

**BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG
TROXELL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

President Wesley Heyser called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following **Councilors present:** Vice President Matthew Moon; Mr. Christopher Berger, Mrs. Judith Butterfield, Ms. Patricia Lawson, Mr. John Lawver and Mr. Nicholas Redman. **Staff present included:** Mayor Theodore Streeter; Borough Manager Charles Gable; Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary Sara Stull; Police Chief Robert Glenny, Director of Historic & Environmental Preservation Debra English; Planning Director Carly Marshall; Parking Manager Rebecca Fissel; Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh; and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.

Others present included: Jill Sellers, President of Main Street Gettysburg; Andrew Dalton, Executive Director of the Adams County Historical Society. Representing the press was Jim Hale with the *Gettysburg Times*; and filming by *Community Media-ACCTV*.

President Wesley Heyser announced an executive session of the Borough Council was conducted immediately following the October 25, 2021 Borough Council Work Session consistent with section 708(a)(1), 708(a)(4), and section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act.

President Wesley Heyser announced 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)(4), and section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act for the following purposes: (1) to discuss matters involving the employment, and the terms and conditions of employment, of current or prospective Borough employees; (2) to receive, review and discuss information in connection with issues on which identifiable complaints have been made or are expected to be filed and (3) to review and discuss matters of Borough business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or could lead to the disclosure of information or matters of confidentiality protected by law.

President Wesley Heyser announced the upcoming meetings as follows:

Monday, November 8, 2021	7:00 PM	Council Business Meeting <i>(Vote to Advertise 2022 Budget)</i>
Monday, November 29, 2021	2022 DRAFT	Budget Issued for Public Review
Monday, December 13, 2021	7:00 PM	Council Business Meeting <i>(2022 Budget Adoption)</i>

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

2022 Budget

Manager Gable presented the draft budget noting that the remainder of funds to review include: Fund 96 – ARPA, Fund 18 – Capital Projects Fund, Fund 30 – Capital Reserves Fund, and Fund 01 – General Fund.

Borough Council discussed the proposed purchase of portable traffic signals for \$135,450; portable barricade system for \$26,727; and electronic message boards for \$105,675. Staff said that these would be used for parades and special events to cut down on personnel needed for such events. Manager Gable noted that if successful in obtaining a \$150,000 grant it would be used towards purchasing the portable barricade system. After some discussion Council consensus was to eliminate the \$105,675 for the electronic message boards.

Public Works Director Harbaugh said that the cost of the dump truck has increased due to the supply chain for products. The truck would replace the 1999 dump truck. Some members asked if the truck could be used another year when prices may come down. Harbaugh responded yes that it was recently inspected. Council consensus was to eliminate the dump truck from the budget and revisit next year.

Manager Gable said that a request of \$10,000 for a feasibility study be completed for the public works building. Public Works Director Harbaugh pointed out that the building is in poor condition and wants to make it more efficient. He noted that there is no insulation in the walls or ceilings, and the block walls in the salt storage area are deteriorating.

Councilman Lawver who worked as the Highway Superintendent and Borough Manager for many years said that the building should have been replaced decades ago. He said that he is amazed that the building is still standing. Borough Council supported the feasibility study for options for the public works building.

Borough Council approved the \$10,000 for an engineering study for the proposed Welcome Center at 340 Baltimore Street.

After some discussion regarding adding an additional police officer Borough Council consensus opted to leave the department at 11 officers. Councilman Lawver, Heyser and Berger did support the 12th officer. Some of the members noted the lack of applicants for the recently advertised police position that remains open due to the pandemic furloughed position. Council said that the 12th officer could be reviewed later next year.

Borough Council discussed the pay differentials for a master sergeant, corporals, and detective positions. The detectives are assigned by the chief, but the master sergeant and corporals require testing by the Civil Service Commission. Council consensus was to keep two detectives, and approve a master sergeant, but no addition of corporals. Some members said that after the department is fully staffed they could revisit the corporals.

Borough Council supported the requested increase of \$12,400 from Adams County Community TV for the PEG Channel appropriation.

Borough Council discussed the Adams County Historical Society's building project of a new museum, and reversed their prior donation of \$5,000 and increasing it to one-time donation of \$10,000. Some members noted that they spoke with Executive Director Andrew Dalton about the importance of a sidewalk from the Borough to the museum just north of the Borough on the Biglerville Road. Councilwoman Lawson said that a sidewalk would be keeping with the Borough's efforts in developing the Gettysburg Inner Loop and pedestrian trail. A combined effort of the county, other municipalities and local organizations to support the museum project.

Borough Council discussed lowering the tax rate in the 2022 Budget. Councilman Heyser said that he was in support of lowering the tax rate and asked if members wanted to see it at the 2019 rate. Councilman Lawver said that not at the 2019 rate, but would be in favor of something in the middle, noting that the Borough consists of many retired citizens on a fixed income. Councilman Berger said that he would support a small reduction due to the extra police officer that was cut. Councilors Butterfield, Lawson and Redman were in favor of keeping the rate the same noting that the Borough drained its reserves during the pandemic and the capital improvement plan has numerous streets and other improvements to be completed over the next several years.

Council asked Manager Gable to prepare the draft budget with the amendments and present to Council at the November 8th Council meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

President Heyser dismissed the meeting at 9:35 PM to an executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary