

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG
59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC, MEETING
CONDUCTED VIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS
DEVICES THROUGH ZOOM PLATFORM
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 26, 2020**

President Jacob Schindel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked the Borough Secretary Sara Stull to conduct a roll call of Council members in attendance. The following **Councilors were present:** Mr. Wesley Heyser, Mr. Christopher Berger, Mrs. Judith Butterfield, Ms. Patricia Lawson, Mr. John Lawver and Mr. Matthew Moon. **Staff present included:** Mayor Theodore Streeter; Borough Manager Charles Gable; Assistant Borough Manager/ Secretary Sara Stull; Borough Solicitor Harold Eastman, Puhl Eastman, and Thrasher; Chief Robert Glenney; Planning Director Carly Marshall; Director of Historic and Environmental Preservation Debra English; Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.

Others present included: Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride President and Founder, 49 York Street; Jason Goodman, PA Youth Congress Executive Director, 413 Walnut Street, Harrisburg; Donald Marritz, 61 East Broadway; Kramer Hardman, 156 York Street; Julie Jackson, works in the Borough and is a student at the United Lutheran Seminary; Jim Hale representing the *Gettysburg Times*; and Mark Wherley, *Community Media-ACCTV* filming through Zoom platform.

Announcements

President Schindel stressed the importance of everyone wearing masks especially with the oncoming flu season.

President Schindel announced an executive session of the Borough Council was conducted Monday, October 26, 2020 at 4:00 PM consistent with sections 708(a)(1) and 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act for the following purposes: (1) to discuss matters involving the employment, the termination or reinstatement of employment, the terms and conditions of employment, and the possible furloughing or laying off of Borough employees and (2) to review and discuss matters of Borough business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or matters of confidentiality protected by law.

Public Works Announcement Regarding Snow Removal Expectations

Public Works Director Harbaugh discussed the issues regarding snow removal due to the drastic decrease in Public Works Department personnel. He asked that the public have patience as the crew strives to do their best during snow events. Harbaugh said that the streets would be cleared first followed by the alleys and then parking lots.

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

Donald Marritz, 61 East Broadway, thanked the borough staff for all of their hard work they do and acknowledged the outstanding snow removal that the Public Works Department has done over the years. He also commented about the nice work completed on the East Broadway project, and said that he likes the paving, speed tables and rain gardens.

Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride President and Founder, 49 York Street, thanked Council for all of their work on the proposed Non-discrimination Ordinance, and said that he is hopeful for a unanimous vote. He said that in reviewing the draft ordinance he felt that all of the definitions regarding sexual identity in Section 4 under Sex do not need listed, noting the word choices may be open for ridicule.

Jason Goodman, PA Youth Congress Executive Director, 413 Walnut Street, Harrisburg, thanked Council for their work in preparing the Non-discrimination Ordinance. He said that he agreed with Mr. Carr in regards to the definition changes. Mr. Goodman said that he was just informed that Bloomsburg had recently approved an ordinance making that number sixty in the state.

Councilwoman Lawson thanked Mr. Carr and Mr. Goodman for their help in drafting the Non-discrimination Ordinance.

New Business

Intern Project Mapping

Planning Director Marshall explained that the Borough currently does not have mapping digitized and said that it would be helpful for staff and public use. The program would include utilities, street trees, sidewalks, widths of streets etc. We have a geographic information system where we can incorporate this data. A start date would occur once an intern is located. Chad Clabaugh noted that an intern can add the items on the software program, and that staff would be able to add and edit. He said that it would not involve a lot of engineering work so those costs would be minimal. Council consensus was to move forward with this program.

Old Business

Mutual Aid Agreement (Gettysburg Borough/Cumberland Township)

Chief Glenn said that the proposed Mutual Aid Agreement between Cumberland Township and the Gettysburg Borough Police Department is ready for Council approval. He noted that the policy and liability would fall under the department jurisdiction involved. Solicitor Eastman said that he has reviewed the document and will prepare a resolution to be placed on the November Council agenda for approval.

PBS 2017-4 Sign Ordinance

Councilman Heyser gave a brief overview of the Sign Ordinance and said that this has been under going review since 2017. He suggested that Council review the document first before a formal discussion takes place since there is a lot involved. Councilman Schindel recommended waiting until after the budget is approved so that Council can devote time to review and discuss the Sign Ordinance.

PBS 2020-6 Parking Meter Additions – APP-Only Parking Zones

Parking Manager Fissel reported that staff recommends amending the Ordinance Chapter 15 to add provisions and regulations for app-only parking zones in established parking zone areas.

Councilman Heyser expressed his concern with the app-only parking because not everyone has smart phones if the parking meters are removed. The consensus of Council was to move forward with the ordinance amendment.

PBS 2020-2 Human Relations Ordinance

Solicitor Eastman reviewed the proposed Human Relations Ordinance and addressed Chad-Alan Carr's comments and concerns regarding the definitions. He pointed out that he used the definitions provided by the PA Human Relations Commission Act. After some Council discussion regarding the definition changes, it was agreed to move forward and place on the November Council agenda to approve the authorization of publication.

Jason Goodman said that he agreed with what was said but would have preferred the changes. He noted that some other municipalities did keep the sexual orientation and sexual identity language in the ordinance. Mr. Goodman said that he did not want to see the ordinance approval stalled and is happy to see it move forward for approval.

Council Comments

Councilman Schindel asked Chief Glenny about the events that occurred over the weekend that was reported in the newspaper involving State Senate candidate Rich Sterner. Chief Glenny explained that Mr. Sterner was walking along Breckenridge Street when he encountered protestors and that a man knocked him to the street. The police arrested the man for harassment. Councilman Schindel then asked why it was considered harassment and not an assault. Chief Glenny responded that an assault would involve an injury and Mr. Sterner did not go to the hospital at that time; but he did go later and received stitches in his hand. Councilwoman Lawson asked if the charges were changed from harassment to assault since Mr. Sterner went to the hospital. Chief Glenny said that the charges could be changed to an assault if Mr. Sterner contacted the department to make the change.

Councilman Schindel asked Chief Glennly about the parade of vehicles over the weekend with people holding flags outside of the driver's side windows. Chief Glennly responded that it is a vehicle code violation and that a person cannot hold anything outside of a driver's side window. He said that the "Trump Train" was not an organized event by the local organizer who came from Maryland.

Councilwoman Lawson said that she noticed vehicles driving around the circle on Lincoln Square several times obstructing traffic and asked if this is permissible. Chief Glennly responded that there is no specific section in the Vehicle Code about how many times a person can drive around the circle.

Public Comment (open to items not on the agenda)

Julie Jackson works in Borough and is a student at the United Lutheran Seminary, expressed her concerns with the Police Facebook page, and asked who authorizes these posts and makes the decisions for these posts.

Chad-Alan Carr, Gettysburg Pride President and Founder, 49 York Street, thanked Council and staff for their continued work during the pandemic, and said that he also supports the fire department, police and all front line workers. He expressed his concern about the social media and word choices that have appeared on the Police Facebook pages. These words are dangerous and create hate and division in the community. Mr. Carr said that he sent an email to Chief Glennly on October 10th to express his concerns regarding the "Trump Train" and is still waiting for a response from the Chief. He also expressed his concern about a police officer refusing to give him his badge number when he contacted the police department with questions.

Chief Glennly reported that the Police Facebook Page was closed down today until further notice, and that the police department would issue its news through the media.

Kramer Hardman, 156 York Street, also expressed his concern with the language on the Police Facebook Page regarding recent protests. He said that it was inappropriate commentary and that certain details were omitted. Mr. Hardman said that he would like to know who is posting and managing the Police Facebook Page, and that the police department needs to be transparent.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary