

**BOROUGH OF MECHANICSBURG
BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
2 West Strawberry at North Market Street**

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6282

December 4, 2001

7:30 P.M.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS - COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING

ATTENDANCE

In Attendance: President Rider, Vice President Eichelberger; Councilmen: Forry, McDermott, Seagrist, Winchell; Solicitor Sunday, Mayor Ritter, Chief Spotts, Secretary-Manager Stough, Assistant Secretary Boyer & Cress- Sentinel; Others: Ron Blaugh, Carl Hursh, Floyd Kautz, Jr., Thomas Klaum, Theresa McCabe, Warren McCabe, Larry Seagrist, Charles Sheriff, Jay Stoner & Rod Whitcomb, Councilman elect.

GUESTS

Carl Hursh, 300 South High Street, addressed Borough Council on the recent real estate purchase and the animal regulation in the Borough. He also commented on the need for the Borough to consider a "pay as you throw" refuse program. Mr. Hursh brought a video on the subject, which he gave to Councilmen Winchell for his review. Councilman Winchell noted that he would review the information and then share the information with other members of the Recycling Committee and Borough Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Cystic Fibrosis Society has sent a letter requesting approval of their request to use Memorial Park on May 18, 2002 for a fund raising event. Manager Stough noted that the letter has been distributed to Borough Council and this item will be added to the December 18th meeting agenda.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- ◆ Attended training in the use of ArcView GIS software this past weekend with Ron Adams, Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor. The manager noted that staff in the Administrative; Highway, Wastewater and Zoning departments would utilize this software.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- ◆ Swore in newest Police Officer Matthew Hlavac.
- ◆ Mayor and Chief attended graduation of Office Brian Curtis from the Police Academy.
- ◆ Officiated one wedding at the Union Church.
- ◆ The Crime watch meeting on December 10th will feature information on auto theft deterrents.

Mayor's Trivia Question: According to Borough ordinance passed in April 1858, how fast could a railroad car move through the Borough?

Answer: 4 MPH. No one had the correct answer but the Mayor gave out two Mechanicsburg Christmas ornaments to the closest answers (3 & 5 MPH).

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

- ◆ Chief Spotts requested the addition of two items to the agenda for December 18th. Consideration of permanent status for Probationary Patrol Officers Bittner & Vincent.
- ◆ The Chief acknowledged William Bonds of Camp Hill for returning a wallet with cash and a \$5,000 endorsed check.
- ◆ The Department received a citizen commendation for actions of Officer Kerry Vincent and Officer William Demmy.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Sunday reviewed some corrections to the minutes of November 27th and noted that Council has received amended copies of the minutes.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recycling Committee - Winchell: NONE

Finance-Appropriations-Insurance - Rider: NONE

Health-Recreation -McDermott: No Recreation Commission meeting will be held this month. Mr. McDermott thanked members of the Recreation Commission for attending this evening's meeting. Councilman McDermott noted that the winter program guide should be out the first week in January

Public Safety-Highways - Forry:

- ◆ Councilman Forry noted that the Chief had the traffic counter out on South Filbert Street and based on his findings, no action is needed at this time.
- ◆ Chief Spotts reviewed the regulations regarding the parking of trailers and stated that he would interrupt the pop up camper as a trailer under the conditions of the current ordinance. The Chief noted that pop-up campers are licensed in Pennsylvania as trailers. Solicitor Sunday reviewed the changes that would be required. After discussion, it was decided to table this item until the January Council meeting, when the new solicitor would be available to draft the needed ordinance amendment.

Public Communications - Eichelberger: NONE.

Ordinance-Administration-Legislative Action -Seagrist:

- ◆ Councilman Seagrist brought to the floor the matter of signs at the Little League ballfields. Councilman Seagrist welcomed members of the Planning Commission and Recreation Commission in attendance and thanked them for coming out to give input on this subject. Solicitor Sunday reviewed the sections of the Zoning Ordinance that would require changes to allow this type of sign to be installed at the ballfields, as currently this type of off premise signage is only allowed in manufacturing districts. Charles Sheriff spoke in support of this type of signage to help raise money for youth athletic programs. Phil Dolson, Recreation Commission chairperson, stated that the visual appeal of the signs should be considered, since these areas are largely residential. Steve Diehl of the recreation commission spoke regarding the size and cost of signs when this was done in 1995. Councilman Eichelberger suggested considering banners, instead of signs. Tom Klaum, Planning Commission Chairperson, suggested checking with PSAB to find sample verbiage from other municipal ordinances on this issue. After some additional discussion, Mr. Klaum was directed to research ordinances in place and report back to Borough's Ordinance-Administration-Legislative Action committee on regulations in other municipalities.

