Discrimination Ordinance. Mr. Goodman responded that it was in 2016 or 2017. Mrs. Naugle asked for an explanation as to how the ordinance is enforced. Mr. Goodman said that the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act authorizes municipalities to adopt an ordinance and set up a commission to handle the discrimination complaints. It would consist of a five to seven-member volunteer commission that would review the complaints. Mr. Goodman pointed out that most times the issues are resolved by mediation.

President Naugle pointed out that it would add to Borough staff workload along with potential costs due to hiring court stenographers for any commission proceedings. Solicitor Eastman explained the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act and noted that the commission would need to have their own attorney.

Councilman Heyser expressed his concern about preserving business owner's freedom of religion regarding whom they choose to serve. He also pointed out that state law permits employers to hire and fire "at will".

President Naugle said that a vote would not occur tonight because it is a work session and not Council's business meeting. She also pointed out that Councilors Lawson and Berger were not present tonight and that she would like them to have time to review the information for further discussions.

### **Storm Water Ordinance Revision – Chapter 17-403(2)(A)(3)**

**Manager Gable** advised Council that it's necessary to amend the Storm Water Management Ordinance now that the Borough has a Storm Water Authority. He said that currently the Planning Commission is designated to review the SWM Site Plan Review and approval procedure. The ordinance should be changed to remove Planning Commission and replace it with Storm Water Authority everywhere its stated in the ordinance.

### **43-45 East Middle Street Window**

**Manager Gable** explained that the windows installed at 43-45 East Middle Street were approved by HARB. This is a rental property and failed inspection because the window didn't open in the downstairs bedroom which is a requirement and must be replaced. The Borough should correct this by replacing the window. The cost estimate is approximately \$700, but we should budget \$1,000 in case there are issues with the installation. Council asked that this be placed on the December Council agenda for approval.

### **Trinity United Church of Christ/Borough Parking Lease**

**Parking Manager Fissel** reported that the Borough lost its eight employee parking spaces along Wall Alley with only one-day notice when the Presbyterian Church began its construction project. She had been in negotiations for parking in the church lot, but there has been no response. Parking Manager Fissel contacted Trinity United Church of Christ to acquire parking for employees, but they rejected the parking lease. Manager Gable asked the County about a parking arrangement at the former magistrate's office, but that was also rejected. He asked Council if they want to continue providing parking for staff as in the past. After some discussion President Naugle said that she feels we should provide parking for staff and should continue to look for options.

### **Ice Rink Update**

**Manager Gable** report that the community has been using the new ice rink recently installed on Steinwehr Avenue. Councilman Schindel said there were 24 skaters the first day and 63 skaters over the weekend. He said that GARA hopes to add more food vendors and possibly other types of vendors throughout the season. He pointed out that it is geared towards smaller children and families but suggested having scheduled times for older people

to skate. Councilman Schindel said that people need to invest so that we could get a larger rink in the future, stating that it cost \$24,000 to rent but we could purchase the rink for \$40,000.

## **Old Business**

### **Update on Washington Street Property Demolitions**

**Director of Historic and Environmental Preservation Debra English** reported that addresses at 688, 698, 700 and 712 on South Washington Street were approved for demolition and permits have been secured. She noted that the properties must return to original grade, with sod. Any change of use must go through the permit review process. Building plans must be submitted when they are ready to build.

There was no public comment at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM to an executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull  
Borough Secretary