

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG**  
**59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325**  
**COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 27, 2020**

President Jacob Schindel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following Councilors present: Vice President Wesley Heyser, Mr. John Lawver, Mrs. Judith Butterfield, Mr. Christopher Berger, Ms. Patricia Lawson and Mr. Matthew Moon. Staff present included: Borough Manager Charles Gable; Borough Secretary Sara Stull; Borough Solicitor Harold Eastman, Puhl Eastman, and Thrasher; Police Chief Robert Glenney; Director of Historic and Environmental Preservation Debra English; Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel; Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh, and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.

Others present include: Deb Adamik, President, Main Street Gettysburg; Leon Reed, Coordinator, Adams County Census Complete Count Committee, 153 North Stratton Street; Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride President and Founder, 49 York Street; Jason Goodman, PA Youth Congress Executive Director, 413 Walnut Street, Harrisburg; Kathy Gilbert, President Gettysburg Area Retail Merchants Association (GARMA); Jennie Dillon, GARMA member and owner of Artworks, 30 York Street; Andrea Lazarus, Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC)–Student Alliance for Equality SAFE, 731 Old Harrisburg Road; Sean Lazarus, Justice Works, 247 Baltimore Street; Barry Decker, representing the Gettysburg Joint Veterans Memorial Day Commission; Gail Serfass, VFW Post 15 Auxiliary, 369 East Middle Street; Lewis Jones, American Legion Post 202, 528 East Middle Street; Bill Hewitt, Veteran, 110 Seven Stars Road; Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street; Nancy Kramer, 12 Wade Avenue; and Tammy Murdorf, Borough Finance Assistant. Jim Hale representing the *Gettysburg Times* and filming by *Community Media-ACCTV*.

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

**Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride President and Founder, 49 York Street** urged Council to enact an ordinance creating a Commission rather than a resolution in support of LBGTQ civil rights. He said that the ordinance is law and that a resolution wouldn't be worth the paper it's written on. He said that Council could seek citizens to serve on a Human Relations Committee to hear citizens' complaints. Mr. Carr thanked Council for opening the dialogue on this matter.

**Kathy Gilbert, President Gettysburg Area Retail Merchants Association** said that President Schindel contacted her to see if GARMA would be interested in coordinating the New Year's Eve Event since the Adams County Arts Council will no longer be doing it. She said that GARMA would be interested, but they would like to discuss further about the event fees and what is expected.

**Andrea Lazarus, Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC)-Student Alliance for Equality (SAFE), 731 Old Harrisburg Road** said that she is an Admissions Counselor at HACC and works with the LGBTQ Club as an advisor for SAFE. She said that non-discrimination is vital to students who live, work and study in the community; and urged Council to support the ordinance for non-discrimination.

**Jennie Dillon, owner of Artworks, 30 York Street** said that she supports the LGBTQ community and urged Council to support the ordinance to protect the people in the community. She said that we need to be inclusive and accepting of everyone.

**Barry Decker, representing the Gettysburg Joint Veterans Memorial Day Commission** addressed Council concerning the fees assessed for the Memorial Day Parade and asked Council to partner with them. He said that they paid \$1,500 for 2019 but need help with the increased assessment for the parade fees.

**Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street** expressed his concern about the Memorial Day Parade's assessed fees. He urged Council to revise the Special Events Ordinance and offer some assistance for the parade fees.

**Sean Lazarus, Justice Works, 247 Baltimore Street** said that he is a social worker in the community and works with families to keep them together. He said that the proposed ordinance would have great value for vulnerable populations in the community. He also urged Council to enact an ordinance.

### **Special Presentation – 2020 Census**

**Leon Reed, Coordinator, Adams County Census Complete Count Committee, 153 North Stratton Street** presented Council with a handout of important information about the upcoming 2020 Census. He expressed the importance in getting a complete count, and ask that Council include the information on the Borough Website, Borough Newsletter, and posting it at the office. Mr. Reed announced that anyone interested in a part-time job may apply on line at <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs/how-to-apply.html>. to help with this important process.

### **New Business**

#### **Emergency Management – 2020 Update**

**Manager Gable** reported that the Emergency Management Director sent the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the Notification & Resource Manual (NARM) for review and updating. The items will be placed on the February Council agenda to approve the resolution and promulgation.

## **Records Retention/Purge**

**Manager Gable** reported that staff is working on itemizing documents in their departments that can be purged. When this is completed, a resolution will need to be adopted by Council before disposing the documents.

## **PBS 2020-1 Special Events**

**Manager Gable** said that discussions need to take place with GARMA regarding the New Year's Eve Event and that Council and staff will need to discuss developing reasonable fees for parades. He said that a \$1,000 donation was received to be used towards the 2019 Memorial Day Parade invoice.

**Manager Gable** gave a brief summary of the history of adjusting certain fees and the importance of collecting fees for services rendered. He pointed out that a study was conducted approximately ten-years ago, and that a plan was devised so that the Borough would not need to file ACT 47, which declares municipalities as financially distressed.

**Councilman Heyser** suggested a possible revision to the fee resolution adjusting it so that a second invoice would not be sent for parades, but that they would pay from the first estimate sent to them. The only exemption would be if a rain date must be used since that greatly increases the cost for a parade.

**Councilwoman Lawson** asked if the Parade Committee receives donations for these events. Barry Decker, representing the Gettysburg Joint Veterans Memorial Day Commission, said that they ask certain Veterans Clubs for donations.

**Councilman Lawver** said that he supports the parades but doesn't feel that the Borough taxpayers should be responsible for paying for these events. He said that the residents would not be happy if their taxes were increased to support these events, which are for everyone's enjoyment and not just the Borough residents.

