

BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG
59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
JUNE 24, 2019

President Susan Naugle called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM with the following Councilors present: Vice President Jacob Schindel, Mr. Wesley Heyser, Ms. Patricia Lawson, Mr. John Lawver and Mr. Charles Strauss. Mr. Christopher Berger and Mayor Theodore Streeter were absent. Staff present included: Borough Manager Charles Gable; Borough Secretary Sara Stull; Solicitor Harold Eastman, Puhl Eastman & Thrasher; Police Chief Robert Glenn; Finance Director Nickie James; Interim Parking Manager Becka Fissel; Robert Harbaugh Public Works Director; and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.

Others present include: Deb Adamik, President, Main Street Gettysburg; Troy Truax, Michael Baker International, Harrisburg; Ralph Flores, Kennies Market, 217 West Middle Street; Brandon Guiher, KPI Technology, 143 Carlisle Street; Matthew Moon, 98 Springs Avenue; Nancy and Kurt Kramer, 12 Wade Avenue; Jenny Dumont, Gettysburg Rising, 74 East Water Street; and Jeff Cook, 234 Baltimore Street. Representing the press was Jim Hale with the *Gettysburg Times* and Mark Werley filming for Community Media-ACCTV.

President Naugle asked that anyone with concerns regarding truck traffic in the Borough should submit photos or written testimony that would illustrate building damage. Residents should present issues to include loud noise and pedestrian hazards. The evidence would be helpful to the Borough for their upcoming meeting with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

President Naugle announced that an executive session of the Borough Council was conducted immediately following the adjournment of the June 10, 2019 monthly general business meeting consistent with section 708(a)(1), section 708(a)(3), 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 adjournment of this evening's meeting consistent with section 708(a)(1), section 708(a)(3), section 708(a)(4) and section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act for the following purposes: (1) to discuss matters involving the employment, the termination or resignation of employment, the terms and conditions of employment of employees and/or former employees of the Borough; (2) to receive information and discuss the possible purchase or lease of real property by the Borough; (3) to consult with its solicitor and other professional advisors regarding information and strategy in connection with litigation filed in the Adams County Court of Common Pleas to Docket No. 19-S-206 captioned Linda Atiyeh, et al., Plaintiffs v. Borough of Gettysburg, et al., Defendants; and (4) 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

Matthew Moon, 98 Springs Avenue, thanked Council for the continued discussion regarding the ban on the use of single-use plastic bags. He noted that three states have already banned these.

Jenny Dumont, Gettysburg Rising, 74 East Water Street, recommended to reduce distribution of single-use plastic bags and not ban them completely. She said that Council may need to consider approving an ordinance rather than a resolution for this issue. Ms. Dumont expressed the importance of protecting the environment. She said that they support Kennies Market, but said that it's about teaching people to use their own bags.

Ralph Flores, Kennies Market, 217 West Middle Street addressed Council with concerns that by banning plastic bags it would affect the low-income and fixed-income residents. It would also push customers to out of town shopping areas. He said that Kennies doesn't want to be penalized for having their store in the Borough. Mr. Flores noted that paper bags are three-times more costly, and also an extra cost with handles for carrying. He pointed out that reusable bags are great, but they need to be cleaned regularly or they could cause salmonella or other bacteria.

New Business

Special Presentations

Baltimore Street Revitalization Project Status Update

Troy Truax, Michael Baker International gave a presentation on the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Grant Submission, and the Funding Strategies for Project Design. There is an August 31 deadline to submit the FLAP grant and a lot of work to be achieved before-hand. Everyone is working to pull together the commitments and information necessary for a strong request. Mr. Truax said that a \$315,000 local match commitment letter from the Borough is necessary for the FLAP application. He offered several options for the community to payback at least a portion of this money, similar to what the Steinwehr Avenue community achieved.

Long, Long, Long, Long Dinner Party

Wendy Allen gave a report on the upcoming event scheduled for Friday, October 4th from 5-8 PM. She said that four blocks of Baltimore Street will be closed to traffic during the event. The fundraiser will support the revitalization efforts of Baltimore Street Historic Pathway, the route that President Abraham Lincoln traveled in 1863 to deliver the Gettysburg Address. The event has a \$20,000 fundraising goal. Ms. Allen said that corporate packets and sponsorships are available, and that more information can be obtained by contacting Main Street Gettysburg. Tickets can be purchased for \$15 per person in advance at eventbrite.com/e/the-long-long-long-long-dinner-party-tickets-61946471564.

Deb Adamik, President, Main Street Gettysburg said that Main Street Gettysburg would be selling T-shirts at the Gettysburg Christmas Festival in December as a fundraising event for the Baltimore Street revitalization.

Police Body/Dash Cameras

Chief Glennly addressed Council regarding the need for police body and dash cameras. The department is requesting ten body and two car cameras, docking station and cloud storage. He said that the purchase plan is \$22,000 and leased plan is \$28,035. Chief Glennly noted that he is finalizing the policy for cameras. After Council discussion it was recommended to use a lease program.

Mutual Aid Agreement (Gettysburg Borough/Cumberland Township)

Chief Glennly prepared a draft Mutual Aid Agreement between Cumberland Township and the Borough Police Departments for Council review. He pointed out that it needs to be updated since the last agreement was approved in 1981. Chief Glennly noted that other police departments were asked and they may consider an agreement in the future.

Municipal Bond Legislation Update

Finance Director James said that the Investing in Our Communities Act would restore the ability for state and local governments to advance refund their tax-exempt municipal bonds. Council is urged to send a letter to representatives to support HR 2772. It would restore the tax-exemption for the advance refunding of municipal bonds which was eliminated in 2017 with the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, making it more difficult for state and local governments to refinance their debt, reducing costs and saving taxpayer money. Council asked that a letter be placed on the July Council agenda for approval to support HR 2772.

CDBG Hearings

Manager Gable asked that Council set the following dates for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) hearings on August 26 and September 9, 2019 at 6:30 PM. He noted that the Borough has been using these funds for curb ramp replacements for several years. Manager Gable said that these ramps will soon be completed, and asked that Council consider other projects to use CDBG funding.

Special Event Parking Rate

Manager Gable asked Council to consider a special event parking fee be added to the fee resolution. He noted that several large events are forthcoming this year such as the Gettysburg Christmas Festival. Parking fees for this event at the middle school are \$20 and HACC is \$10. Manager Gable is proposing a \$15 fee at the parking garage.

Old Business

Bridge BID Award Update

Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer gave an update on the 2019 Bridge Maintenance project awarded to Fares Farhat General Construction Services contingent upon satisfactory review of references. He reported that he reviewed the references and would recommend them for the project.

End Cap Properties

Manager Gable recommended that Council remove this item from the agenda until we are ready to pursue this.

Plastic Bags Prohibition Petition

President Naugle reported that she and Councilman Berger met with Kennies Market to discuss the plastic bag ban. She also spoke with Progressive Waste Garbage Haulers. Council would need to discuss options and noted that an ordinance would take time to prepare. Councilmen's Schindel and Strauss suggested urging the county and state levels to get involved and not just the Borough. Councilman Heyser said that he may support a resolution, but not an ordinance. He pointed out that it would be costly for the Borough to have the solicitor research and write an ordinance. Councilwoman Lawson thanked Gettysburg Rising for bringing this issue to everyone's attention. Council members agreed that they are not ready to proceed with writing an ordinance at this time.

Public Comment

Matthew Moon, 98 Springs Avenue, said that Gettysburg Rising did contact the state and county representatives, but were told to talk with the local municipalities regarding the use of single-use plastic bags.

The meeting was adjourned to an executive session at 9:35 PM. Council President Naugle dismissed the meeting at 10:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary