

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MECHANICSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL  
2 West Strawberry at North Market Street  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6282

October 17, 2001

7:30 P.M.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

CALL TO ORDER

President Rider called the Borough of Mechanicsburg Regular Council Meeting of October 17, 2001 to order at 7:30 p.m. and led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ATTENDANCE:

President Rider, Vice President Eichelberger; Councilmen: McDermott, Seagrish, Winchell; Mayor Ritter; Chief of Police Spotts; Solicitor Sunday; Secretary/Manger Stough, Assistant Secretary Boyer; Cress-Sentinel; Miller-Patriot; Others: Ron Blauch, Ginny & Jerry Cole, Floyd Kautz, Jr., William Kocher, Tom Leshko, Keith Marston, Larry Seagrish, Charles Sheriff, Robert & Bessie Sponsler, and Jay Stoner.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Add under Guests:

1) Mr. Charles for presentation on Downtown Parking Study.

Add under agenda items:

- 2) Discussion on Borough Engineering Services.
- 3) Discussion on 2002 Board Appointments.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Winchell moved, Seagrish seconded, approval of the agenda for the Regular Council Meeting of October 17, 2001 with change of day in the heading as noted by President Rider. Motion passed 5-0

CITIZENS COMMENTS / REQUESTS

Robert Sponsler, 706 Robert Street, spoke in regard to a letter he received from the Police Department regarding the parking of his travel trailer on the street.

Chief Spotts responded to Mr. Sponsler and stated that when a decision on this issue is made, he will notify him regarding resolution of this issue.

Jerry Cole, 711 Robert Street, also stated that he was in attendance to ask for resolution of the parking of travel trailer issue.

GUESTS

Bob Charles, past president of the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce, introduced himself and made an overhead slide presentation on the progress of the parking study to date. Mr. Charles stated that this study has involved input from business owners in the downtown area. Most of the businesses surveyed expressed an interest in a two-hour parking limit in the downtown business area.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ◆ Received news release from Cumberland County Vector control regarding a used tire drop off to be held on November 3, 2001 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Newville Fair grounds. This collection was scheduled to reduce the breeding grounds for mosquitoes, which can carry the West Nile virus.
- ◆ We received the Fireman's Relief check was received in the amount of \$44,264.12. Check was deposited in the Fireman's relief fund and acknowledgment of receipt was forward to the Auditor General's office.

#### MINUTE APPROVAL

Winchell moved, McDermott seconded, approval of the minutes from the Council Meeting held on September 18, 2001. Motion passed: 5-0

#### APPROVAL OF THE MONTHLY REPORTS

McDermott moved; Eichelberger seconded approval of the written monthly reports. Motion passed: 5-0.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT

- ◆ Concrete work has been scheduled at York and Allen Streets to repair concrete where the fire hydrant has been knocked off in the past. Work is will also be done on a 30 ft section of sidewalk and curbing by the entrance of Koser Park on Shepherdstown Road. Recreation Commission will pay half the cost of the work .
- ◆ Administrative Staff has been reviewing several sample street cut ordinances and the sample from Bloomsburg is very comprehensive and we hope to have a new ordinance in place before next construction season.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT

- ◆ Mayor Ritter reported that the Halloween Parade was a great success with the rain stopping at 7:30 p.m. The Mayor thanked all that participated.
- ◆ The Mayor reported performing two weddings
- ◆ Attended groundbreaking ceremony at Bethany Village on October 4<sup>th</sup> to kick off a large building project.
- ◆ Crime watch guest for October was Paula Burkett from the office of Legal Services, Cumberland County.
- ◆ Area Vietnam Vets held a Pasta Buffet on Saturday October 13, 2001.
- ◆ Mayor congratulated the Mechanicsburg Chapter 1816 of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees as they celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Mayor's trivia question: Hauck Brothers Hardware on West Main Street was located in the tallest building in Mechanicsburg, which was 6 stories high. The oldest Hardware store west of the Susquehanna, they went out of business in the 1930's. The building was demolished in the 1950's. Recently Keith Klair and friends painted a mural on the inside wall of that building commemorating the Hauck Brothers business; this is located across from Mumma's Jewelry Store. The Hauck Brothers lived separate but together. Where in town did they live?

Answer: In the first block of South Market Street on the west side in a large double house. Correct answer provided by Solicitor Sunday.

#### CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

- ◆ The Chief noted that he has submitted a written report to Borough Council.
- ◆ Mechanicsburg Police department has joined the Southcentral PA Coalition on Law Enforcement Accreditation to provide mutual assistance in our effort to obtain PA accreditation.
- ◆ Formal MCSAP inspections have commenced and will continue intermittently.
- ◆ Sgt. Marc Bradley received an Exceptional Service Award from the Cumberland County Chiefs of Police Association for his outstanding investigation in the David Colebaugh homicide.
- ◆ Today the Police Department participated in the Pledge Against Gun Violence with Mechanicsburg Area Senior High School.
- ◆ Chief Spotts requested an Executive Session some personnel issues with no action to be taken.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Sunday had nothing to report.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Recycling Committee**-Winchell: NONE.

**Finance-Appropriations-Insurance** - Rider: NONE

**Health-Recreation** - McDermott: NONE

**Public Safety-Highways** – In Mr. Forry's absence, President Rider inquired about the request of Mr. Nye's request for a "No Outlet Sign" on the Sharon Avenue. Manager Stough reported that the sign would be installed.

**Public Communications** - Eichelberger: Councilman Eichelberger noted that there will be a small delay on the newsletter.

**Ordinance-Administration-Legislative Action** - Seagrist: Councilman Seagrist addressed correspondence received from Jeff Shatzer of the Mechanicsburg Little League Association regarding the possible placement of temporary outfield billboards at little fields during the baseball season. Council Seagrist asked if there were any Ordinances prohibiting this type of advertisement. Solicitor Sunday noted that Borough Council had denied a request for such signage several years ago, however, there is no Ordinance regarding this matter. After some additional discussion on the history of the issue, the matter was tabled to the work session on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Seagrist also brought up Ordinance 1002 in reference to the Board of Health. Councilman Seagrist made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to amend and advertise an Ordinance to amend Sections 2 & 3 removing the references to the Board of Health and replace those references with the Health Officer in view of the fact that the Board of Health was repealed by a previous Ordinance. Councilman Eichelberger seconded the motion. After some additional discussion on this issue, President Rider called for a vote, which passed four in favor, one against as follows:

Voting Yea: Seagrist, Eichelberger, Rider & McDermott Voting Nay: Winchell

President Rider directed Solicitor Sunday to draft and advertise the amendment to Ordinance 1002.

**Property-Buildings** - Ritter: Manager Stough noted that the Highway Department roof is completed and the job was completed within budget.

**School Board Liaison** - McDermott: Councilman McDermott reported on the Public meetings scheduled to review the referendum question on the November ballot. He also reported that he has been researching the Junior Councilperson program and will have additional information for the November meeting.

**Community Development** - McDermott: Councilman McDermott thanked the volunteers that worked to make the Halloween Parade a success. He also thanked the Police Chief and the Borough crew for their help with the Parade. The Mayor's award will be presented to the Vietnam Veterans for their float, which was symbolic of the Parade theme. He also thanked the Fire Departments for their participation.

Councilman McDermott also reported the Library will be holding a dinner celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Church of the Brethren on Saturday.

The Mechanicsburg Chamber will also be hold "Streets for Treats" this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with costume judging by the Parade Association on the square.

W.S.C.O.G. - Ritter: NONE

### BUSINESS ITEMS

- ◆ Consider Ordinance 1031 accepting county funding for the 800 MHz radios – Solicitor Sunday reported that Ordinance 1031 was properly advertised in the Sentinel on September 24<sup>th</sup> and is available for your consideration this evening. Solicitor Sunday reviewed the Ordinance with Borough Council. Councilman Eichelberger motioned seconded by Councilman McDermott, to adopt Ordinance 1031 as advertised. The motion carried by a vote of 5:0
- ◆ Consider advertisement of Ordinance eliminating member contributions to the Uniform Pension fund- Manager Stough reviewed this item with Borough Council and noted the 2002 MMO payment will be in the amount of seventeen thousand eight hundred and seventy three dollars (\$17,873). The Borough will be reimbursed for this from the State next year. Sample letters have been provided to Aris, to conform to past practice. The Solicitor noted that the motion should be conditional upon receipt of the letter from Aris. Councilman Seagrism made a motion to authorize the solicitor to advertise an ordinance to eliminate the member contributions to the Uniform Pension fund for 2002. Councilman Winchell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 5:0.
- ◆ Discussion on appointment of COG as compliance officer for the Cable Franchise agreement.- Councilman Eichelberger will be providing a sample Ordinance in the near future.
- ◆ Consider Resolution 12-01 designating the West Shore Tax Bureau as collection agent for Earned Income and Occupation Privilege tax and designating a representative and alternate representative.- Manager Stough reported that Treasurer Gsell was last years representative and is willing to serve in that capacity again. After a discussion on the effect of the referendum question on November ballot and if it will impact fees for tax collection, Councilman Seagrism motioned to adopt Resolution 12-01 appointing the West Shore Tax Bureau as collection agent for Earned Income and Occupation Privilege tax for the 2002 fiscal year and approve their proposed budget. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 5:0. The matter of appointment of a representative and alternate was tabled till the November meeting.
- ◆ Consider Resolution 13-01 honoring the 2001 as the “Year of the Volunteer”- Councilman McDermott made a motion, seconded by Councilman Winchell, to adopt Resolution 13-01 honoring 2001 as the “Year of the Volunteer”. The motion passed 5:0
- ◆ Consider motion to lift burn ban – Councilman Seagrism abstained on this matter. Councilman Winchell made a motion to lift the burn ban as recommend by Fire Chief Seagrism. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4:0, with Seagrism abstaining.
- ◆ Request of New Hope Ministries to use Main Street for “Hoops for Hope” Manager Stough reviewed the details of this request with Borough Council. A discussion followed about the benefits and problems of closing off a portion of Main Street for this event. After some additional discussion, President Rider instructed the Manager to get some additional information on the event and add this item to next month’s agenda. The tentative date for the event is April 20<sup>th</sup>. Councilmen McDermott will also discuss this with the Downtown Foot Traffic Group.
- ◆ Appointment of Cliff Ressler as part time Codes Enforcement & Zoning Officer. - Councilman Seagrism made a motion to appoint Cliff Ressler as the part time Codes Enforcement & Zoning Officer. Councilman McDermott seconded the motion, which passed 5:0.
- ◆ Board Appointment for 2002 – The Manager noted that a list was prepared of those appointments that expire as of December 31, 2001. President Rider instructed the Manager to contact these individuals to see if they want to continue to serve in their current position.
- ◆ Discussion on Appointment of Ron Secary as Borough Engineer – As Hartman Associates was the appointed engineer, Manager Stough suggested the Ron Secary, working for HRG Associates be appointed engineer for the balance of the 2001 fiscal year. Solicitor Sunday noted that a motion should be conditional upon release of Hartman Associates. After some discussion, Councilman Eichelberger made a motion to appoint Ron Secary, working for HRG Associates, as Borough Engineer until December 31, 2001, contingent on release from Hartman Associates. Councilman Winchell seconded the motion which passed 5:0. The Manager will contact Hartman Associates for a release.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Fire Chief Seagrist noted that Phase III of the Fire Study has been received and distributed to Council Members for review.

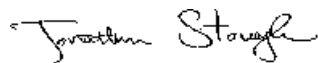
Robert Sponsler, 706 Robert Street, asked if the Borough has considered any measures to control the squirrel population. President Rider stated that he is unaware of any action that Council can take at this time. The vector ordinance in the Borough only pertains to rats.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Mayor Ritter read a letter composed by Solicitor Sunday announcing his retirement as Borough Solicitor after 40 years of service, effective January 2, 2002. William Sunday, Esquire was appointed Borough Solicitor on January 2, 1962 and has served the Borough in an exemplary fashion over a period that has spanned four decades. The Borough Council, Staff and residents in attendance gave Mr. Sunday a standing ovation. President Rider thanked Solicitor Sunday for his service and acknowledged that the Council will miss his support and guidance.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to come before Borough Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m., to be followed by a brief Executive Session with no action to be taken.



Jonathan S. Stough  
Borough Secretary