Council members agreed that they are in support of parades, but don't feel the Borough residents should be the only ones funding them. They discussed alternate parade routes and possibly shortening the Memorial Day Parade to decrease the costs. Councilman Schindel said that it might be the solution for this year to keep the cost down and then continue discussing the issue for the future. Chief Glenny will review cost for prior years for the parade and will work with the Commission to see how they can keep the cost down, this year. Council agreed that the Memorial Day Commission can proceed with the parade plans for this year keeping the cost at \$1,500.

**Jennie Dillon, GARMA** said that this is the Memorial Day Parade and the start of tourist season and asked why Destination Gettysburg couldn't pay the difference needed for the event. She said that they advertise on their Website to bring people to town and they also come to see the Memorial Day Parade.

**Councilwoman Lawson** said that this would be a question for Destination Gettysburg and encouraged people to contact Norris Flowers for an explanation. She pointed out that the pillow tax collected is distributed by Destination Gettysburg, and that a portion of it is to be used for law enforcement which could be used for these events for security. Councilman Heyser agreed, noting that many constituents often ask why Gettysburg Destination doesn't contribute to the many community events for which they promote tourism.

**Chad-Alan Carr** agreed with Ms. Dillion and asked Council if they ever sent a letter to Destination Gettysburg stating their position on Destination Gettysburg funding some of these community events. He said that the parades bring many tourists to the community which Destination Gettysburg promotes. Councilwoman Lawson responded that Council has had numerous conversations with Destination Gettysburg regarding a number of things such as: The Garden Club for the downtown flower beautification, and for 340 Baltimore Street that was recently donated to the Borough, and that it could be used for a community information center and restrooms. She said that Destination Gettysburg was noticeably missing from helping with The Gettysburg Christmas Festival.

**Manager Gable** said that adjustments to lower the fees for the Halloween Parade were made to the invoice as follows: remove the light tower and consider a Borough in-kind service sponsorship; apply remaining balance of \$1,000 donation; and compensate for the large gaps in the parade and the rain date, which would reduce the invoice to \$3,130. Which would be in the range of a medium parade. He also said not to bill for the Christmas Parade, which was incorporated into the Gettysburg Christmas Festival with Main Street paying the fee.

**Jennie Dillon** a member of the VFW Post 15 said that they donate \$10,000 towards these parades and asked where the money went if Main Street paid for the Christmas Parade. Council members said that no one is here from the Halloween Parade Committee to answer this question.

**Manager Gable** said that staff is going to review other options for security measures to replace some of the large cement barriers with other types of road closures and will also review parade routes in an effort to keep costs down. Councilman Schindel said that, since there wasn't anyone available from the Halloween Committee to discuss this further, it would be discussed at another time.

### **PSAB Nomination for Second-Vice President**

**Manager Gable** asked Council if anyone is interested in serving as the Second Vice President for Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs to let him know.

## **Old Business**

### **PBS 2019-9 Gettysburg Borough Community Center**

**Manager Gable** reported that the settlement for the donation of 340 Baltimore Street from FutureStake, Inc. occurred on December 17, 2019.

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

**Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer** gave a brief update regarding the revisions to the Floodplain Ordinance. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) notified municipalities in 2018 of the proposed modified flood hazard determinations that affect the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and the Flood Insurance Study (FIS). The Borough received a letter from FEMA this month to make amendments to the Floodplain Ordinance, and now has ninety days to respond. He said that after the ninety days, a new plan must be adopted by Council. He said that he and Planning Director Marshall will be attend a training next week to gather information. Mr. Clabaugh said that a motion would be placed on the February Council agenda to authorize the preparation to amend the ordinance.

### **Non-Discrimination Ordinance**

**Councilwoman Butterfield** said that to produce an ordinance is expensive, and that it wouldn't be "thrifty" with taxpayer dollars and could be "burdensome" for businesses. She said that she would support a "very strongly worded resolution expressing hope that discrimination wouldn't occur". She suggested that Council wait until the U.S. Supreme Court issues their ruling on this matter in June.

**Councilman Heyser** expressed his concern that an ordinance may discriminate against those who oppose equal treatment of LGBTQ people on religious grounds. He also pointed out that the Borough would be responsible for the cost of the solicitor and stenographer for any hearings to be conducted by the local commission.

**Jason Landau Goodman, PA Youth Congress Executive Director** said that dozens of municipalities have already created commissions that would handle complaints on a volunteer basis. He noted that there have been few cases, and most have been settled through mediation.

**Councilwoman Lawson** said that she supports the LGBTQ community and that she wants to live in a community of acceptance of everyone.

**Andrea Lazarus, Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) - Student Alliance for Equality (SAFE)** asked Council which of their rights they would like to give up due to the cost. She also said that the First Amendment also provides "freedom of religion".

**President Schindel** asked Council if they need more time to discuss this issue before deciding between an ordinance or resolution. Members agreed to place this item on the February Work Session agenda for further discussion.

**Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride President and Founder** asked Council to consider sponsoring the Gettysburg Pride event to be held May 31<sup>st</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup>. They would like to place rainbow flags around the square.

**Public Comment (open to items not on the agenda)**

**Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street**, said that he was happy to see that Council made a compromise with the Memorial Day Committee regarding the upcoming parade.

**Bill Hewitt, Veteran, 110 Seven Stars Road**, thanked Councilman Schindel for attending the Memorial Day Committee meeting that was held recently.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM to an executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull  
Borough Secretary