

**MONDAY – JUNE 8, 2015
COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
BOROUGH COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The purpose of this special meeting is to conduct a public hearing in order to receive comments and recommendations of interested individuals residing within the Borough of Gettysburg concerning the request of the Appalachian Brewing Company of Gettysburg, Inc. for the intermunicipal transfer of a restaurant liquor license for use in the Borough at 259 Steinwehr Avenue and for the purpose of the Borough Council rendering a decision to either approve or disapprove the request for an intermunicipal transfer of the license.

President Michael Birkner called the Special Meeting of Borough Council to order at 6:30 PM with the following Councilors present: Vice President Jacob Schindel, Mr. John Butterfield, Mrs. Susan Naugle, Mr. Graham Weaver, Ms. Rebecca Brown, Mr. Robert Krummerich, Mr. Scot Pitzer, and Mayor William Troxell. Staff present included: Manager Charles Gable; Solicitor Harold Eastman; Planning Director Scott Dellett; Code Enforcement Officer Wesley Winner; and Public Works Director Dan Hilliard.

Others present included: President Jack Sproch, General Manager Nathan Voss, Partners Shawn Gallagher and Artie Tafoya, and Attorney Fran O'Brien of F.X. O'Brien Associates, all representing the Appalachian Brewing Company of Gettysburg, Inc. (ABC); Tammy Myers of the Gettysburg Heritage Center, 297 Steinwehr Avenue; Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street; Amy Beth Hodges, 137 Ridge Avenue; John C. Lucas Jr., 709 Johns Avenue; and Gail Serfass, 327 Baltimore Street. Representing the press was Jim Hale of the *Gettysburg Times*.

President Birkner explained the procedure for conducting this meeting, including the introduction and informational background given by the applicants, and the opportunity for interested individuals residing in the Borough of Gettysburg to provide comments and recommendations to Borough Council. He explained that Council will vote on a motion at their regular meeting tonight at 7:00 PM to adopt a resolution approving the request of the Appalachian Brewing Company of Gettysburg, Inc. for the intermunicipal transfer of Restaurant Liquor License N. R-17048 from premises located within the Borough of Bonneauville at 16 East Hanover Street, Adams County, Pennsylvania to premises located within the Borough of Gettysburg at 259 Steinwehr Avenue, Gettysburg, Adams County, Pennsylvania.

Public Hearing

Attorney O'Brien passed out current menus from ABC, highlighting their pub fare and beverages. He introduced Mr. Sproch, President of the Appalachian Brewing Company, Inc. (ABC), who gave a brief presentation of the company. He said that ABC opened for business in Harrisburg in 1997 as a craft brewery and brew pub, and that the company opened their first satellite brew pub in Gettysburg on Buford Avenue in 2002, selling fine beers, sodas and food. He said that they currently have seven brew pubs in Pennsylvania, and that the menu is high-end pub fare. He said that ABC found an opportunity to build and open a brew pub on Steinwehr Avenue. He stated that construction would begin in August, and that the opening is slated for the

spring, 2016. He said that they are currently contracting to purchase a liquor license; and pending Council approval, would begin the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) process.

Council President Birkner asked to explain the process for obtaining a liquor license. Mr. Sproch said that the Larson's Quality Inn has a liquor license, and that ABC was in partnership with the Inn; but when that goes away, that license will no longer exist. Councilor Pitzer asked if they will own the property on Steinwehr Avenue. Mr. Sproch replied no, and that they will lease the property from the Gettysburg Heritage Center. Councilor Weaver asked if they owned the company, and when they would expect to open on Steinwehr Avenue. Mr. Sproch said that each satellite brew pub is independently owned and that they expect to open in April, 2016. Councilor Butterfield asked if the reason for this meeting concerns the number of PLCB licenses in the area, and if that exceeded a certain number. Attorney O'Brien said that the Pennsylvania legislature allowed intermunicipal transfers in the late 1990s, and that the population quota is 1 for every 3,000 persons. He said that seventy-five percent of municipalities are over the quota. He said that the price of the license is a private transaction, given with the blessing of the PLCB.

Public Comment

Mr. John Lucas, 708 Johns Avenue, said that he and his neighbors would be impacted by the opening of this bar, with increased parking, smelly dumpsters, noisy delivery trucks and bright lights. He said that he was a police lieutenant in New Jersey for many years, and he does not want this bar near his house.

Mr. Mike Shestok, 264 Baltimore Street, said that he does not see a downside to this establishment that could not be overcome. He believes ABC would be a good neighbor.

Tammy Myers, President of the Gettysburg Heritage Center, 297 Steinwehr Avenue, said that she knows that ABC's standards are very high, and that their business will benefit the community and businesses on Steinwehr Avenue. She said that this investment will spur more business investment and contribute to the tax base in Gettysburg.

Ms. Gail Serfass, 327 Baltimore Street, said that you cannot compare the bars in New Jersey to the ones here in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

President Birkner closed the Special Meeting of Borough Council at 6:55 PM. He said that Council will take up this issue at their regular Council meeting at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Mesher
Borough Management Assistant