

BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG
59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
JUNE 25, 2018

Vice President Jacob Schindel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following Councilors present: Mr. Wesley Heyser, Ms. Patricia Lawson, Mr. Christopher Berger and Mr. Charles Strauss. President Susan Naugle and Mr. John Lawver were absent. Staff present included: Borough Manager Charles Gable; Borough Secretary Sara Stull; Richard Thrasher, Esquire; Planning Director Becky LaBarre; Finance Director Nickie James; Parking Manager Richard Miller; Interim Public Works Director Robert Harbaugh; and Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer, C. S. Davidson, Inc.

Others present include: Deb Adamik, President, Main Street Gettysburg; Julie Lawson, Houser Winery, 19 Lincoln Square; Tammy Myers, President Gettysburg Heritage Center, 297 Steinwehr Avenue; Philip Goble, 132 East Middle Street, HARB member; Peggy Gustafson, 429 Carlisle Street, HARB member; Ron Franette and Mike Tallent, 811 Johns Avenue; Joan Hodges, Brafferton Inn, 44 York Street; Jane English, 68 West High Street; and Becka Fissel, Gettysburg Parking Enforcement Officer. Representing the press was Jim Hale with the *Gettysburg Times*.

Public Comments:

Philip Goble, 132 East Middle Street, HARB member expressed his concerns in regards to the 340 Baltimore Street property that was presented to HARB for demolition. He said that HARB recommended that Borough Council delay consideration of this request for a nine month period. This will give the owner, borough staff and HARB time to review further to see if the house is salvageable.

Peggy Gustafson, 429 Carlisle Street, HARB member said that the 340 Baltimore Street property hasn't had a lot of care over the years and will need lots of work to restore. She agreed with the extension so that the house can be reviewed more thoroughly, and noted that a walk thru of the property has been scheduled.

Deb Adamik, President Main Street Gettysburg said that she respects HARB's decision in restoring old buildings and pointed out that when she spoke recently at their meeting it wasn't to say to demolish or keep the building. She pointed out that what she was saying is that it's a community need to have public restrooms along Baltimore Street, as they continue to facilitate the Baltimore Street Historic Pathway Economic Revitalization Master Plan.

Tammy Myers, President Gettysburg Heritage Center, 297 Steinwehr Avenue, said that renovating the building would be costly, and pointed out that FutureStake wants to enhance the property by building a welcome center and restrooms at the location. Ms. Myers also asked Council to keep options open for Culp Street to use the street for events.

Planning Director Becky LaBarre pointed out that the delay for 340 Baltimore Street property was to get a completed application from the applicant. She also noted that Council needs to take into consideration by following the HARB guidelines.

Councilwoman Patricia Lawson and Councilman Charles Strauss both agreed to take time and review thoroughly before making any decisions to demolish this structure.

Julie Lawson, Houser Winery, 19 Lincoln Square expressed her concerns with the radical religious demonstrators that are hurting her downtown business. She said that the demonstrators are shouting and wielding signs, which create an unfriendly atmosphere and scaring the customers away from her outdoor seating. Ms. Lawson pointed out that these demonstrators are on each street corner and sidewalks. She asked if this activity and the noise would violate any permits issued by the Borough.

Borough Manager Charles Gable explained that the license is free, because it's the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. They have the right to free speech which prevails as long as individuals aren't being harassed, rights-of-way aren't blocked and shouting doesn't occur late at night.

Public Comments: PBS 2018-1 – MS4 Funding Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP)

Philip Goble, 132 East Middle Street said that the horse manure and urine that washes in the stormwater should be taken in to consideration.

Old Business:

PBS 2018-1 –MS4 Funding – Manager Gable said that he is not recommending that Council establish an authority at this time.

Chad Clabaugh, Borough Engineer said that another option would be to establish a committee with Council members and GMA members. He said that the GMA solicitor plans to discuss which path is best to proceed. Manger Gable pointed out that the MS4 Funding Pollution Reduction Plan must be in place by the end of this year.

PBS 2018-4 Chapter 15 Parking Revisions– Parking Manager Miller said that the parking ordinance for loading and unloading needs to be revised. He said that the liberal interpretation is an issue and creates uncertainty and complicates enforcement of those meters. Mr. Miller noted that funerals, overnight lodging and contractors are a special use. Manager Gable agreed and suggested setting a maximum number of minutes per day a space could be closed for loading and unloading. Richard Thrasher said that it would be possible to delineate what businesses would be eligible, set how long metered spaces can be taken out of use and also regulate placement of objects in those spaces.

New Business:

Gettysburg National Military Park (NPS) MOU – Councilman Schindel said that the NPS met with GARA to discuss plans to complete the old Biser Fitness Trail which was relocated. They plan to finish filling in the area, and are also interested in placing pollinator plants including native grasses and flowering plants in the area next to the trail. Both the NPS and GARA agreed that a buffer of short grass should go between the pollinators and football field. Councilman Schindel suggested that the Borough secure an MOU for mowing this area instead of GARA. Manager Gable noted that the NPS wasn't interested in an MOU in the past and may not be interested at this time.

PBS 2014-2 Revolving Loan Program – Finance Director James reported that there is approximately \$320,000 available for the Revolving Loan Fund which was from a state grant that helped fund the new Kennie's Market building on West Middle Street. The funds can be loaned out again for economic development, low-income homeowners to bring their properties up to code or for other purposes. Ms. James asked that Council and staff submit ideas to review.

PBS 2014-3 Community Development Appropriations – Manager Gable gave a brief overview stating that a motion was passed in 2014 to require applications from organizations requesting appropriations. He said that it is difficult for staff to manage the smaller organizations, and asked Council to reverse the motion and allow Council to make the decision for appropriations. Councilman Heyser said that he prefers having the applications from organizations, but revisions could be made. Council agreed and recommended that revisions be made to the application.

PBS 2016-3 RHA Parking Meters and PBS 2016-9 ADA Issues – Manager Gable requested that these items be removed from the work list since there have been no problems with either. Council approved to remove the items from the list.

PBS 2016-32 Culp Street Closing Request – Manager Gable reported that he received a letter of support from Jackie Dwyer, Executive Director GARA asking consideration of closing the first block of Culp Street to hole events. He asked that Council delay paving Culp Street this year and put on the 2019 schedule. Councilman Heyser expressed his concern that if there is an emergency the fire apparatus would not be able to get to it if the street is closed. Council agreed not to pave Culp Street this year to allow time for reviewing possibilities of conducting events on the street.

PBS 2016-38 RFPs for Professional Services – Manager Gable reported that staff is currently working on RFP's for professional services for Auditors and Insurance. He noted that the insurance renewal date is September 1st.

PBS 2018-5 Cable Franchise Agreement Renewal – Manager Gable reported that the Comcast Cable Contract expires in March 2020. He recommended that Council contract with Cohen Law to negotiate the franchise agreement.

Public Comments:

Philip Goble, 132 East Middle Street urged Council to tour the 340 Baltimore Street house on July 3rd along with HARB members to review the interior of the house. He noted that HARB must follow the guidelines as set by Borough Ordinances, and said that if Council doesn't approve they should make revisions to the ordinance.

Ron Franette, 811 Johns Avenue invited everyone to the dedication of a wayside marker at Johns Avenue and Culp Street in honor of two Marines, Capt. George Hamilton and Gunnery Sgt. George Martin near where their plane came down on June 26, 1922. They were providing aerial escort for marines who marched here for a battle re-enactment.

Vice President Schindel adjourned the meeting at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara L. Stull
Borough Secretary