Property-Buildings - NONE

School Board Liaison - McDermott: Councilman McDermott reported that the School Board reorganized yesterday, re-elected Jim Cochran President for a two year term. Discussion was held on student seating in classrooms and revision of the election districts. There is also a vacancy on the School Board and they will be taking names of interested residents.

Community Development - McDermott:

- ◆ Councilman McDermott noted that a proposal for a two hour parking area. Manager Stough noted that highway superintendent, Craig Yinger, has evaluated the area and determined that twenty (20) signs will be need and the cost will be in the \$400 to \$450 range.
- ◆ A memo was included in Council packet regarding the possibility of having a bench placed at the square for residents waiting for the CAT bus. Manager Stough stated that there are companies that provide shelters, but they require the sale of off-premise signage. PNC could be approached to donate a shelter or bench, as advertising by PNC would not be "off-premise". Resident, Carl Hursh, interjected that GIANT foods has a program where they donate benches made from recycled grocery bags. Councilmen McDermott noted that two (2) such benches were donated to the High School last year.

W.S.C.O.G. – Ritter:NONE

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 18 , 2001 REGULAR MEETING

- ◆ **Budget Action: Consider Resolution approving adoption of the 2002 General & Highway fund budgets and authorizing advertisement of 2002 meeting schedule.**
- ◆ **Consider Adoption of Tax Ordinance setting the tax millage for 2002.** – Solicitor Sunday noted that this would be advertised on Friday, December 7, 2001

- ◆ **Discussion on Composting with Tim Maro of Camp Hill Borough.** – Manager Stough noted that Mr. Maro, Public Works Director, for Camp Hill Borough will be speaking on their composting program.
- ◆ **Consideration of adoption of debt enabling ordinance** – Drafts of this ordinance will be in Council's packets this week for possible adoption on the 18th.
- ◆ **Consider Motion to approve crossing guard at York & Simpson Streets.** – Chief Spotts said that he is looking at working with the student safety monitors and existing crossing guards to handle this intersection without the addition of personnel. A memo will be out in your next packet.
- ◆ **Resolution for participation with the Mechanicsburg School District in the Junior Councilperson Program.** – Councilman McDermott noted that he will be receiving information and forwarding it to Council.
- ◆ **Consider approval of Tri-County Planning Agreement** – Agreement will be provided when received. This authorizes attendance at Planning Commission meeting by representative, Jeff Kelly, of the County Planning Commission.
- ◆ **Authorization to close books December 31, 2001 and pay all outstanding bills, make deposits.** – Bills will be paid on December 7th, 21st, and 28th to close the year with the least number of invoices pending.
- ◆ **Appointments to various Boards and Commissions for 2002** – A list of vacancies has been provided to Council members and Manager Stough reviewed the list. Councilman Seagrist asked if Council could appoint new members, even if those past members would like to continue. Manager Stough noted that Borough Council could proceed however they would like in this matter. Councilman Seagrist noted that Council should review attendance of members up for reappointment to insure that they are attending meetings and participating and contributing to the committee on which they serve.
- ◆ **Appointment of Borough Solicitor for 2002** – Interviews of prospective candidates have been conducted.
- ◆ **Appointment of Borough Engineer for 2002.** – Interviews of prospective candidates have been conducted.
- ◆ **Exoneration of Delinquent Per Capita Tax – authorize the exoneration of 166 year 2000, 14 year 1999, 8 year 1998, 1 year 1997 & 1 year 1995 past due per capita tax as submitted by G.H. Harris.** – Manager Stough noted that a list from G.H. Harris and memo were in the Council packets reviewing the proposed exoneration.

GUESTS

Carl Hursh commented on Department of Environmental Protection 902 and 904 recycling grants and funding that is available to municipalities that actively pursue recycling.

Larry Seagrist, Fire Chief, reported that eleven Fire Departments met with Norfolk Southern Railroad regarding safety procedures on the railroad. At that meeting we were informed that the speed limit in boroughs for the trains is ten mph.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL

President Rider announced that tomorrow is Councilman Eichelberger's fortieth birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. to be followed by an Executive Session with no action to be taken.